



For people with intellectual
and developmental disabilities

Achieve with us.

October 5, 2016

Celebrating National Disability Employment Awareness Month

Each October, we stop to celebrate National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) to raise awareness about disability employment issues and the individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities succeeding in the workforce. This month is an opportunity to celebrate the many and varied contributions of America's workers with disabilities. With this in mind, we are proud to present Wednesday's 'Watch Me Work' Series that will introduce you, each week, to a different individual who is succeeding in competitive employment.

We urge you to also take some time this month to promote this important occasion. You can do so on [social media](#) with your Facebook or Twitter posts, or in a letter to the editor to your local newspaper.

Additionally, please join us for a [webinar on Wednesday, Oct. 19 at 6 pm](#) that will focus on the Pre-Employment Transition Services program offered by the New Jersey Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services.

We'd also love to hear your employment stories! Feel free to [email us](#) about your successes and/or challenges of finding and keeping employment in the community and we may feature your story on our [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#) page throughout the month.

Happy National Disability Employment Awareness Month!

Resources for Finding, Keeping Employment

- If you or someone you know has a disability and is interested in competitive employment in the community, be sure to contact [Project HIRE](#). Project HIRE is a supported employment program designed to connect people with disabilities to integrated employment opportunities in their

Wednesday's 'Watch Me Work' with Barbara Coppens

Barbara Coppens works for Disabilities Rights New Jersey (DRNJ) as an advocate assistant and it's a position she's very proud to have. Working at DRNJ for the past 11 years and 3 months, Barbara advocates for community living for people with disabilities. She also focuses on issues like transportation and voting

community. The program also assists middle and high school students in their preparation and transition to adult life with its School-to-Work program.

- Those interested in work can also visit the New Jersey [Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services](#) (DVRS). DVRS provides vocational counseling and guidance, placement services, job search skill development, supported employment (SE), and time-limited placement and coaching (TLPC), among other things. Services are available to any individual with a physical, mental, cognitive, or other disability that is a substantial impediment to employment.

rights. Barbara enjoys advocating for people and that's why she also attends many advocacy meetings hosted by different members of the disability community. Barbara says that DRNJ is a great agency to work for and she really enjoys the people she works with at the office. Barbara also enjoys making her own money and working helps build her confidence and gets her out in the community.



Barbara Coppens is a long-time employee at Disability Rights New Jersey.

US Dept. of Labor Promotes #InclusionWorks for NDEAM

The Office of Disability Employment Policy, under the US Department of Labor is also celebrating National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM). Be sure to check out their [web site](#) for additional information and resources that will you celebrate this important occasion.



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STAY CONNECTED

