

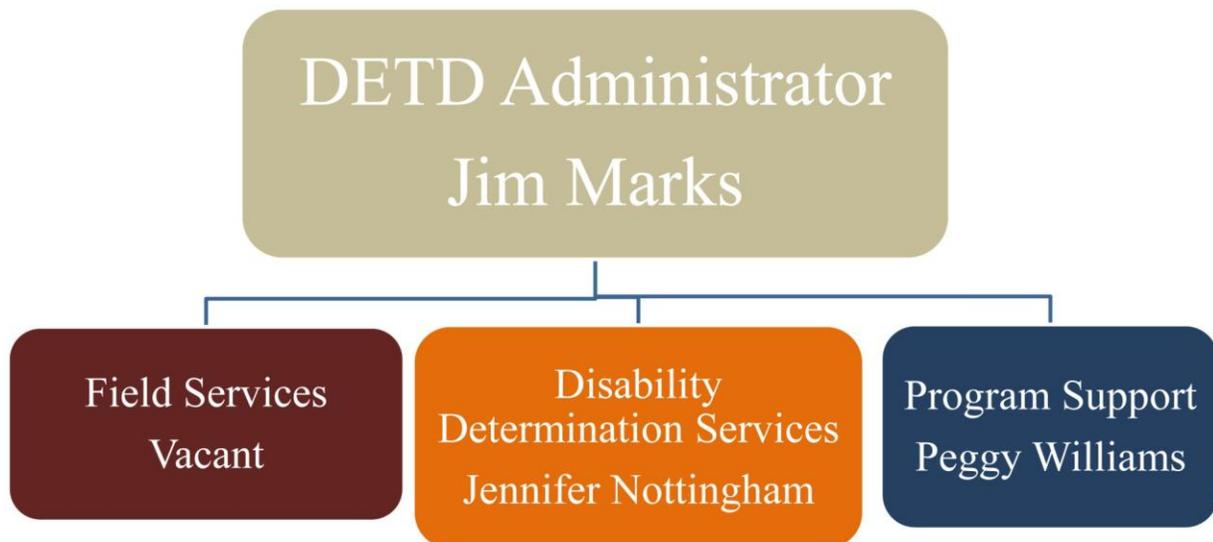
Presentation to the 2015 Health and Human Services
Joint Appropriation Subcommittee

DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AND TRANSITIONS DIVISION

Economic Security Services Branch
Department of Public Health and Human Services

Reference:
Legislative Fiscal Division Budget Analysis, Volume 4, Pages B-4 to B-8

Organizational Chart



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OVERVIEW

"The legitimate purpose of society and its governments is not to govern people and to promote the good life for them, but to empower them to govern themselves and to provide the good life for themselves and their fellow humans." Justin Dart

With this quote, the late disability rights leader and former commissioner of the Rehabilitation Services Administration of the US Department of Education captured the can-do spirit practiced every day by Montanans with disabilities. They want to be dynamic and integrated contributors to society, actively benefiting from and participating in mainstream Montana life. Citizens with disabilities encounter many barriers to employment, independence, and transitions including negative attitudes about what it means to have a disability, discriminatory practices that deny or limit access, inadequate economic choices, shortcomings in disability skills and resources, and other barriers to full and equitable inclusion in society. To overcome these social and economic problems, Montanans with disabilities count on Disability Employment and Transitions Division (DETD) and its network of non-profit disability service partners to help them learn how to do for themselves what they can do for themselves. The transition from dependence to independence is a long term investment that strengthens Montana's diverse communities, not merely the individuals served.

SUMMARY OF MAJOR FUNCTIONS

DETD of the Department of Public Health and Human Services promotes successful employment, independence, and transitions by Montanans with disabilities through the following service efforts:

Employment

For Montanans with disabilities, employment begins with DETD. Getting and keeping a job makes it possible for anyone to be a responsible member of society. Last year 8,064 people received employment services from DETD. Those employment programs are:

- Vocational Rehabilitation Services
- Blind and Low Vision Services
- Extended Employment Services
- Business Enterprise Program

Independence

Self-determination hinges on knowing how to fend for oneself through continued supports and opportunities. DETD offers multiple programs designed to maximize independence and minimize dependence. Last year, DETD delivered independence-building services to over 13,000 people. Those independence programs are:

- Independent Living Services
- Disability Determination Services
- Montana Telecommunications Access Program
- Independent Living for Older Blind
- Visual Services Medical
- Public Transportation Coordination
- Montana Assistive Technology Project

Transitions

High school students with disabilities face the same challenges their peers do when transitioning from high school to college and work. Students with disabilities also encounter plenty of additional disability-related trials. Successful transitions from high school to post-secondary education and employment for Montanans with disabilities require unique attention and collaborations across a wide spectrum. Those transition programs are:

- Montana Youth Leadership Forum
- Montana Youth Transitions
- Vocational Rehabilitation Pre-employment and other Transitions Services
- ASPIRE Montana

The following table shows DETD programs and numbers served.

