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PRESS RELEASE

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Partnership to Help Students With Disabilities Prepare for Employment

Carson City, NV —The Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR) and the Washoe County School District (WCSD) have partnered to bring employment-related services to students with disabilities.

DETR's Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation and WCSD will host a ribbon cutting for the new co-location for the program named Vocational Opportunities for Inclusive Career Education (VOICE) on Dec. 4, 2013 at 10 a.m. at 1325 Corporate Blvd. Reno, NV.

This is the first collaborative program of its kind in the state said Shelley Hendren, administrator for DETR's Rehabilitation Division. The program will provide skills building for work readiness with the goal of helping the students find jobs.

"This is an exciting opportunity for young people who might find it challenging to find a job without assistance," Hendren said. "Youth unemployment is at an all-time high and youth with disabilities are even more disadvantaged in the workforce. This partnership is a positive step toward helping these students build a fulfilling future for themselves."

Over the two-year period, students will receive career coaching and learn skills in job searching and interviewing. They will interact with employers in the community, who will provide job shadowing and hands-on assessments.

"This program is a positive example of the collaborative relationship we have with the employer community," said Frank Woodbeck, DETR director. "Not only do the students benefit from this valuable learning experience, but employers are grooming future employees, contributing to our workforce. Additionally, these types of partnerships are vital to our economic development efforts."



DETR is comprised of the Employment Security Division, Equal Rights Commission, Rehabilitation Division, the Information Development and Processing Division and the Research and Analysis Bureau. DETR works in partnership with the Nevada JobConnect System to provide training and job placement services to job seekers and to assist employers in hiring practices.