



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON


# UW Madison Division of Extension Complimentary Services Panel

**Ronda N. Davis**

**Justice-Involved Families State Specialist  
Human Development & Relationships Institute  
April 23, 2026**

# UW Madison Division of Extension

**Our Mission is to connect people with the University of Wisconsin. We teach, learn, lead and serve, transforming lives and communities. We embody the general principle of the WI Idea: education that influences people's lives beyond the boundaries of the classroom.**



**How familiar are you with the programs and services provided by UW–Extension, either statewide or in your local area?**

**1 – Not Familiar**

**3 – Somewhat Knowledgeable**

**5 – Work Directly w/ Extension Educator**

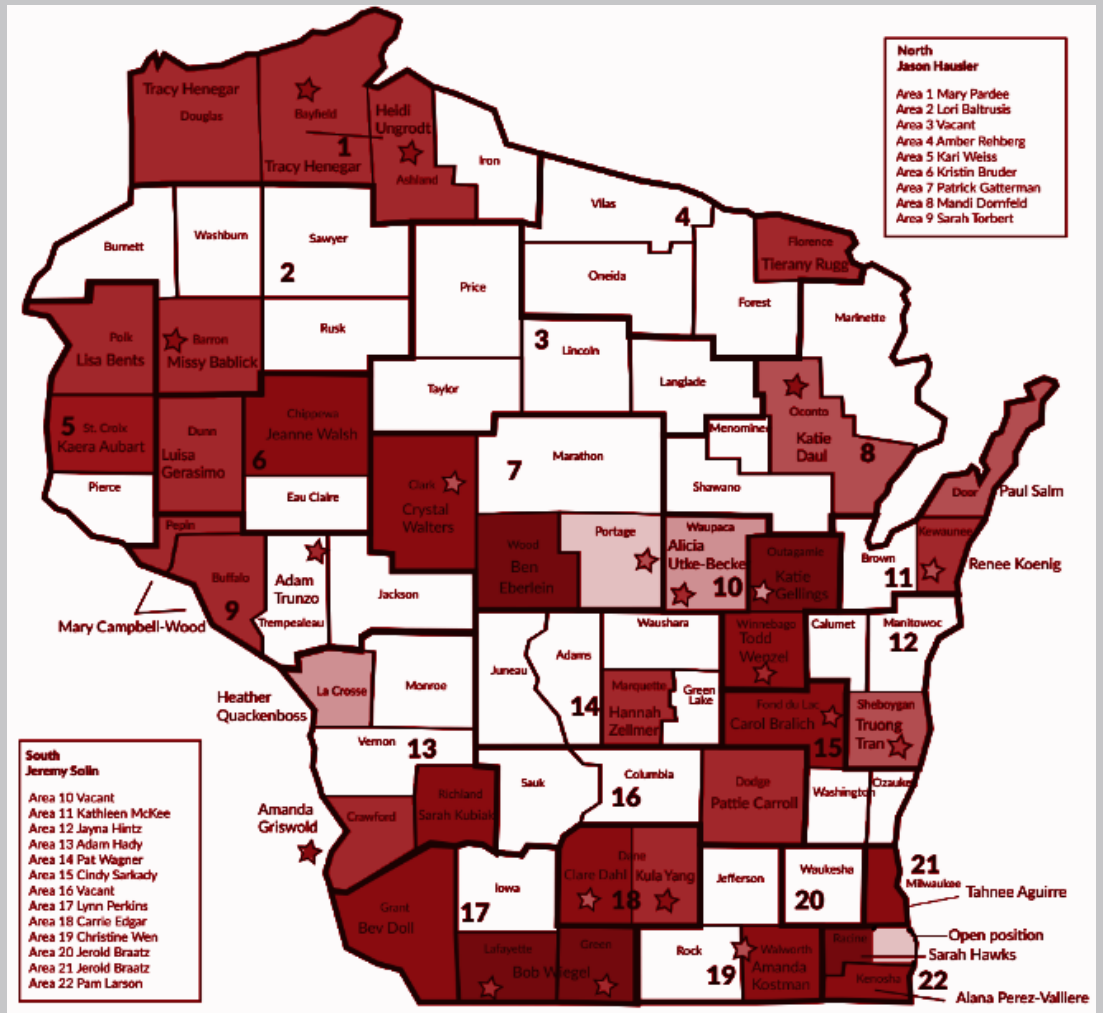


# Six Institutes



# HDRI's Statewide Impact

We have approximately 35 County-based educators that cover over 40 of our 72 counties offering in-person programming, in addition to covering the state through virtual programs.



