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May 2026 State Rehabilitation Council **ATP Report**

Resource Coordination/Financial Programs – Angie Ransom

Continuing to build resources for home/vehicle modifications as well as other assistive technology.

Enrichment Foundation Grant

ATP completed the end of year report for FY 2025. Current Enrichment Foundation grant funds are being used to help people in Douglas and Sarpy counties.

DHHS Program – May Faith 1/1/26 through 3/31/26

177 projects were authorized, utilizing \$1,299,825.54 in AD Waiver, Family Supports Waiver, and DD Waiver fund. No TBI Waiver referrals were made during this time frame. These projects assisted 159 consumers with greater independence, and accessibility in their homes and communities.

Assessment times in the central portion of the state remain under 45 days with wait times being under 14 days in the western portion of the state. Assessment times in the eastern portion of the state have remained longer than desired but we continue working on implementing tools and processes to reduce wait times.

Education – Brian Wojcik

Since July 1, 2025, the ATP Education Program has expanded statewide impact through equipment lending and professional learning. As of April 8th, 2026 loan pool activity has reached 81.4% of FY25 volume (858 of 1,054 loans), with \$324,184.97 in assistive technology (AT) equipment borrowed by school district staff to support AT trials, short-term accommodations, and training. ATP Education staff also showcased and trained on 2,425 items for professional development (equipment value: \$871,864.27).

Service demand remains high: since July 1, 2025 and as of April 8th, 2026, the program received 299 education requests—161% of FY25 requests (186). Since July 1, 2025, ATP has had 150 individuals enrolled in the ATIA Learning Center. New this year the program is offering “Open Office Hours” and have had 32 appointments with educators as of April this year.



iCanConnect Program Update- Brooke Harrie

The iCanConnect (iCC) Program is also known as the National Deaf Blind Equipment Distribution Program. This is a nationwide program that provides free telecommunication equipment and training to low-income individuals with significant hearing and vision loss. There are currently 5 active iCC cases in Nebraska and 4 individuals in the application process.

The iCanConnect Program started in 2015 as a pilot program, then became a permanent program in 2017. Since that time, ATP has had to apply every 5 years to be recertified and keep managing the program for the state of Nebraska. Recertification applications are due on June 30, 2026 and ATP plans to apply to continue managing the program for the next 5 years. The iCC program has had a record number of applicants this year and continues to focus on outreach. Staff plan to attend the American Council of the Blind's Annual State Convention where they will also be celebrating 50 years on April 17th in Omaha. We also plan to attend the National Federation of the Blind's 55th Annual Convention coming up this May in Kearney, NE.

Nebraska VR Title 1 Program Update- Brooke Harrie

ATP Technology Specialists for the VR Title 1 Program received 54 service requests from 1/10/2026 to 4/8/2026. Of those 54 service requests, 11 were for new and/or existing VR staff members. Technology Specialists provide all VR staff members ergonomic assessments of their workstations as well as training on the VR/ATP partnership. Of the additional service requests received, 5 were for Pre-ETS, 37 were for adult VR clients and 1 was a CPAP referral. The 54 service requests received were for the following equipment: ADL (2), bathroom modifications (1), cognitive aids (10), communication (4), DME (1), ergonomics (12), vehicle modifications and repairs (8), computer/software (1), hearing devices (4), worksite AT (8), other home modifications (1), vision devices (1) and information (1).

Technology Specialists throughout the state have been actively assisting their Project SEARCH (PS) sites with wrapping up the year. We have presented on ATP services to PS interns, attended Skills/Assessment days to select interns for the incoming class and helped with interview skills and resume writing at the most recent Business Advisory Council meeting. ATP staff have also been busy educating VR Pre-ETS students on ATP services and equipment through Job Expo presentations and booths. There was a Job Expo in Wayne on February 17th, Fremont on February 26th and Central Community College on March 10th. ATP is also in the process of working with VR on creating an automated ATP referral process that we hope to roll out towards the end of the year.



General Update –Tobias Orr

So far, 2026 has been a year of change for ATP. At the beginning of the year we had Nancy Noha (Marketing) retire after 35 years, and have since had 3 other staff leave. 2 for retirement and one took another position. At the time of reading this report we should have the Equipment Manager position formerly held by Bryan Bingham filled in the Lincoln office. The other two open positions are Technology Specialist slots in our Omaha office that were held by Lisa Oberg (28 years) and Angie Perkins (23 years). We hope to be posting those vacancies soon. We wish all of them well and thank them for all they have done for Nebraskans with disabilities over the years.

ATP Events:

1. The ATP Advisory Council was held Friday, April 17, 2026.
2. June 12th, 2026 ATP will have a booth at the Aging Safely in NE Resource Fair in Omaha.
3. ATP will have a booth and be providing used AT and DME at the upcoming Disability Pride Day on 7/25/26 in Lincoln at Antelope Park.