Program	Number Served
Vocational Rehabilitation and Blind Services	7,755
Extended Employment	309
Independent Living	1,108
Disability Determinations Services	11,155
Montana Telecommunications Access Program	838
Independent Living for Older Blind	620
Visual Services Medical	82
Montana Assistive Technology Project	562
Montana Youth Leadership Forum	20
Montana Youth Transitions	214

Total	22,663
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Highlights and Accomplishments during the 2015 biennium:

Vocational Rehabilitation and Blind Services (VRBS):

Last year, the combined general and blindness vocational rehabilitation program assisted 860 people to go to work at an average wage of \$11.94 per hour. The average number of hours worked per week was 27.5. The total annual wages earned by these successful clients was \$14.7 million. A 2012 return on investment study of Montana vocational rehabilitation services showed that, within three years, each public dollar invested yielded \$3.30 in increased wages, reduced disability benefits, and increased tax revenue.

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA):

Many DETD programs come from the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. The federal government reauthorized this law in July 2014 with arguably the most sweeping changes ever in our nation's public vocational rehabilitation and independent living programs. The Rehabilitation Act is now part of the WIOA. WIOA also includes Montana's job services and adult education programs. WIOA updates the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 and brings many improvements to DETD and its WIOA partners. For example, vocational rehabilitation must step up its focus on competitive integrated employment, that is, jobs that pay minimum wages or better and that are community based. In addition, WIOA heavily emphasizes transitions of youth with disabilities into post-secondary education and work. WIOA makes employers a primary customer of vocational rehabilitation and highlights job-driven approaches. Programs other than vocational rehabilitation face significant changes as well. Independent Living Services, the assistive technology, and other programs moved from the U.S. Department of Education to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under its Administration on Community Living. In addition, all four core programs and some related partners under WIOA must submit a unified state plan. Previously, each program developed its own stand-alone state plan. The federal government postponed publication of the draft regulations until early spring. The final federal regulations will be published in January 2016, and WIOA will be fully implemented by July 2016.

Pre-employment Transition Services (PETS):

One of the most significant changes in WIOA is the new set of services called PETS. PETS is the federal requirement for VRBS and school districts or special education cooperatives to collaborate with a prescribed set of services designed to improve success in the transition from high school to post-secondary education and work. PETS include job exploration, work based learning, work experiences, college preparation, and advocacy/self-determination training. Essentially, PETS is the newest and hottest action plan for our nation to improve employment options for students with disabilities. VRBS will contract with school districts and special education cooperatives to deliver high school based services. WIOA requires that 15 percent of the VRBS federal allotment be reserved for PETS. VRBS has been involved in transitions for many years. However, PETS sets a much higher bar than before for serving younger students with disabilities, building relationships with local education agencies, and reaching improved outcomes. To move the employment statistics of people with disabilities from the negative to the positive, it makes sense to focus on youth with disabilities.

Order of Selection:

Federal regulations require state vocational rehabilitation programs to implement an Order of Selection --- a waiting list --- when program resources fall short of demand for services. The order of selection must be based on the impact of a disability so that those with the most significant disabilities receive

the highest priority. Other methods of managing resources, such as slowing down or denying services to individuals, are prohibited by federal rules. When a client applies for vocational rehabilitation services, part of the program eligibility determination includes the counselor ranking the client's disability in one of three categories. The number of functional limitations resulting from a disability determines the category in which the client is placed.

Table Order of Selection

Category	Classified as...	Determined by...
Priority Level 1	Most Significant Disability	3 or More Functional Limitations
Priority Level 2	Significant Disability	2 or More Functional Limitations
Priority Level 3	Disability	0-1 Functional Limitations

For the first time in Montana's history, DETD entered into an order of selection in 2014. In March 2014, Priority Level 3 was closed. In October 2014, DETD reopened the category. At the time of this writing, all categories remain open, although the order of selection is still in place.

