The National Center on Leadership for the Employment and Economic Advancement of People with Disabilities (LEAD Center) is a collaborative of disability, workforce and economic empowerment organizations dedicated to advancing sustainable individual and systems-level change to improve competitive, integrated employment and economic self-sufficiency for all people with disabilities.

Led by National Disability Institute, with funding through a five-year cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of Labor’s Office of Disability Employment Policy, the LEAD Center brings together a range of organizations, thought leaders and best-practice innovators to expand employment, policy leadership and economic advancement opportunities for people with disabilities.

The LEAD Center provides training and technical assistance, policy research and recommendations, and demonstration projects designed to:

- Break down silos in existing systems, processes and practices;
- Build the capacity of the workforce investment system to meet the needs of job seekers with disabilities;
- Foster wider understanding, adoption and integration of next generation employment practices in both the public and private sector.
LEAD CENTER INITIATIVES

As a collaborative, we create opportunities for people with disabilities to achieve employment and economic advancement by:

- Advancing effective participation for people with disabilities in the workforce development system;
- Enhancing the current ‘state of practice’ by supporting customized and self-employment in the public workforce system;
- Fortifying the connection between employment and economic advancement goals and outcomes by integrating financial capability strategies within American Job Center services and supports;
- Analyzing policies, tools and opportunities to leverage resources that advance systems change at state and local levels; and
- Serving as a virtual library and resource center on best practices and successful strategies on the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), Employment First, Customized Employment, financial literacy, economic advancement and more.

CONNECT WITH THE LEAD CENTER ONLINE
for the latest best-practice resources, webinars, news and calendar of national events

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Need additional information or want to discuss a potential partnership with the LEAD Center? Please contact Rebecca Salon, LEAD Center Project Director at rsalon@ndi-inc.org.

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