

## Increase Employment Supports for People With Disabilities

### ➤ **Legislative Action:**

Legislators should approve SF 1055/HF 1239, which will allow Minnesota to develop supports to increase competitive employment for persons with disabilities.

### ➤ **New Employment Services We Support:**

- **Employment Exploration Services (EES)** - These services would introduce a person to competitive employment opportunities in their community.
- **Employment Development Services (EDS)** - These individualized services would actively support a person to achieve paid employment.
- **Employment Supports Services (ESS)** - These individualized services and supports would assist people with maintaining competitive, integrated employment.



### ➤ **Background:**

New service options are necessary to expand opportunities for people with disabilities to choose where they live, work, and engage in community life. Only 15% of people with disabilities are employed in the competitive workforce. However, the National Core Indicators survey found that 59% of individuals in day programs for people with disabilities expressed interest in a job in the competitive workforce.

In order to enhance Minnesota's day services system, The Arc Minnesota supports SF 1055/HF 1239, which would develop and fund new employment services in the home and community-based disability waiver service plans. Under these bills, Minnesota would request federal approval for the employment services listed above. These supports would provide an extensive set of individualized services that would help more people with disabilities find competitive jobs and be more fully included in their communities. These supports will also give people with disabilities more flexibility and choice in their services.

*Published February 2017*