Achieving Success by Promoting Readiness in Education and Employment (ASPIRE):

ASPIRE Montana is a part of the six state consortium led by Utah. This grant is a human subject study that focuses on how targeted services benefit high school students who receive Supplemental Security Income. The outcomes of the study will guide how states serve youth with disabilities in their transition to post-secondary education and work. ASPIRE Montana partners include DETD, the Office of Public Instruction and the Department of Labor and Industry.

Partnerships:

DETD collaborates with multiple partners to deliver services in the most efficient and integrated manner. Partners include the Veteran's Administration and multiple tribal vocational rehabilitation programs. We routinely jointly serve clients and constantly communicate with our partners to deliver the best possible services together.

NFB Newsline:

DETD began a vocational rehabilitation Services to Groups project in July 2014 that funds access to newspapers, magazines, and other information by people with print disabilities. Five Montana newspapers --- the Billings Gazette, Butte Standard, Great Falls Tribune, Helena Independent Record, and the Missoulian --- may be read over the telephone, on the computer, or on a mobile device by those who qualify for the service. NFB Newsline, which is provided by the National Federation of the Blind, includes other materials such as an additional 250 newspapers, a job service board, and local and national announcements, including emergencies. To qualify, Montanans can work with the Montana Talking Books Library or the NFB Newsline website. NFB Newsline is the modern replacement for the former Radio Reading Service. NFB Newsline is about access to information, and it is a friendly, easy-to-use tool that makes a difference in the lives of the 200 plus Montanans currently using the service.

Individual Placement and Supports (IPS):

Evidence-based practices move people with mental health disabilities into employment quickly. The Addictive and Mental Disorders Division asked DETD to join them in their demonstration project called, "IPS." Vocational rehabilitation counselors work closely with mental health case managers to find jobs for clients from three Montana mental health programs as soon as the clients express motivation for work. The programs are Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch in Billings, Gallatin

Mental Health Center in Bozeman, and Mountain Home Montana in Missoula. We will apply what we learn from this collaboration to services throughout Montana.

Transportation:

Transportation between and within Montana communities can be nearly impossible for many people with disabilities. Centers for Independent Living constantly advocate for improved transportation options. One Center, the Montana Independent Living Project (MILP), accomplished multiple improvements in transportation within Helena. MILP spearheaded a local group-effort to enhance after-hour taxi services when the city bus service is closed. In addition, MILP collaborated with the city and county to create an improved fixed route and para-transit system through the Helena Area Transportation Services. Lastly, MILP successfully pressed for changes in city building requirements so that sidewalks are installed when other street improvements are installed by developers. Other independent living centers are doing similar work.

