

**1/29/2010**

**APSE's Response to Senate HELP Committee Re:  
Current Programs Successful at Increasing Employment Outcomes for Individuals with  
Disabilities**

The following are programs that APSE's members have suggested as successful examples of how to include individuals into the workforce in an integrated setting.

*Project SEARCH* – a model of employment originally established at Cincinnati's Children's Hospital, it has been modified and adapted in various states. Its overall mission is to provide a more holistic approach to the employment of individuals with disabilities. It takes into consideration initial employment along with job retention and career advancement. For more information on Cincinnati's Children's Hospital's Project SEARCH, contact [projectSEARCH@cchmc.org](mailto:projectSEARCH@cchmc.org) or call 513-636-2516.

*Project SEARCH Indiana* – based on Cincinnati's model, it provides transition-age youth internship opportunities in preparation for competitive employment. Indiana's model includes the following: strong partner collaboration, braided funding of multiple systems, full immersion in the workplace culture, high expectations of all, job training in real work settings, employability-driven curriculum and activities. For more information contact Margaret Gilbride at the Center on Community Living and Careers, 812-855-6508 or [mgilbrid@indiana.edu](mailto:mgilbrid@indiana.edu).

*Creative Employment Opportunities, Inc. (CEO) Internship Program* – As an organization that is committed to advancing economic solutions to businesses through the social inclusion of all people, CEO offers an internship program to individuals with disabilities. The intent of this program is to serve as a formal program for clients who are looking to gain temporary work experiences to increase their skills. This program focuses on partnering with businesses in a variety of industries to develop rotational internships exclusively for their clients. Businesses in the program are to reflect a variety of industries in order to offer a wide range of skills acquisition opportunities for their clients. For more information contact Meghan Schifalacqua at [meghan@ceomke.org](mailto:meghan@ceomke.org) or 414-277-8506.