# Complimentary Services

## THE LITERACY LINK

Connecting children and parents in justice-involved families through literacy-rich experiences

- Family Engagement:
  - The Literacy Link
  - Triple P
  - Strong Couples



- Financial Security:
  - Reentry Ready Focus on Finances
  - Rent Smart
  - 1:1 Financial Coaching



\*\*Evidence-Based; Evidence-Informed; Research-Based Programming

# Range of County-Based Supports:

\*Work directly w/ Judges, TAD's, CJCC's, Community Agencies  
-Includes: Coordination, Facilitation and Oversight

\*1:1 Financial Coaching

-Also, small group facilitation

-Topics: Budgeting; Debt/Credit Management; Wage Garnishment;  
Child Support, etc.

\*Coordinate w/ Drug & Family Court Teams

-Providing updates on participant progress

-Helps to address barriers while maintaining consistency in  
communication

# 2026 Focus on Fathers

2026



## FOCUS ON FATHERS



Every 2nd Tuesday  
1:00-2:00 PM  
Held Via Zoom

Looking to build a stronger bond with your child and connect with other parents? Focus on Fathers is a free, online parenting series designed especially for dads and open to everyone. Join anytime! This series offers something valuable for everyone.



**REGISTER HERE:**



<https://forms.gle/aNUWWDMSHEHRY1zz6>

### Upcoming Sessions

- Jan 13-**Fathers Help Children Stand Up for Themselves
- Feb 10-**Fathers Teach Values
- March 10-**Fathers Teach Kindness
- April 14-**Fathers Communicate with Children
- May 12-**Relax and Enjoy Fathering
- June 9-** Fathers Teach Perspective
- July 14-**Fathers Help Children Make Good Choices
- August 11-**Fathers Help Children Handle Emotions
- September 8-**Fathers Teach Children to be good Citizens



#### QUESTIONS?

Please contact:  
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UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements.



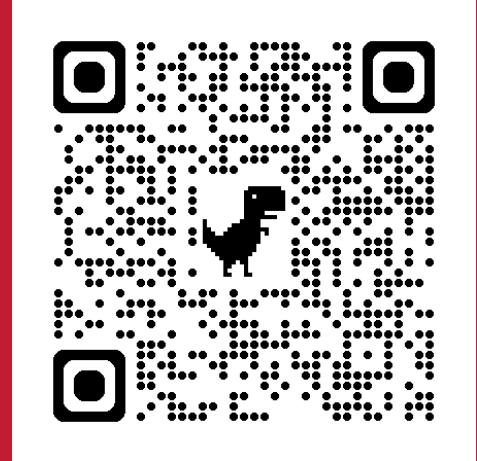
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**Human Development &  
Relationships Institute**





Department of Workforce Development

**Vocational Rehabilitation**

# Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

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Krissy Neyrinck

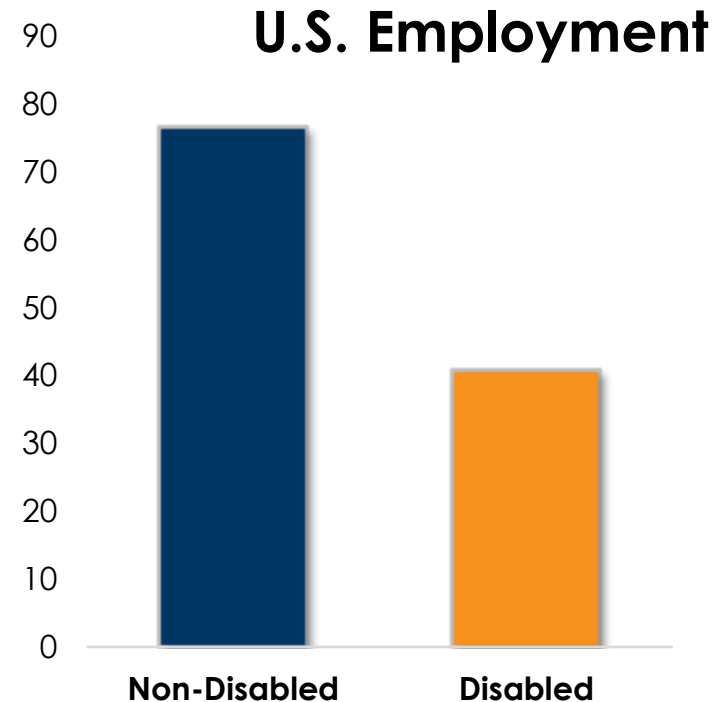
*Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor*

Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development

# Disability Facts

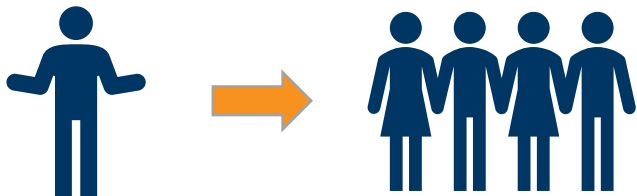
At the end of 2024, the employment rate for people with disabilities ages 16-64 nationwide was **41.3** percent, compared to **77.7** percent for people without disabilities.