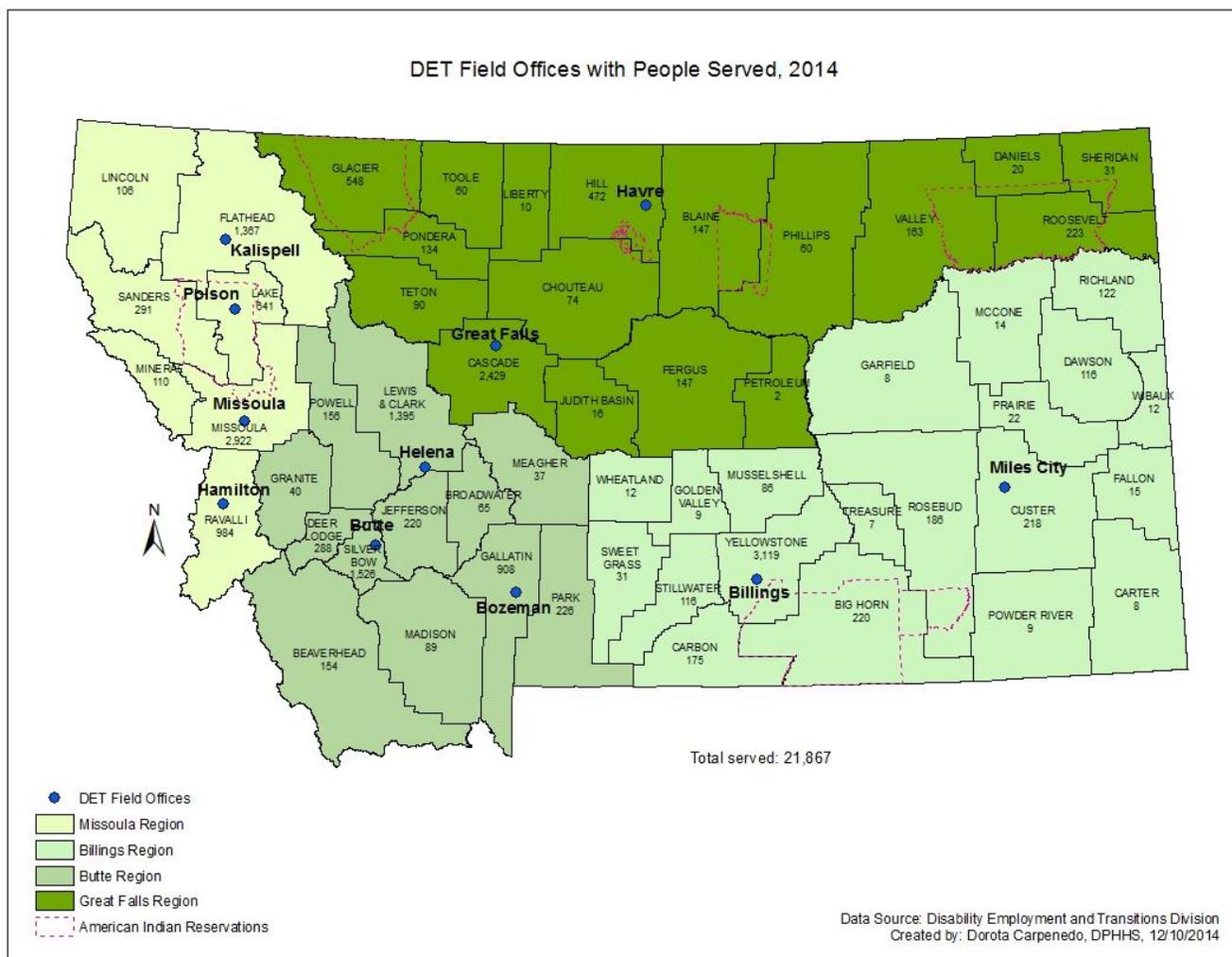
Project Search:

Six Montanans with intellectual and other developmental disabilities are learning what it takes to work at Bozeman Deaconess Health Services. Project Search, a national job preparation program for people with disabilities, began working with its first class in Spring, 2014. Project Search teaches its students soft and hard skills in employment. The course lasts nine months and each student studies through three rotations in jobs in the hospital such as food services, laundry, etc. Students volunteer their time. They come away from the experience well prepared for a career. Multiple partners contribute to Project Search, including Vocational Rehabilitation and Blind Services, Developmental Disability Services, Reach Inc., Helena Industries, the parents group, DREAM, and Taishoff Center for Inclusive Higher Education. Project Search's most compelling characteristic, according to many, is its practicality in preparing people with the most significant disabilities for good jobs in a mainstream setting. Montana may launch new Project Search programs in other cities.

Statewide Services:

The following table shows, by county, the number of Montanans with disabilities served last year using the DETD programs. DETD serves Montanans from every county in the state. Note that some of the DETD programs were not able to provide county-specific information.

