

# Employment & Inclusion Conference 2026:

## The Power of Expectations

March 24, 2026

2:45 PM

Breakout Session D-3

# Building Capacity of Employment Support Providers to Improve Employment Outcomes for People with Disabilities

People with significant intellectual and developmental disabilities continue to experience low rates of competitive, integrated employment, even when supported through supported employment (SE) and customized employment (CE). This session examines the gap between what is possible and what is currently achieved, drawing on research and matched administrative data to highlight persistent disparities. The sessions will explore how strong employment outcomes are driven by high expectations paired with a highly skilled workforce. Competency-based approaches show promise for strengthening service quality, advancing individualized supports, and expanding access to meaningful employment outcomes.



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