**Source:** Kessler Foundation [nTIDE January 2025 Jobs Report: Encouraging Signs in Disability Employment: A Slow but Positive Trajectory](#)



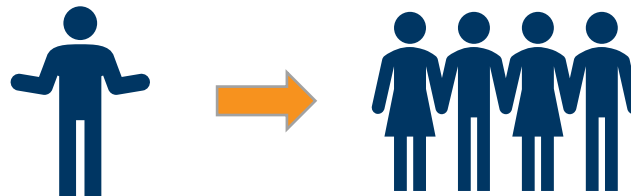
# Disability Facts (cont.)

**70 million** Americans – or  
**1 in 4** U.S. adults – have a  
disability



*(CDC, 2024)*

Nearly **1 in 4** U.S. adults  
live with a mental health  
condition



*(CDC, 2024)*



# Disability Facts: Prevalence

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- Individuals with disabilities represent the largest minority group in America at **70 million** people.\*
- More than **1 in 4** adults (**28** percent of the U.S. population) have a disability.\*
- In the United States, **20 million** families have at least one member with a disability.\*\*

\***Source:** U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC Data Shows Over 70 Million U.S. Adults Reported Having a Disability | CDC Online Newsroom | July 2024](#)

\*\***Source:** U.S. Census Bureau [The Demographics of Disability in the Family: Prevalence, Characteristics, and Implications for Financial Well-Being | April 2023](#)



# What is DVR?

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The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) is a federal/state program that:

- Offers individualized services to eligible people with disabilities who want to work.
- Provides training and technical assistance to employers regarding disability employment issues.
- Funding for DVR is **78.7** percent federal, **21.3** percent state match.



# DVR Mission

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To obtain, maintain, and improve employment for people with disabilities by working with VR consumers, employers, and other partners.

Find a Job.  
Keep a Job.  
Get a Better Job.



# What does DVR do?

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- DVR helps consumers develop an Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE) with their DVR counselor, which defines:
  - The job goal,
  - The services needed to reach that goal,
  - The job seeker's role and responsibilities.
- DVR also supports individuals with disabilities by providing services outlined in their IPE and connecting them with Wisconsin businesses.



# Eligibility

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- Applicant will be eligible for DVR services if:
  - They have a disability, documented by a medical professional or qualified personnel.
  - The disability causes an impediment to employment.
  - They require DVR services (to obtain or maintain a job).
- If an applicant receives SSI / SSDI based upon their disability, they are presumed eligible for DVR services.



# Who is eligible for DVR?

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- To be eligible for DVR services, an applicant must have a documented medical or psychological disability that presents a barrier to employment and requires DVR services.
- DVR staff will work with the applicant to:
  - Gather needed written documentation and information releases.
  - Schedule a meeting to discuss the applicant's disability and needs.
  - Use existing information to the greatest extent possible (IEP, functional screen, previous medical records, etc.).
  - Refer the applicant for additional assessment if needed.



# DVR's Order of Selection

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## Why the Waitlist Exists

- DVR has implemented an Order of Selection due to insufficient resources.
- DVR must prioritize services for individuals with the most significant disabilities.
- Individuals are served as resources become available, based on category and application date.



# OOS Categories

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DVR must serve those with the most significant disabilities first:

Category 1

**Most**  
significant  
limitations

Category 2

**Some**  
significant  
limitations

Category 3

**All other**  
eligible  
individuals



# DVR Consumer Services

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- DVR provides individualized services to people with disabilities who want to work.
- Services include but are not limited to:
  - Vocational / career counseling
  - Internship / temporary work experiences
  - Supported employment
  - Education necessary to achieve career goals
  - Project SEARCH



# DVR Consumer Services (cont.)

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- Career counseling and Labor Market Information (LMI).
- Skills development:
  - Soft skills and life skills training,
  - Occupational training;
    - Post-secondary education/training,
    - Apprenticeship-related training,
    - On-the-job training, internships, or work experiences.
- Service/support coordination to address potential barriers to successful employment.
- Follow-along services.



