
Implement a Meaningful Transitional Jobs (TJ) Program within W-2

Many W-2 participants exhibit multiple barriers to employment and current W-2 agency practices have proven inadequate in many cases at helping those participants obtain and maintain unsubsidized employment. Transitional jobs programs are designed to focus on the strengths of the individual and to provide ongoing case management during employment. A transitional jobs program within W-2 could help improve the employment and earnings outcomes of many W-2 participants. The Governor's budget includes funding for a pilot transitional jobs program called "Real Work, Real Pay" that would move us forward towards the creation of meaningful transitional jobs for W-2 participants.

Talking Points

- Transitional Jobs replace a subsidy with a paycheck.
- It's an effective workforce development approach for helping those with multiple barriers to employment find *and keep* jobs.
- TJ programs have succeeded in other states.
- TJ participants earn a "real wage" and unlike those in community service jobs are eligible for the federal and state earned income tax credit – a significant boost for low-income workers at tax time.
- TJ participants elsewhere report a strong psychological boost as they are working in real jobs and earning a wage – as compared to receiving a subsidy.
- TJ workers gain experience and references that are valued by other employers.
- Employers benefit by having a case manager they can contact if problems arise on the job.
- W-2 case managers learn from the participants' experience on the job (their reliability, extent of specific employment barriers, skills and skill needs, etc.) and they can tailor the ongoing case management accordingly.

Take Action to Support Transitional Jobs in this year's State Budget!
Turn this page over to find out how!

Members of the Legislature's Joint Committee on Finance need to hear that you support the proposed "Real Work, Real Pay" Transitional Jobs pilot program.

Take action today by contacting the JFC member who represents you (or your part of the state) and urge him/her to support this important proposal!

Members of the Joint Committee on Finance (JFC):

Sen. Russ Decker (D, Weston)	(608) 266-2502 (Co-Chair of JFC)
Sen. Dave Hansen (D, Green Bay)	(608) 266-5670
Sen. Bob Jauch (D, Poplar)	(608) 266-3510
Sen. Lena Taylor (D, Milwaukee)	(608) 266-5810
Sen. Mark Miller (D, Monona)	(608) 266-9170
Sen. John Lehman (D, Racine)	(608) 266-1832
Sen. Alberta Darling (R, River Hills)	(608) 266-5830
Sen. Luther Olsen (R, Ripon)	(608) 266-0751
Rep. Kitty Rhoades (R, Hudson)	(608) 266-1526 (Co-Chair of JFC)
Rep. Dan Meyer (R, Eagle River)	(608) 266-7141
Rep. Jeff Stone (R, Greendale)	(608) 266-8590
Rep. Steve Kestell (R, Elkhart Lake)	(608) 266-8530
Rep. Scott Suder (R, Abbotsford)	(608) 267-0280
Rep. Robin Vos (R, Racine)	(608) 266-9171
Rep. Mark Pocan (D, Madison)	(608) 266-8570
Rep. Pedro Colon (D, Milwaukee)	(608) 267-7669