

October 2021



Newsletter

National Disability Awareness Month

With October being National Disability Awareness Month we are fortunate to be able to have Elizabeth M. Reed, Corporate Diversity Inclusion Manager for ARDWS-Rehabilitation present on October 21, 2021 via Zoom.



As Corporate Diversity Inclusion Manager for ARDWS-Rehabilitation Services, Elizabeth Reed brings extensive experience in developing strong business relations at a high level. Having worked with diverse populations over the last 10+ years has allowed Elizabeth to develop a comprehensive understanding of how employment can change lives and the exceptional results business can derive from the partnership. She brings a diverse knowledge of hiring practices, accommodation needs, best practices, and an unprecedented understanding of Arkansas Rehabilitation Services and WIOA. Elizabeth's experience as well as a Master's of Business Administration with an emphasis in Leadership and Project Management, allows her to understand the technical terms used by business and how to develop a solid strategic plan going forward.



The mission of Arkansas Rehabilitation Services Subdivision is to assist persons with disabilities, so they are empowered to become employed. Earning a living is a basic right and is valuable for both the individual and the community. A person with a disability faces barriers in various life activities that include the opportunities to train for, locate, and/or keep a job. ARS Subdivision helps individuals overcome those obstacles by focusing on ABILITY rather than DISABILITY.

Arkansas Rehabilitation Services (ARS) does so much more than send someone for training!

They offer:

- Transitions Services for students finishing high school
- Services for those who are deaf and/or hard of hearing
- Specialized assessment for Stay at Work/Return to Work (SAWRTW) is a program designed to help employers retain and provide support to qualified employees who have experience a disability condition that interferes with work.
- Vocational Training at Arkansas Career Development Center
- Assistive Technology, any kind of device/tool that helps people live, learn, work, and communicate more independently
- Diversity, Inclusion Training
- Business Services providing a job ready workforce to meet the demands of Arkansas employers
- AND SO MUCH MORE!

The goal of ARS is to pave the way for people with a disability to substantially gain employment and live fulfilling lives. For more information call 1-800-330-0632 or go to <https://arcareereducation.org/>.



Increasing Capabilities Access Network (iCAN) is the Arkansas statewide Assistive Technology program designed to make technology available and accessible for everyone. Tools for Life is their philosophy – assistive technology for everyone! Assistive technology (AT) is any kind of device or tool that helps people live, learn, work, and communicate more independently. AT can be very simple and inexpensive, like a modified knife and fork, or it can be very sophisticated and costly, like a computerized speech device.

iCAN offers FREE services for any Arkansan with health issues or disabilities without regard to age, disability type, income, geographic area, or eligibility for any other program. Contact iCAN at 800-828-2799 Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. or go to <https://ar-ican.org/> for more information.

UAMS Has a HR Representative for Employees Needing ADA Accommodations

UAMS has an HR representative working to make sure employees with disabilities are protected and needed resources are available.

Report a disability without fear of discrimination and UAMS will works with you.