



of Wisconsin Disability Organizations

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INVITATION: Walking Tour of Employers who Support a New Type of Employment for People with Significant Disabilities

Required RSVP by Monday August 25:

Beth Swedeen, WI Board for People with Developmental Disabilities

Beth.Swedeen@wisconsin.gov or 608-266-1166

Who: Legislators and Staff

When: August 27, 10:30 a.m. to Noon

Where: Multiple employer locations within walking distance of the capitol

What: [Changes proposed](#) by the Department of Health Services to comply with a new federal rule will alter the way employment and day service supports are provided to people with disabilities in the state. Many have expressed concerns about this DHS proposal, but the necessary changes may over time offer more sustainable and cost-effective employment support options for individuals. We invite you to see first-hand what community employment can look like statewide, even for people with the most significant disabilities, and hear what employers have to say.

Attend the Walking Tour and ask these and other questions:

- *What do employers say about hiring employees with significant disabilities?*
- *How much does community-based employment cost in comparison to facility-based employment?*
- *Can all people with significant disabilities work in the community? If so, how many hours?*
- *What do people do when they are not working?*
- *Is the Dane County model of employment replicable statewide? How?*

What You Will See:

For more than 20 years, Dane County has been offering a different model of employment supports for people with disabilities than the rest of the state. Dane County has a community employment rate of more than 80% for people with the most significant disabilities compared to 8% in other regions statewide.