

Resources from Paving Pathways to Careers and Advancement: Leveraging Apprenticeships to Meet the Demand



On November 13, 2024 at 2:00 P.M. Eastern Time, the LEAD Center hosted a webinar called “Paving Pathways to Careers and Advancement: Leveraging Apprenticeships to Meet Demand.” This document highlights the webinar’s main resources around “Direct Support Professional” (DSP) career paths, apprenticeship programs, and more.

Resources from Social Policy Research (SPR) Associates

- [DSP Think Tank Recommendations](#) (2022) - Provides insights and suggested actions from a think tank focused on strengthening the DSP workforce.
- [DSP Memo-Attracting Direct Support Professionals: Advancing Career Pathways with Job Quality in Mind](#) (2024) - Outlines key updates and insights on workforce strategies and issues affecting DSPs.
- [DSP Careers for People with Disabilities webinar](#) (2022) - Explores career opportunities in the DSP field for individuals with disabilities.
- [Revitalizing Community Membership \(RCM\) of Washington's DSP Academy](#) - Offers a customized vocational training program that leads to becoming a certified DSP in the District.

Resources from New York

New York State Department of Labor, Division of Employment and Workforce Solutions

- [New York State Office of Apprenticeship](#) - State office dedicated to overseeing and supporting apprenticeship programs in New York.

State University of New York (SUNY)

- [SUNY Apprenticeship Program](#) - SUNY initiative providing apprenticeship opportunities across various fields.
- [DSP Certificate](#) - Certification program designed to enhance skills and credentials for DSPs.
- [DSP Microcredentials](#) - Targeted microcredential programs to support specific competencies for DSPs.

Liberty ARC, Employer

- [Liberty ARC](#) - Organization providing services and job opportunities for people with disabilities.
- [James video](#) - Featuring James (or “Jim”) and his apprenticeship experience with Liberty ARC.
- [Rebecca video](#) - Featuring Rebecca and her apprenticeship experience with Liberty ARC.

Resources from Paving Pathways to Careers and Advancement

Resources from Administration for Community Living (ACL)

- [Direct Care Workforce Strategies Center](#) - Technical Assistance (TA) center focused on developing strategies to address the direct care workforce crisis.
- [Direct Care Workforce Strategies Center: Resource Hub](#) - Centralized hub with resources to support strategies in the direct care workforce.
- **Federal Action to Address the Direct Care Workforce Crisis webinar** (March 2024) – Discusses federal initiatives to address challenges in the direct care workforce.
 - [TA webinar recording with speakers and ASL](#) | [Event TA webinar recording with speakers and slides](#) | [TA webinar slides](#)
- **Addressing the Shortage: The Current State of the Direct Care Workforce webinar** (April 2024) - Addresses the ongoing workforce shortage in direct care roles.
 - [TA webinar recording with slides and ASL](#) | [TA webinar slides](#)
- **Call-to-Action for Building the Home and Community-Based Services Workforce Data Infrastructure webinar** (May 2024) - Discusses creation of a robust data infrastructure to support home and community-based workforce development.
 - [TA webinar recording with slides and ASL](#) | [TA webinar slides](#)
- **Using Marketing Campaigns to Expand & Advance the Direct Care Workforce: The WisCaregiver Careers Experience webinar** (July 2024) - Highlights marketing efforts to attract and retain workers in the direct care field.
 - [TA webinar recording with slides and ASL](#)

Resources from Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship

- [Apprenticeship.Gov](#) - Official U.S. Department of Labor website offering resources on apprenticeship opportunities and programs.
- [State-Specific Apprenticeship Search](#) - Tool to help users locate apprenticeship programs tailored to specific states.

Resources Shared by the LEAD Center

- [State Specific Policies and Data](#) - Resource compiling state-specific policies and data to support workforce development.
- [Empowering Direct Care Workers: A Success Story of Building Career Pathways](#) - Upcoming webinar showcasing successful strategies for building career pathways for direct care workers.