

# Careers and Business Relations News Brief

September 29, 2024



CSAVR Careers and *Business Relations News Briefs* is a regular series covering The National Employment Team (NET) activities, business relations initiatives, media stories, business research initiatives, webinars, reports, conferences, and employment activities of interest to the membership.

**Announcements: October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM).** The theme this year is “Access to Good Jobs for All.” VR staff and NET members are engaged in a number of activities throughout the month. We understand the importance of NDEAM but this is our work year around - VR is focused on careers not just a job. Celebrate the month and the work that we are doing together across the country!

Each year, a theme is selected by the U.S. Department of Labor's [Office of Disability Employment Policy \[dol.gov\]](#) (ODEP) to help employers, disability advocates, and others plan their observances. The NDEAM theme for 2024 is “[Access to Good Jobs for All \[dol.gov\]](#).”

Visit [ODEP's website \[dol.gov\]](#) to learn more about NDEAM and [find ideas \[dol.gov\]](#) for how your organization can celebrate. You can also download the [NDEAM poster \[dol.gov\]](#) and organizations can customize the NDEAM poster with their name, logo, and photos.

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## **HIGHLIGHTS:**

### **National Updates**

- a. CSAVR 2024 Fall Conference
  - b. NCSAB 2024 Fall Conference
  - c. CSAVR Public Affairs Consultant Recruitment
  2. **NET Updates**
    - a. NET Summit 2024 and 2025
    - b. NET Legacy Members Retire – MA and WI
    - c. CVS Health is Hiring
    - d. U.S. DOT Virtual Information Session
    - e. FAA Information Session
    - f. USAID – NDEAM Disability Employment Power Hour Sessions
    - g. National Park Service – Federal Resume Writing Workshops
    - h. EEOC – Practices to Retain PWD in Federal Jobs
  3. **TAP Updates**
  4. **Articles and Features of Interest**
    - a. AbilityOne Commission Policy 2051 – the Rights of Participating Employees
    - b. nTIDE Deeper Dive – Barriers to Voting for PWD
    - c. Housing Hurdles and Shortages for People with Disabilities
    - d. Civil rights groups call on major corporations to stick with DEI programs
    - e. How to cope with imposter syndrome while having learning disabilities
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## **NATIONAL UPDATES**

### **CSAVR 2024 Fall Conference [csavr.org]**

October 19 - October 23, 2024

Seattle, WA

Hyatt Regency Seattle

808 Howell Street

<https://www.csavr.org/events> [csavr.org]

**National Council of State Agencies for the Blind (NCSAB)**

NCSAB Fall 2024 Conference

October 23 - 25, 2024  
Seattle, WA  
Hyatt Regency Seattle  
808 Howell Street

<https://www.ncsab.org/> [[ncsab.org](https://www.ncsab.org/)]

### **Public Affairs Consultant Recruitment**

Applications due: October 4, 2024

CSAVR is accepting proposals for a multi- year contract to assist CSAVR in enhancing its efforts to demonstrate the value proposition of the National Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) program. Specifically, CSAVR is seeking a qualified consultant/entity to expand its effort to effectively and consistently change the perception of VR as "the best kept secret", while Increasing Public Awareness of the Vocational Rehabilitation Program.

Questions should be directed to Tonia Ferguson, Director of Legislative Affairs, at [tferguson@csavr.org](mailto:tferguson@csavr.org).

### **NET UPDATES**

**NET Summit 2024 and 2025** - Thank you to the Directors, NET Points of Contact, Business Relations team members and partners who were able to attend the 2023 NET Summit in Charolette, NC. The Summit was hosted by Wells Fargo. We appreciate and recognize their long-term commitment and partnership with the NET. We are currently compiling the comments from the roundtable discussions as well as the PPT from the sessions. Please complete your evaluation and we will be sharing the updates shortly!

The 2025 NET Summit will be held at Microsoft in September of next year. Details will be shared as soon early 2025.