County	Vocational Rehabilitation and Blind Services	Disability Determination	MT Telecomm Access Program	Extended Employment	Visual Medical	Older Blind	Independent Living	Total
Beaverhead	30	106	12	0	0	6	*	154
Big Horn	55	164	0	1	0	0	*	220
Blaine	29	113	3	0	0	2	*	147
Broadwater	25	36	3	0	0	1	*	65
Carbon	40	129	4	0	0	2	*	175
Carter	0	8	0	0	0	0	*	8
Cascade	1,145	1,075	65	31	5	108	*	2,429
Chouteau	16	49	3	0	0	6	*	74
Custer	95	100	11	6	5	1	*	218
Daniels	1	19	0	0	0	0	*	20
Dawson	49	54	6	4	0	3	*	116
Deer Lodge	99	161	16	0	0	12	*	288
Fallon	8	7	0	0	0	0	*	15
Fergus	36	87	9	0	0	15	*	147
Flathead	495	752	48	20	8	44	*	1,367
Gallatin	336	492	42	10	1	27	*	908
Garfield	3	4	0	0	0	1	*	8
Glacier	60	459	14	0	0	15	*	548
Golden Valley	3	6	0	0	0	0	*	9
Granite	11	22	5	0	0	2	*	40
Hill	205	243	11	0	1	12	*	472
Jefferson	65	137	10	5	1	2	*	220
Judith Basin	4	10	1	0	1	0	*	16
Lake	227	353	44	1	2	14	*	641
Lewis & Clark	533	725	56	40	4	37	*	1,395
Liberty	3	5	1	0	0	1	*	10
Lincoln	62	0	22	2	2	18	*	106
Madison	24	52	6	0	2	5	*	89
McCone	7	7	0	0	0	0	*	14
Meagher	12	21	1	0	0	3	*	37
Mineral	32	69	6	0	0	3	*	110
Missoula	1,428	1,209	106	95	7	77	*	2,922
Musselshell	25	55	4	0	0	2	*	86
Park	52	157	9	3	1	4	*	226
Petroleum	0	0	1	0	1	0	*	2
Phillips	13	39	6	0	0	2	*	60
Pondera	38	85	8	0	0	3	*	134
Powder River	4	4	1	0	0	0	*	9
Powell	31	105	13	1	1	5	*	156
Prairie	8	12	1	0	1	0	*	22
Ravalli	322	568	49	9	2	34	*	984
Richland	57	60	3	1	0	1	*	122
Roosevelt	21	195	3	0	0	4	*	223
Rosebud	34	141	6	1	1	3	*	186
Sanders	78	186	16	0	2	9	*	291
Sheridan	7	18	4	0	0	2	*	31
Silver Bow	425	998	41	12	4	46	*	1,526
Stillwater	38	64	8	0	2	4	*	116
Sweet Grass	4	24	2	0	0	1	*	31
Teton	27	46	10	0	0	7	*	90
Toole	15	35	9	0	0	1	*	60
Treasure	1	4	2	0	0	0	*	7
Valley	44	96	11	0	1	11	*	163
Wheatland	3	4	4	0	1	0	*	12
Wibaux	4	7	1	0	0	0	*	12
Yellowstone	1,274	1,578	114	63	26	64	*	3,119
*Unknown or Outside MT	92	0	7	4	0	0	1,108	1,211
Total	7,755	11,155	838	309	82	620	1,108	21,867



STORIES FROM THOSE WE SERVE:

The mom shook her head in amazement. Her teenage son had just delivered an enthusiastic banquet speech about what he learned about his disability and what to expect after high school graduation. “I just can’t believe it,” said the young man’s mother, “he just talked to a big crowd and he ate banquet chicken with red stuff on it. What has this program done to my son?” Her son was a student in the Montana Youth Leadership Forum (MYLF), which is held each summer at Carroll College in Helena. MYLF brings transitioning high school juniors and seniors together for a week-long residential program designed to prep students with disabilities for what comes after high school. MYLF exudes a can-do spirit for people with disabilities, and many are the students who gain confidence and knowledge about post-secondary education and work. MYLF changes lives.

A vocational rehabilitation client with an intellectual disability dreamed of operating his own business in a rural community near Billings. Initially, the client, his family, and his service providers thought he would work best through supported employment. He was marking time on the wait list for services from the Extended Employment Program when hopes for self-employment took root. The client

wanted to sell snow cones through concessions at local events and assembled a business plan, which was supported through his Individual Plan for Employment through Vocational Rehabilitation and Blind Services. Within one year, the business achieved enough stability to permit the closure of his vocational rehabilitation services as successfully employed. The client loves the work and aims to build the business so that he can stop receiving disability benefits through the Social Security Administration. The client is proud of building a viable economic support in rural Montana where employment options can be scarce.

An individual from West Yellowstone filed her disability benefits claim with the Social Security Administration on September 11, 2014, due to stage four pancreatic cancer. Disability Determination Services (DDS) received her claim on September 19 and faxed a request for records to her oncologist and the hospital. At that point her cancer had already spread to her liver. DDS allowed her disability benefits on September 24. DDS has many such cases, which are Quick Disability Determination (QDD) claims that can be allowed in a short period of time due to the severity of the illness. On average, QDD claims take fourteen days to process. DDS often does not have any follow up with people who file, to hear about how it impacted their life, particularly those allowed.

A cashier at Fuddruckers restaurant in Missoula is blind. Today's technologies make it possible to perform job duties formerly requiring eyesight. Today, a blind person does what any cashier does through alternative techniques and technologies. The Fuddruckers cashier who is blind uses devices such as an electronic money identifier and screen readers to manage customer transactions. Of course, a great deal of credit goes to the owner of Fuddruckers because that business leader is willing to break free of assumptions and give people with disabilities a chance to succeed. DETD and its partners worked with the owner and other employees to make the cashier job work for people who are blind. Now the Missoula Fuddruckers cashier can do his or her job blindfolded...really!

