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**Employment Source selected to develop performance-based contract  
for American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) funds**

Employment Source has been selected to develop a performance-based contract based for a proposal submitted for an American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) project in partnership with the North Carolina Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVR).

As part of the proposal to receive these stimulus funds, Employment Source requested \$100,000 to provide consumer employment training and placement opportunities to improve employment outcomes for individuals with disabilities eligible for vocational rehabilitation services in Cumberland County, North Carolina and surrounding areas. The Employment Source DVR/CRP ARRA Project proposes to serve 35 individuals, placing 16 individuals into employment opportunities through the following strategies:

- Establishing a Business Advisory Council (BAC) to provide internship, training and placement opportunities in high-demand occupations
- Nurturing close partnerships with local workforce investment boards and local training providers to recruit businesses for the BAC, coordinate training and develop placement opportunities
- Creating a Job Club for employability skills development
- Providing short-term internships to provide work experience in a variety of growing industries with a goal of permanent placement
- Focusing on job development for high-demand employment opportunities at the highest skill level and wage-earning potential for each individual
- Developing seamless linkages to long-term follow-along services in partnership with Cumberland County Mental Health; tapping into Ticket to Work revenue for sustainability.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 was an effort to jumpstart the economy through an emphasis on job training and development and support for those most impacted by the recession. ARRA funds administered by the Rehabilitation Services Administration include support for adults with disabilities through the Vocational Rehabilitation State Grants program and the Independent Living programs authorized under the Rehabilitation Act. These stimulus funds are awarded to community agencies working in partnership to develop innovative programs and services that promote the training and placement of adults with disabilities in high growth and emerging industry sectors.

Employment Source is a private not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to provide individuals with disabilities an exceptional service delivery experience through innovative and valued employment, training, rehabilitation and support services. As part of the ServiceSource Network, Employment Source and affiliate organizations directly employ more than 1,300 individuals with disabilities and serve more than 10,000 individuals in nine states and the District of Columbia.

For more information on Employment Source or the ServiceSource Network, visit our Web site at [www.ourpeoplework.org](http://www.ourpeoplework.org).

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