**NET Legacy Members Retire** - As we move into the final week of September, we want to take this opportunity to thank two key members of our team who are retiring. **Bill Allen** is retiring after 30 years with the MA agency --- now known as MassAbility. Bill has been an active and contributing member of the NET from day one. Our other long-time member

who is retiring is **Patti Johnson** with Wisconsin. Again, Patti is a legacy member of the NET and has been part of several business partnership, training sessions with other agencies and the overall growth of our team nationally. On one hand, it is difficult to say goodbye to these two incredible colleagues, but we all recognize that they are moving into a well-deserved retirement! Thank you, Patti and Bill!

**CVS Health is hiring for a variety of roles, nationwide** - Learn more about our culture, how we support our colleagues, and the benefits we offer in the attached flyer. Please share with your family, friends, and networks! Please visit the [CVS Health Careers page \[jobs.cvshealth.com\]](https://jobs.cvshealth.com) to search for opportunities.

**U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT)** October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, Virtual Information Session. See attached flyer for more information. A sign language interpreter will be provided.

You can register for this event [through this link. \[faavideo.zoomgov.com\]](https://faavideo.zoomgov.com)

**U.S. Department of Transportation: FAA – Aviation Safety** division, is offering an information session primarily focused on educating high school seniors and college students with the disabilities about internships and career opportunities at the FAA. The virtual event is on October 24<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 3:30 p.m. Eastern. The NET representatives at the agency level are working to get the word out!

**USAID** - The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) has announced a series of webinars that will be taking place every Wednesday during October to celebrate NDEAM. They have titled it the “Disability Employment Power Hour.” This is a collaboration of selective placement coordinators from USAID, OPM, DOL, the National Institutes of Health and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. If you have any questions, contact your NET point of contact.

**National Park Service** - The NPS representative joined us at the NET Summit and shared the following information regarding their Resume Webinar: is offered the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month. The first flyer

includes the registration link. If you require an accommodation to participate, please email: [NationalRecruitmentTeam@NPS.gov](mailto:NationalRecruitmentTeam@NPS.gov).

The NPS has great career opportunities, and this session will be helpful for developing a resume for any Federal position.

[EEOC Identifies Practices to Retain Persons with Disabilities at Federal Agencies. \[content.govdelivery.com\]](https://content.govdelivery.com)

### TAP UPDATES

**Talent Acquisition Portal (TAP)** We would like to say thank you and we are excited to work with the states that are requesting TAP demonstrations and trainings.

Inger Neal is currently responding to requests for training from Washington Blind, Tennessee, Iowa, New Mexico, and this week completed a joint training for Connecticut BRS and Blind Agency. As we have stated before our Talent Acquisition Portal is not only fully accessible but is a national database where our business partners can source talent with skills and abilities that have disabilities.

Currently streaming 563,410 career opportunities, with 15,803 views and only 150 apply clicks. Just a reminder published resumes is how our business partners can source talent from our candidate pool.

<b>State VR Agency</b>	<b>Apply Clicks</b>	<b>New Candidates</b>	<b>Published Resumes</b>
Texas	40	16	183
California	23	18	953
Tennessee	10	6	120
Florida B	14	4	279

## ARTICLES AND FEATURES OF INTEREST

[AbilityOne Commission Policy 50.406 – the Rights of Participating Employees \[abilityone.gov\]](#)

[nTIDE Deeper Dive September 2024: Voting Data Reflects Increased Turnout for People with Disabilities, Yet Barriers Remain](#)

[\[researchondisability.org\]](#) - While voting accessibility for people with disabilities has improved since 2012, a turnout gap persists, with one in seven voters with disabilities reporting difficulties in 2022. Additionally, recent rollbacks of pandemic voting measures in some states have made it harder for people with disabilities to vote in person and by mail.

[Housing Hurdles and Shortages for People with Disabilities \[pbs.org\]](#)

[Civil rights groups call on major corporations to stick with DEI programs \[apnews.com\]](#)

[How to cope with imposter syndrome while having learning disabilities \[understood.org\]](#)

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Kathy or Inger.