Disability sometimes limits or prevents the use of a standard telephone. For a Bozeman woman, this was certainly the case. She has multiple disabilities, including being hard of hearing, diabetes, and neuropathy. Besides not being able to hear telephone conversations well, the woman could not press telephone buttons well enough to operate a telephone. Shaking hands was impossible for her. Our MTAP Equipment Specialist visited her home and set up a telephone called the Fortissimo, which is specially designed for those with fine motor control impairments. The Specialist and client programmed the phone together so that it contained the telephone numbers of people the woman was most likely to call. The Specialist also showed the woman how to add additional numbers to the Fortissimo. Then they made the first call. The woman called her daughter completely on her own. Both mother and daughter were overjoyed to be able to talk over the phone once again.

John Doe, an 89 year old with a severe visual impairment, was referred to the Billings office of Blind and Low Vision Services by both his ophthalmologist and the Department of Veteran Affairs at Fort Harrison. John's visual loss is a result of Age Related Macular Degeneration. He reported other age-related impairments including: diabetes; hearing impairment; and bone, muscle, skin, joint and movement disorders. John said he wanted to write about his life and needed to learn how to write with alternative techniques and technologies, explaining that he had held a variety of jobs throughout his working career including the following: Military; National Park Ranger; Geologist; Rancher; and College Professor. He was most interested in re-capturing his many interesting careers by writing about his life's journey. Through the Independent Living for the Older Blind program, John learned about hand-held and video magnifiers, full spectrum lighting, large print, writing guides, and low vision writing pens. He also learned how to operate a computer with screen magnification software.

As a result of these services, John remains in his own home with his wife, and he is well on his way in writing his life story.

A teacher filed for Social Security disability benefits due to his Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and depression. He was very afraid of being denied because he heard his type of case is rarely allowed. His PTSD was work-related. He felt minimized by his peers and ostracized from his family and others. He appreciated his impairment was taken seriously by DDS and that DDS treated him like a “real person”. His claim was approved by the DDS and the disability benefits allowed him to get the help he needed. He recently called to thank the adjudicator for her compassion and to report that he will be returning to work.

A young man with muscular dystrophy who uses a wheelchair was able to borrow from the Montana Assistive Technology Program a gun mount that allowed him to control the positioning, aiming, and firing of the gun through a switch activated motor. This technology allowed him to hunt with his family and friends and was critical to his ability to independently participate.

A vocational rehabilitation client who is Native American and a person with a physical disability wanted to teach high school on a reservation. The client, guided by his Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor, set an Individual Plan for Employment. Part of the plan included getting a bachelor’s degree in education from Montana State University-Northern. The client graduated and now teaches health and human performance classes in Heart Butte. In addition, the client is currently pursuing a master’s degree in education.