Nebraska Client Assistance Program (CAP)

May 2026

State Rehabilitation Council Report

1. Outreach + Interagency Coordination

CAP built on recent updates to its outreach letter, brochure, and website content this quarter. Efforts focused on strengthening follow-up and tracking, including development of a centralized outreach tracker for behavioral health providers, presentations, brochures, and VR office contacts. CAP also finalized standardized email and voicemail templates to support consistent second-contact outreach. Behavioral health outreach remains an active priority, with follow-up underway.

2. Federal Advocacy + Budget Monitoring

CAP is monitoring funding, budget issues, and sustainability planning. No major new update is being reported this quarter.

3. Data & Documentation Systems

CAP worked to improve documentation and tracking systems this quarter, including templates, outreach and voicemail tracking tools, and internal workflow organization. The goal is to support clearer follow-up and more consistent records across the program.

CAP also worked on developing separate feedback surveys for hotline contacts and CAP complaint cases, with attention to clarity, consistency, and future piloting.

4. CAP Case Activity Summary

Brief Case Summary: CAP reviewed a post-closure concern involving communication, placement services, and the client's understanding of available VR support. CAP's involvement focused on record review, clarification of options, and information about possible re-engagement with VR.

Service: Short-Term Technical Assistance / Information and Referral

Policy(ies):

- Nebraska VR Program Manual – **Placement Services**
- Nebraska VR Program Manual – **Termination**
- Nebraska VR Program Manual – **Client Appeal Rights, Procedures**

Client Request/Complaint – Summary of Initial Concern and Service Barrier

A former VR client contacted CAP after case closure and expressed dissatisfaction with communication, understanding of available VR services, and the nature of assistance provided during placement services. The client reported concerns related to resume development, limited individualized job exploration, and uncertainty about what support VR could provide. The client also indicated interest in possibly re-engaging with VR in the future if assigned to different staff.

Case Evidence – Review of Documentation and Communication

CAP reviewed the VR case record. Documentation reflected that the client was determined eligible for VR services, developed an Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE), and was referred to placement services. The record showed job search meetings, review of online job postings, client dissatisfaction communicated during placement services, and closure of the VR case at the client's request. The record also reflected that written notice of closure and due process information was provided. CAP's review showed that some client concerns were consistent with the record, while other concerns were not clearly confirmed or disproved by the available documentation.

CAP Response / Current Status – Actions Taken and Collaborative Results

CAP provided information about the client's rights, options following case closure, and the process for reapplying for VR services if the client chooses to return in the future. CAP also clarified that re-engagement would require a new VR application rather than reopening the closed case. At the time of CAP review, the matter appeared best addressed through information, clarification, and support regarding next-step options rather than formal dispute resolution. The client indicated understanding of the information provided and stated they may reach back out to CAP if they would like assistance with re-engaging VR services or requesting to work with different VR staff.

Recommendations – Next Steps and Considerations for Ongoing Support

- Provide clear explanations of what placement services include and what clients can expect.
- Consider additional problem-solving, supervisory involvement, or follow-up discussion when a client expresses dissatisfaction before case closure.
- Ensure job search and resume development activities reflect the client's stated preferences and input.
- Continue providing clear written notice of client rights and options when cases are closed.

5. Planning / Next steps

CAP's next steps include behavioral health outreach follow-up, refining intake and tracking tools, finalizing survey tools, and advancing Program Manual development.

Client Satisfaction Survey Quarter 2 2025/2026 YTD Comparison

	FY 24-25 Quarter 2 YTD	FY 25-26 Quarter 2 YTD
Surveys Completed	98	118
% Still Employed	93.88%	88.98%
Why Not Employed	Quit (3)- 42.86% Fired- (3)- 42.86% Laid Off (1) – 14.29%	Quit (9)- 69.23% Laid Off (3)- 23.08% Fired (1)- 7.69%
Job Meets Current Needs	89.13%	93.33%
Most Helpful Service	Encouragement/Support (49)- 50.00% Supported Employment (32)- 32.65% Employment Services- (31)- 31.63%	Encouragement/Support (56)- 47.46% Career Exploration/Job Fit (47)- 39.83% Employment Services (33)- 27.97%
Very Likely and Somewhat Likely to Recommend VR to a Friend or Family Member	94.89%	99.15%

For these questions the responses being captured include: those answering Strongly Agree, Agree, and Neutral.

	24-25 Quarter 2	25-26- Quarter 2
I am satisfied with the service I received	96.94%	98.31%
I was treated with courtesy and respect.	98.98%	99.15%
My needs were met quickly and without interruptions.	97.95%	98.30%
I was able to share my thoughts and help make decisions about the services I received	98.97%	98.31%

2025/2026 VR Client Satisfaction Survey

Q1. Please rate the following.

