



2022 MRA CONFERENCE AGENDA

Sunday-Tuesday, June 5-7, 2022
Tan-Tar-A/Margaritaville Lake Resort

Thriving in the Workplace: The Value of Belonging

Sunday, June 5, 2022

- 1:30–4:30** Registration Opens
1:30–3:00 Service Provider Exhibits Setup: Grand Ballroom Paradise B/C
3:00–5:00 Service Provider Exhibits Open: Grand Ballroom Paradise B/C
5:30–7:30 Pizza & Fun at Frank & Lola's Pizzeria: sponsored by **United Access & Missouri Welding Institute**

Monday, June 6, 2022

- 7:30–8:30** Hot Breakfast/Registration Open/Exhibits Open: Grand Ballroom Paradise B/C
8:30–8:40 MRA President's Welcome: Elizabeth Smith, MRA President
8:40–9:00 Kick Off Pep Talk: Tim Gaines, Assistant Commissioner
9:00–10:30 Opening Keynote: Colleen Kelly Starkloff, founder of Starkloff Disability Institute
Sixty-Two Year Road to Economic Independence for all People with Disabilities!
10:30-10:45 Break/Networking
10:45–11:15 Service Provider Recognition: Elizabeth Perkins, VR Manager, Workforce Implementation
11:15-12:50 Business Meeting & Awards Luncheon: Kimberly Gee, Director, MU Pre-ETS

Monday Breakouts, June 6, 2022

1:00–2:00 PM BREAKOUTS

- Job Development:** *Customized Employment: What it is and Who it's for!*, Gina Crump, MA, Customized Employment Coordinator MERS Goodwill, Windgate 60
Professional Development: *Supporting Emotional Regulation Skills; Practical Strategies and Tools from iSocial*, Dr. John Bruno, Co-Founder and VP of Programs, iSocial, Windgate 62
Human Resources: *Supporting Employees Holistically and Legally*, Ollie Green, Esq., Legal Svcs., Coordinator, Windgate 64
Mental Health and Employment: *Mental Health Perspectives: Helping Clients Thrive in the Workplace in Times of Stress*, Mike Kiener Ph.D., CRC, Director/Clinical Coordinator for Rehabilitation Counseling, Maryville University, Windgate 61
Pre-ETS & Transition: *Navigating Social and Legal Services for Unaccompanied Youth*, Clarissa Jackson, MSW & Tori Dempsey, Legal Services of Eastern Missouri, Windgate 63

2:15--3:15 PM BREAKOUTS

- Job Development:** *Building an Equitable Workforce for the Justice Involved*, Brittany Peterson, Second Chance Lead Resource Specialist, Windgate 60
Professional Development: *Comprehensive Automobility Solutions Course*, Mark Nienaber, United Access, Windgate 62
Human Resources: *Job Coaching Supports from an HR Perspective*, Rachel Morgan, Regional Director, Preferred Employment Services, Windgate 64
Mental Health and Employment: *Trauma Informed Employment Services: Utilizing the Principles to Create Connection*, Jamie Wehmeyer, LCSW, Clinical Consultant with Resilience Builders, Windgate 61

Pre-ETS & Transitions: *Self Advocacy: It's Key for Everyone's Success*, Rachel Racket Senior Program Specialist with Governor's Counsel on Disability, Windgate 63

Monday, June 6, 2022

3:30–4:30 PM BREAKOUTS

Job Development: *Surviving to Thriving in the Workplace: New Tools from iSocial*, Dr. John Bruno, Co-Founder and VP of Programs, iSocial, Windgate 62

Professional Development: *Being a Better Ally*, Richard Presberry, Sr., Ph.D., Education Consultant VR/DD, Windgate 62

Human Resources: *Let's Do This Thing—Belonging and Inclusiveness*, Carrie Andres, Human Resources Manager, Windgate 64

Mental Health and Employment: *Best-Practices for Assisting Those Experiencing Depression and Anxiety to Find and Maintain Meaningful Employment*, Jason Hartsfield, MSW: Career Advisor/Disability Inclusion Lead Consultant, Windgate 61

Pre-ETS & Transition: *Raising the Bar: Work-Ready Behaviors Expectations for Students with Significant Disabilities*, Anna Azevedo, Pre-Employment Transitions Service Coordinator, MU Horizons Team, Windgate 63

4:30–5:00 PM **Networking & Exhibitor Showcase** – Grand Ballroom Paradise B/C

8:00–10:00 PM **70's Theme Dancing with VDJ Z Man** hosted by KC Chapter, MRA, VDJ Z Man Michael Zukatansky, Main Ballroom-Paradise B/C

Tuesday, June 7, 2022

7:00–8:00 AM **Hot Breakfast / Networking / Exhibits Open / Silent Auction Opens** – Grand Ballroom Paradise B/C

8:15–9:15 BREAKOUTS

Job Development: *Gauging Employer Disability Sophistication*, Jason Hartsfield, MSW; Career Advisor / Disability Inclusion Lead Consultant & Marisa Hiatt, MS; Disability and Inclusion Operations Manager, Windgate 60

Professional Development: *Getting Started: A Guide to Assistive Technology*, Scout Merry, Program Coordinator, MO Assistive Technology, Windgate 62

Human Resources: *Collateral Consequences: Working with Felony Convictions in Employment*, Brittany Peterson, Second Chance Lead Resource Specialist, Windgate 64

Mental Health and Employment: *Don't Worry, Be Happy(er) @ work*, Jennifer Underdown LPC, VR Corporate Trainer, Windgate 61

Pre-ETS & Transition: *Earning While Learning: The Value of Apprenticeships*, Lesa Barber, Director of VR Business Services & Jackie Jenkins, VR Business Specialist, Windgate 63

9:30–10:30 BREAKOUTS

Job Development: *LGBTQ Inclusion in the Workplace*, Luke Daily, MSW, LCSW, VR Assistant District Supervisor, Windgate 60

Professional Development: *Why Do People Die by Suicide & What Can Be Done About It*, Dr. Paul Thomlinson, Psychologist & Executive Director for Compass Health Network, Windgate 62

Human Resources: *Is That Legal? Accommodating Disabilities in the Workplace*, Paige Sparks, Esq. Eccher Law Group, Windgate 64

Mental Health and Employment: *Employment is Recovery & Recovery Centered Language*, Missy McGaw, Director, VR Mental Health Services, Windgate 61

Pre-ETS & Transition: *Schools & VR: How's the Relationship Going?* Paul D'Amico, Lindsay Hartzler, MU Pre-Employment Transition Specialists, and Robin Thomas, VR District Supervisor, Windgate 63

10:30 Silent Auction Closes / Conference Announcements Erica King, MRA President Elect Grand Ballroom B/C

10:45–12:00 CLOSING KEYNOTE: Letisha Wexstten, Founder and CEO of V15Able (~visible~)
Becoming V15Able to Employers

12:00–12:15 Close of Conference: Cash Prizes for Crowd Compass Winners: Most Reviews Winner, 'Name Tag' Basket Drawing, Vendor Bingo Drawing, Silent Auction Winners

Thank you for your support of 2022 MRA Conference!