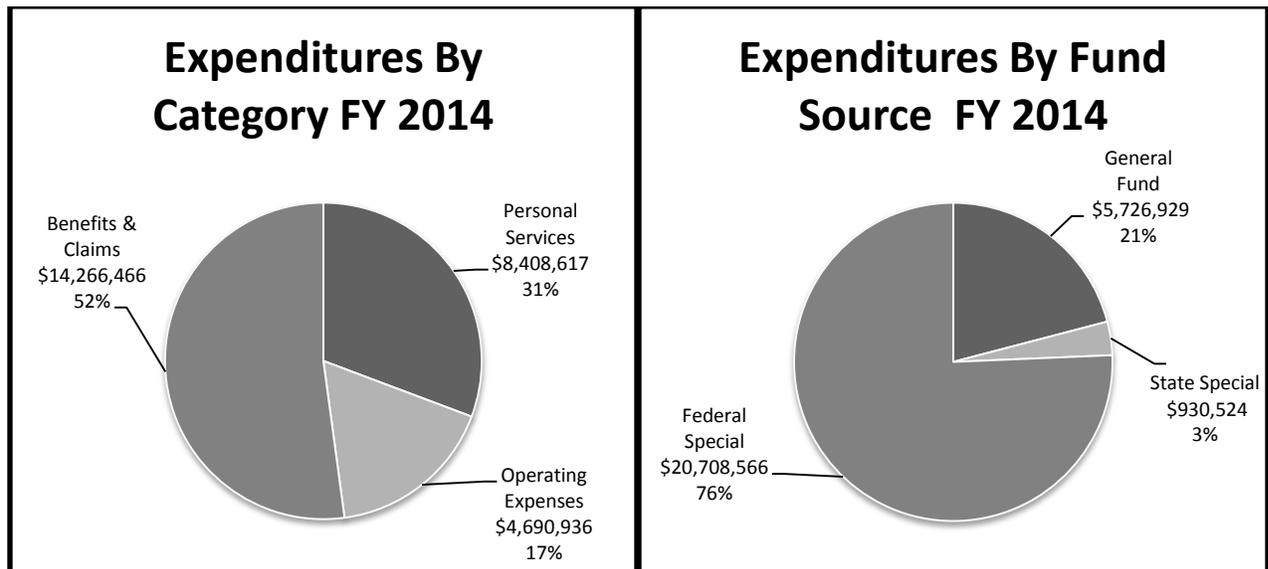
2017 BIENNIUM GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Department of Public Health and Human Services Disability Employment and Transitions Division	
Goals and Objectives for the 2017 Biennium Submitted October 2014	
Goal: To continuously assist Montanans with disabilities, including transitioning students, to achieve independence so that they can live, work, and fully participate in their communities.	
Objective	Measures
Assist Montanans with disabilities, including those students transitioning from school to work and/or post-secondary education, into gainful employment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The objective is measured by successfully meeting Vocational Rehabilitation standards and indicators as developed by the federal Rehabilitation Services Administration.
Provide accurate and timely Social Security disability adjudications.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The objective is measured by successfully meeting the federal Social Security standards on accuracy rates and timeliness.
Improve the quality of life for Montanans with disabilities through education, innovation and technology by enhancing communication options.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The objective is measured by maintaining the current level of equipment distributed to individuals who are eligible for the Montana Telecommunications Access Program.

FUNDING AND FTE INFORMATION

	2014 Actual Expenditures	FY 2016 Request	FY 2017 Request
Disability Employment and Transitions Division			
FTE	147.00	141.97	141.97
Personal Services	8,408,617	9,287,437	9,287,075
Operating	4,690,936	5,126,197	5,154,298
Equipment	0	0	0
Grants	0	0	0
Benefits & Claims	14,266,466	14,706,157	14,976,100
Debt Services	0	0	0
Total Request	27,366,019	29,119,791	29,417,473
General Fund	5,726,929	6,025,069	6,114,777
State Special Fund	930,524	956,422	957,837
Federal Fund	20,708,566	22,138,300	22,344,859
Total Request	27,366,019	29,119,791	29,417,473

THE FOLLOWING FIGURES PROVIDE FUNDING AND EXPENDITURE INFORMATION FOR FY 2014 FOR THE DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT & TRANSITIONS DIVISION



CHANGE PACKAGES (SEE LFD BUDGET ANALYSIS, PAGES B-7, B-8)

PL-100444 – Statewide 4% FTE Reduction:

- The 2015 biennium budget included a 4% vacancy savings reduction. Language included in the boilerplate of HB 2 passed by the 2013 Legislature, indicated legislative intent that the 4% vacancy savings be made permanent as an FTE reduction for the 2017 biennium. Change package 100444 includes a reduction of 5.03 FTE each year and \$684,627 total funds for the biennium to accomplish the FTE reduction.
- See LFD Budget Analysis page B-7.

Fiscal Year	General Fund	State Special	Federal Funds	Total Request
FY 2016	\$ (48,020)	\$ (10,915)	\$ (283,461)	\$ (342,396)
FY 2017	\$ (48,047)	\$ (10,882)	\$ (283,302)	\$ (342,231)
Biennium Total	\$ (96,067)	\$ (21,797)	\$ (566,843)	\$ (684,627)

PL-101001 – DDS Operations Support:

- This present law adjustment requests federal funds of \$252,217 in FY 2016 and \$279,064 in FY 2017 to annualize the costs associated with maintaining existing Disability Determination Services in the Disability Employment & Transitions Division.
- See LFD Budget Analysis page B-7.

Fiscal Year	General Fund	State Special	Federal Funds	Total Request
FY 2016	\$ -0-	\$ -0-	\$ 252,217	\$ 252,217
FY 2017	\$ -0-	\$ -0-	\$ 279,064	\$ 279,064
Biennium Total	\$ -0-	\$ -0-	\$ 531,281	\$ 531,281

PL-101003 – VRB Annualization of 2015B Funding:

- This present law adjustment requests \$350,084 total funds over the biennium, including general fund of \$68,732 each year to annualize the provider rate increase implemented in the base year. The increase is necessary to fund existing services for the Vocational Rehabilitation and Blind Services (VRB) program.
- See LFD Budget Analysis page B-7.

