



## California Subminimum Wage to Competitive Integrated Employment Project

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### What is CSP?

The California Subminimum Wage to Competitive Integrated Employment Project (CSP) is focused on preparing individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities to work in the communities of their choice earning a competitive wage.

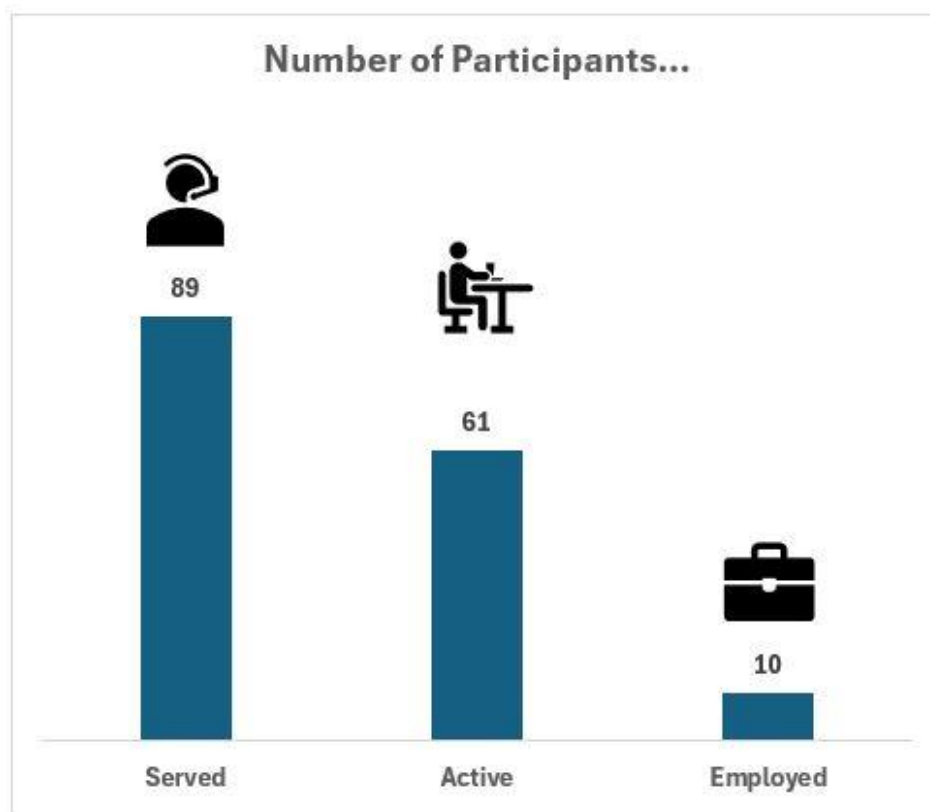
The California Department of Rehabilitation is partnering with North Orange Continuing Education (NOCE) and San Diego Community College District (SDCCD) to provide services that support full inclusion for Californians with

intellectual and/or developmental disabilities currently in, or contemplating entering, subminimum wage employment. One of the long term goals is to identify innovative practices that can be implemented statewide. Participants in the program engage in a variety of activities that can include:

Career and Job Exploration  
Self Advocacy & Independent Living Skills Classes  
Access to Community College Courses  
Peer Mentoring  
Benefits Counseling  
Volunteer or Paid Work-Based Learning Experiences  
Job Placement Services  
Customized Employment Services  
Family Mentoring Supports and Resources

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## Program Performance Snapshot



## Services Provided to Participants as of July 15, 2024



\*\* Value represents # of experiences, not # of participants for this measure

Program performance data as of 7/15/24

## Program Highlights



**Meet the San Diego CSP Staff** Pictured from left to right: **Sara Bacerra** - Facilitator, **Poppy Fitch** - San Diego Community College District Wellness and Disability Dean, **Katie Serbian** - San Diego Community College District Dean of Continuing Education, **Melissa Pacheco** - San Diego

Community College District CSP Vocational Specialist, **Elisia Doonan** - San Diego Community College District CSP Instructor, **Shawn Fiala** - San Diego Community College District CSP Program Coordinator, **Leslie Baker** - Department of Rehabilitation CSP Project Director, **Lindsay White** - San Diego Community College District, **Natalie Cordle** - San Diego Community College District CSP Vocational Specialist, **Esther Bazalaki** - Department of Rehabilitation CSP Counselor, **Patricia Henke** - San Diego State University CSP Project Manager

## Program Site Updates

### [Orange County](#)

### [San Diego](#)

## Benefits Planning Workshop

The first benefits planning workshop was held on May 2nd for participants and their family members to receive an introduction to benefits planning and incentive opportunities. The intent of the workshop is to provide a general overview of benefits and work incentive planning. Additionally, the workshop included an invitation for participants and their families to meet with a certified benefits counselor to review their individual benefits and discuss how working could impact their benefits.

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## Road to Employment

### [Hoang's Story](#)

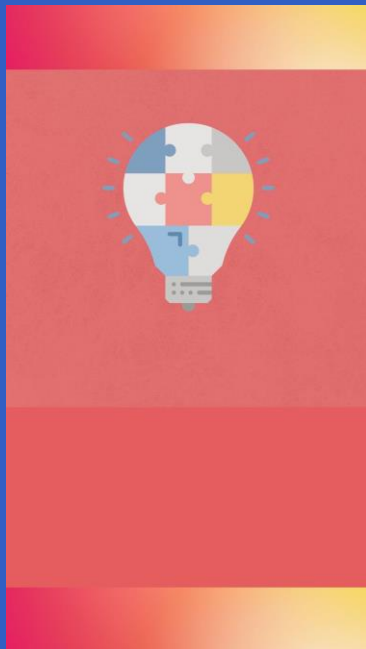
### [Angelica's Story](#)

### [Nha's Story](#)



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## CSP Core Partners



[San Diego Community College District](#)

[North Orange Continuing Education](#)

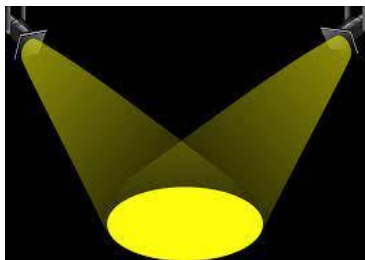
[San Diego State University](#)

[Griffin-Hammis Associates \(GHA\)](#)

[PolicyWorks](#)

[Exceptional Family Resource Center](#)

## Partner Spotlight



### Exceptional Family Resource Center

The Exceptional Family Resource Center (EFRC) provides free assistance, including information and resources, for families supporting individuals with disabilities. The EFRC team coordinates parent-to-parent support and service navigation for families of CSP participants, including access to a comprehensive network of service agencies such as regional center and Supplemental Security Income and In-Home Support Services. [\*Watch our video\*](#) for more information about our services and how to get in touch with EFRC.

## What's Coming?

- Information sessions and orientations at both program sites
- Fall benefits planning workshop
- Fall open house at the San Diego program site
- NOCE Fall classes begin August 12, 2024
- SDCCD Fall classes begin September 3, 2024

**Referrals are currently being accepted for both the Orange County and San Diego program sites. For questions or for more information on how to enroll, contact [csp@dor.ca.gov](mailto:csp@dor.ca.gov).**

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The contents of this newsletter were developed under grant number H42D220015 from the Department of Education. However, these contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government. (Authority: 20 U.S.C. §§ 1221e-3 and 3474)