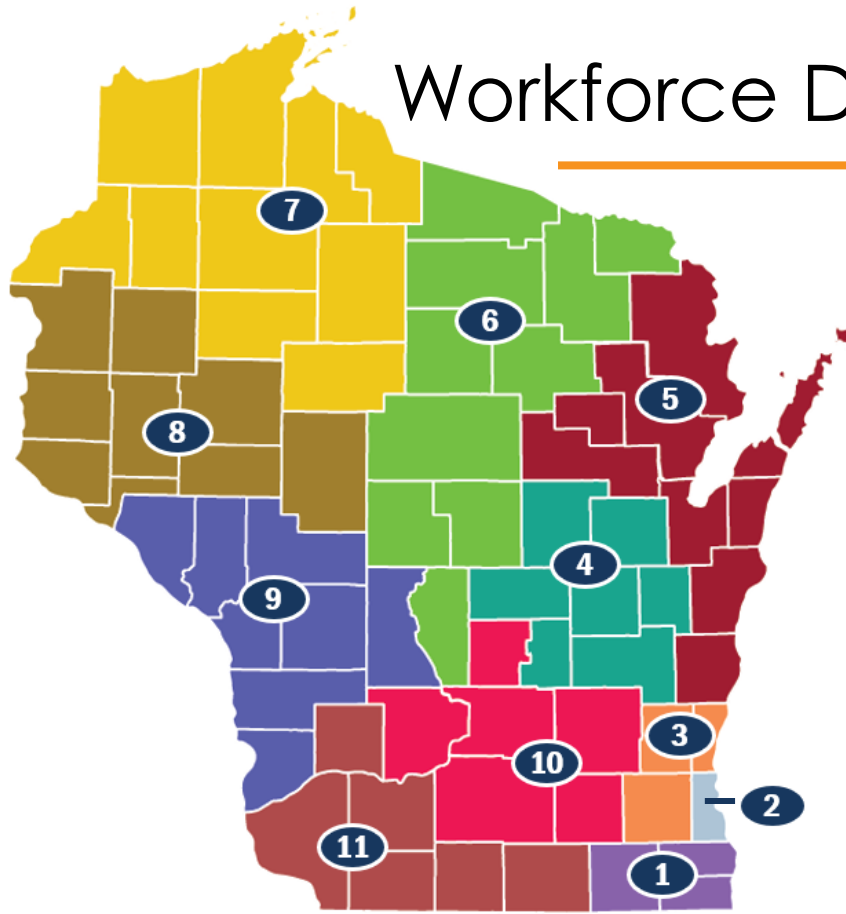
# DVR Consumer Information

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- In SFY 2025, DVR served **3,429** consumers who successfully achieved their employment goals.
  - Average hourly wage: **\$17.04**
  - Average weekly hours worked: **25**
- Top five DVR job seeker job categories:
  1. Transportation and Material Moving
  2. Food Preparation and Service
  3. Sales and Related
  4. Office and Administrative Support
  5. Building/Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance



# Workforce Development Areas (WDAs)

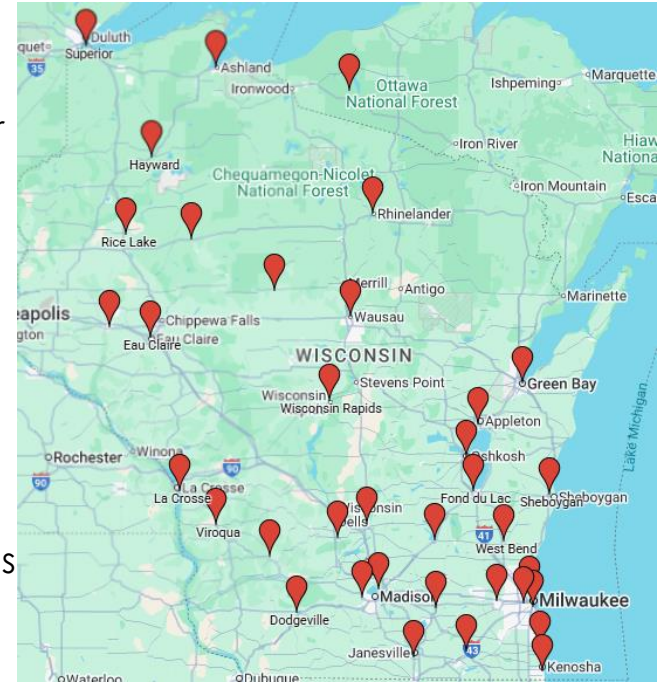


WDA Number	Location
1	Southeast
2	Milwaukee
3	WOW Counties
4	Fox Valley
5	Bay Area
6	North Central
7	Northwest
8	West Central
9	Western
10	South Central
11	Southwest



# DVR Statewide Office Locations

- Ashland
- Baraboo
- Beaver Dam
- Dodgeville
- Eau Claire
- Elkhorn
- Fond du Lac
- Green Bay
- Hayward
- Janesville
- Jefferson
- Kenosha
- La Crosse
- Ladysmith
- Madison
- Manitowoc
- Marinette
- Medford
- Menasha
- Menomonie
- Milwaukee Central
- Milwaukee South
- Oshkosh
- Portage
- Racine
- Rhinelander
- Rice Lake
- Richland Center
- Shawano
- Sheboygan
- Sturgeon Bay
- Superior
- Viroqua
- Waukesha
- Wausau
- West Allis
- West Bend
- Wisconsin Rapids



# Questions?





# Krissy Neyrinck

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**Jessie Lutter-Long**

**LIFT Wisconsin**