Fiscal Year	General Fund	State Special	Federal Funds	Total Request
FY 2016	\$ 68,732	\$ -0-	\$ 106,310	\$ 175,042
FY 2017	\$ 68,732	\$ -0-	\$ 106,310	\$ 175,042
Biennium Total	\$ 137,464	\$ -0-	\$ 212,620	\$ 350,084

PL-101006 – MTAP Annualization of Relay Services:

- This present law adjustment requests \$16,891 in state special funds each year of the biennium to maintain existing services for the Montana Telecommunication Access Program (MTAP). The increase is necessary to annualize the relay service contract rates.
- See LFD Budget Analysis page **B-7**.

Fiscal Year	General Fund	State Special	Federal Funds	Total Request
FY 2016	\$ -0-	\$ 16,891	\$ -0-	\$ 16,891
FY 2017	\$ -0-	\$ 16,891	\$ -0-	\$ 16,891
Biennium Total	\$ -0-	\$ 33,782	\$ -0-	\$ 33,782

PL-101008 – VRB Support Fee for Case Management System:

- This present law adjustment requests \$351,000 total funds over the biennium, including general fund of \$37,382 each year to maintain existing services for the VRB program. The increase is necessary to provide maintenance and support for the client case management system.
- See LFD Budget Analysis page **B-7**.

Fiscal Year	General Fund	State Special	Federal Funds	Total Request
FY 2016	\$ 37,382	\$ -0-	\$ 138,118	\$ 175,500
FY 2017	\$ 37,382	\$ -0-	\$ 138,118	\$ 175,500
Biennium Total	\$ 74,764	\$ -0-	\$ 276,236	\$ 351,000

NP-101009 – PRI-Vocation Rehabilitation:

- This new proposal requests a 2% provider rate increase in each year of the biennium for Vocational Rehabilitation in the Disability Employment & Transitions Division. The change package requests \$679,401 in total funds over the biennium, including general fund of \$47,918 in FY 2016 and \$96,795 in FY 2017.
- See LFD Budget Analysis page **B-8**.

Fiscal Year	General Fund	State Special	Federal Funds	Total Request
FY 2016	\$ 47,918	\$ -0-	\$ 177,049	\$ 224,967
FY 2017	\$ 96,795	\$ -0-	\$ 357,639	\$ 454,434
Biennium Total	\$ 144,713	\$ -0-	\$ 534,688	\$ 679,401

NP-101010 – PRI-Extended Employment:

- This new proposal requests a 2% provider rate increase in each year of the biennium for Extended Employment in the Disability Employment & Transitions Division. The change package requests \$78,665 during the biennium and is funded entirely with general fund.
- See LFD Budget Analysis page **B-8**.

Fiscal Year	General Fund	State Special	Federal Funds	Total Request
FY 2016	\$ 26,048	\$ -0-	\$ -0-	\$ 26,048
FY 2017	\$ 52,617	\$ -0-	\$ -0-	\$ 52,617
Biennium Total	\$ 78,665	\$ -0-	\$ -0-	\$ 78,665

NP-101011 – PRI-Independent Living:

- This new proposal requests a 2% provider rate increase in each year of the biennium for Independent Living in the Disability Employment & Transitions Division. The change package requests \$41,175 during the biennium and is funded entirely with general fund.
- See LFD Budget Analysis page **B-8**.

Fiscal Year	General Fund	State Special	Federal Funds	Total Request
FY 2016	\$ 13,634	\$ -0-	\$ -0-	\$ 13,634
FY 2017	\$ 27,541	\$ -0-	\$ -0-	\$ 27,541
Biennium Total	\$ 41,175	\$ -0-	\$ -0-	\$ 41,175

Language Appropriation (HB 2):

- The following language is requested to be included in HB 2: “The Disability Employment & Transitions Division is appropriated \$775,000 of state special revenue from the Montana Telecommunications Access Program (MTAP) during each year of the 2017 biennium to cover a contingent FCC mandate, which would require states to provide both Video and Internet Protocol relay services for people with severe hearing, mobility or speech impairments.”
- See LFD Budget Analysis page **B-3**.

LEGISLATION

The Division has no pending or requested legislation.