

AMERICAN DREAM EMPLOYMENT NETWORK

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



National Disability Institute (NDI) envisions a society in which people with disabilities have the same opportunities to achieve financial stability and independence as people without disabilities. The American Dream Employment Network (ADEN), a division of National Disability Institute, was approved by the Social Security Administration (SSA) as a Ticket to Work service provider in 2015, with a goal to assist Social Security disability beneficiaries to become more financially secure through employment.

MEASUREMENT OF SUCCESS

The business model of ADEN contracts with vocational rehabilitation (VR) professionals and agencies across the country to provide quality employment services and benefits advisement to job seekers who receive disability benefits from Social Security. ADEN recognizes the value of relationships and partners with more than 900 employers and has Partnership Plus agreements with 10 state vocational rehabilitation agencies. Success is measured through the following three benchmarks:

1. *Individuals with disabilities are on a path out of poverty through employment.*

Indicators:

- *608 adults receiving disability benefits became employed or retained employment with support from ADEN in 2021.*
- *From 2015-2021, ADEN Participants have earned more than \$20.7 Million in wages.*
- *ADEN Participants who work average \$18.11/per hour and 31 hours/week. This equates to a monthly salary of \$2,414.06. (For comparison, \$1,234 was the average SSA disability monthly benefit in 2019, and in 2022, the monthly benefit for SSI is \$841.)*

2. *Beneficiaries who leave the SSA disability rolls, due to employment, create a savings to the SSA Trust Fund and contribute to the federal tax base.*

Indicators:

- *Collectively, since 2015, employed ADEN Participants saved an estimated \$2.6 Million from the SSA trust fund through forgone disability benefits.*
- *From 2015-2021, the earnings by ADEN Participants contributed an estimated \$2.4 Million to the federal tax base.*

3. *ADEN core services exceed industry standards and are effective.*

Indicators:

- *37 ADEN Participants successfully completed the Ticket to Work program.*
- *65% (608) of those supported by ADEN were employed in 2021; this rate is considered excellent within the employment service arena.*

[Read individual success stories to learn more about how ADEN is making a difference in the lives of its Participants and Members.](#)

2021 OUTCOMES AND ACTIVITIES

INDIVIDUAL BENEFICIARY 2021 PROFILE

- *In 2021, 459 beneficiaries choose ADEN for employment services and benefits advisement.*
- *A total of 936 beneficiaries received ADEN services in 2021.*
- *The average age of beneficiaries is 46; 54% are female and 46% are male.*
- *81% of beneficiaries receive Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and 19% receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI).*
- *64% received post-secondary education:*
 - *Master's Degree or higher = 10%; Bachelor's Degree = 20%*
 - *Associates Degree = 13%; Some College = 21%*
 - *High School Diploma or GED = 36%*

EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES

- *3.1 months – the average time from when a beneficiary begins services with ADEN to when they start a job*
- *Top 3 industries in which ADEN Participants are employed: 1) Health Care, 2) Customer Service / Retail and 3) Administrative*

PRODUCTIVITY

- *In 2021, the following ADEN core services were delivered by ADEN providers:*
 - *4,087 hours of Benefits and Work Incentives Advisement provided by 63 certified Work Incentive Practitioners in the ADEN network*
 - *3,736 hours of Job Search Support*
 - *2,970 hours of Ongoing Employment Support*
 - *1,281 hours of Career Counseling*
 - *598 hours of Financial Services Supports*

SERVICE PROVIDERS PROFILE 2021

- *64 vocational professionals or agencies represent:*
 - *30 LLC or Sole Proprietorship*
 - *22 private community rehab providers*
 - *7 public workforce agencies*
 - *3 Centers for Independent Living*
 - *2 for-profit businesses*
- *Longevity of ADEN providers:*
 - *5+ years with ADEN = 12 agencies*
 - *3+ years with ADEN = 31 agencies*
 - *1-2 years with ADEN = 17 agencies*
 - *14 agencies joined ADEN in 2021*
- *In 2021, 81% of the 64 ADEN service providers have received outcome-based payments for successful employment outcomes defined by SSA.*

Interested in learning more? Please email info@AmericanDreamEN.org.