One of 8 Partnerships in Employment (PIE) states. Comprised of 4 main areas:

1) **Consortium** of 40 organizations to identify policy issues; included a youth track
2) **Policy team** to implement policy changes
3) 9 school pilot sites implementing evidence based practices with 72 students
4) **Coaches** to provide on-site technical assistance

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What is Let’s Get to Work?

School & Employment Outcomes

Earlier connection to VR * Early paid work experiences while still in high school * Better transition training for teachers * Community Conversations to raise community awareness * Access to general education classes and extra-curricular activities * Connecting families to career options and work incentives benefits counseling * Businesses more engaged * Students more independent & confident * Many more youth wanting to work * School staff working as a team

Project Highlights

- DVR Youth On the Job Training Initiative available to all youth in the state
- Pay for Performance bill passed to incentivize schools for good transition outcomes
- OSEP Guidance on LRE for work placements
- Development of a sub-minimum wage data collection tool to obtain accurate information
- LGTW activities integrated into statewide Transition Improvement Grant (parent training, Community Conversations, coaching)

Results!

- Tripled the number of pilot youth in paid employment in less than a year!
- Increased integrated activities from 43% to 70%.
- 73% of students had at least one paid job in the community (baseline was 11.5%).
- Significantly increased the quality of life of students with disabilities as a direct result of increased work and community participation.

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Lasting Impacts!

- Training that doubled family’s expectations of their youth in paid, community employment is now part of two statewide projects.
- Let’s Get to Work Quick Guide, a free online tool of best practices in bite size pieces is being used by WI schools, the statewide school transition team and 4 other states.
- Project findings and policy recommendations included in the WIOA Advisory Committee federal report.
- Community Conversations and coaching are two successful strategies being used statewide by schools and two state agencies.