The Transition Work-Based Learning Model Demonstration Grant  
**Building Collaboration to Improve Outcomes**

Maine Department of Labor, Bureau of Rehabilitation Services.

A proud partner of the American job center network

**The TWBLM Grant**

* A 5-year opportunity (October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2021) to provide effective work-based learning experiences(at least 2 per student) in coordination with other transition services, including pre-employment transition services and customized employment, to students with disabilities to ensure that those students are prepared for postsecondary education and competitive integrated employment.
* The Progressive Employment Model - *Everyone is Ready for Something!*
* Partners
  + Institute for Community Inclusion (ICI)
  + American Institutes for Research (AIR)
  + Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation (CSAVR)
  + Center for Workforce Research and Information (CWRI)

**The Goals**

* Assisting 400 students in the transition years within 2 years of graduation with engagement in career exploration activities including paid work-based learning opportunities.
* Evaluating the effectiveness of rapid engagement activities of Progressive Employment and the Leadership and self-advocacy skills of JMG.
* Developing replicable, sustainable and collaborative ways to provide pre-employment transition services.
* Increasing rates of graduation from high school, post-secondary education/training and competitive integrated employment.

**TWBLM Accomplishments**

* Provided Progressive Employment Training (August, 2017)
* Launched Jobsville (September, 2017)
* Enrolled 61 students into Grant activities
* Partnered with over 100 Businesses
* Recorded 36 Progressive Employment activities
* Ongoing collaboration and team building for CRPS, JMG, VRCs
* ACRE Certified JMG Specialists and increased student ratio in classrooms to 40% students with disabilities.
* VRC II commitment to a new approach of client referral and career exploration
* Added VRC I positions to assist in student, school, and community engagement.
* Implemented Community of Practice training calls with ICI
* Established Grant Partner Calls

**Next Steps**

* Meeting in Maine (March, 2017) ICI, AIR, CSAVR, CWRI
* Ongoing evaluation of data to create a sustainable and replicable model for students with disabilities in transition from school to work.