	Strongly Agree		Agree		Neutral		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Total
I am satisfied with the service I received.	72.88%	86	24.58%	29	0.85%	1	0.85%	1	0.85%	1	118
I was treated with courtesy and respect.	83.90%	99	15.25%	18	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.85%	1	118
My needs were met quickly and without interruptions.	66.10%	78	30.51%	36	1.69%	2	0.85%	1	0.85%	1	118
I was able to share my thoughts and help make decisions about the services I received.	74.58%	88	21.19%	25	2.54%	3	0.85%	1	0.85%	1	118
										Answered	118
										Skipped	0

Q2. Are you currently employed?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	88.98%	105
No	11.02%	13
If yes, where?		0
	Answered	118
	Skipped	0

Q3. If not, did you quit, were you fired or laid off?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Quit	69.23%	9
Fired	7.69%	1
Laid off	23.08%	3
	Answered	13
	Skipped	105

Q4. Does your job meet your current needs?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	93.33%	98
No	2.86%	3
Other (please specify)	3.81%	4
	Answered	105
	Skipped	13

Q5. If no, what needs are not being met by your job?

Answer Choices	Responses	
No Benefits	0.00%	0
Not Enough Pay	25.00%	2
Not a Good Fit	0.00%	0
Work Schedule	12.50%	1
Not Enough Hours	12.50%	1
Other	50.00%	4
Specify Other Reason		0
	Answered	8
	Skipped	110

Q6. Please specify the need not being met that was not listed.

Answered	4
Skipped	114

Q7. Can you tell me why you (quit)?

Answer Choices	Responses	
No Benefits	0.00%	0
Better Job	15.38%	2
Day Care	0.00%	0
Disability Interfered	0.00%	0
Hospitalized or Illness (Not disability related)	7.69%	1
Housing	0.00%	0
Not Enough Pay	0.00%	0
Not a Good Fit	7.69%	1
Returned to college	0.00%	0
Transportation	0.00%	0
Work Schedule	7.69%	1
Other	0.00%	0
COVID19	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	61.54%	8
	Answered	13
	Skipped	105

Q8. Please describe Not a Good Fit

Answered	8
Skipped	110

Q9. What did Nebraska VR provide that was most helpful to you? Mark the categories the client indicated were the most helpful.

Answer Choices	Responses	
Purchased Support Services (clothing, gas, bus tickets, auto repair, interpreter, etc.)	19.49%	23
Education (post-secondary training)	4.24%	5
Assistive/ RehabTechnology (Assistive device, hearing aids, prosthesis, medical goods, home/vehicle mods)	16.95%	20
Career Exploration and Job Fit	39.83%	47
Supported Employment (Goodwill, Community Alliance, DD Provider, Autism Center of Nebraska, etc.)	11.86%	14
Employment Services (JSS, application/resume assistance, interview prep, advocating with employers, etc.)	27.97%	33
Benefits Orientation/Benefits Analysis	11.86%	14
Encouragement/Support	47.46%	56
Nothing/Don't know	2.54%	3
Everything (Ask-Can you be more specific?)	1.69%	2
Client mentioned the following which was not on the list.		17
	Answered	118
	Skipped	0

Q10. How likely are you to recommend Nebraska VR to a friend or family member who experiences a disability?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Very Likely	90.68%	107
Somewhat Likely	8.47%	10
Neutral	0.85%	1
Somewhat Unlikely	0.00%	0
Very Unlikely	0.00%	0
Please state why?		0
	Answered	118
	Skipped	0

Q11. Please share why you are very unlikely, somewhat unlikely and neutral

Answered	1
Skipped	117

Q12. Please share any other comments or suggestions you may have.

Answered	53
Skipped	65

Q13. Which of the following describes you?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Client	89.83%	106
Family member	10.17%	12
Authorized Representative	0.85%	1
Other (please specify)	1.69%	2
	Answered	118
	Skipped	0

Q14. Which Nebraska VR Team served you or the client?

Answer Choices	Responses	
State Office-Enriquez	0.00%	0
Scottsbluff-Fisher	6.78%	8
North Platte-Calvin	10.17%	12
Kearney-Anderson	10.17%	12
Grand Island-Allee	11.02%	13
Columbus	6.78%	8
Norfolk-Mitchell	11.86%	14
Omaha West-Petersen	22.88%	27
Omaha-Dixon	8.47%	10
Omaha-Brown	0.00%	0
Lincoln-Bergmann/Best	5.08%	6
Lincoln-Wettstead	0.00%	0
Lincoln-Miller	6.78%	8
State Office-Kunes-Neary	0.00%	0
Lincoln-Miller	0.00%	0
	Answered	118
	Skipped	0



NYLC was created “by youth, for youth”. We are leaders and self-advocates who experience a disability. We travel the state promoting disability awareness and educating our peers on transitioning to college or work

NYLC SRC Report: January 1st -March 31st, 2026 Activities

NYLC welcomed new members: Johnathon Lewis, Doniphan and Hannah Jones, Lincoln.

There are currently 14 active members participating in NYLC.

January-March NYLC events.

January-March agenda items for zoom and in person meetings have been focused on theme of developing and sharing your personal story for self-confidence and personal empowerment, as well as an advocacy and disability education tool.

Virtual Meetings- dates/agenda items:

Date	Attendance	Agenda/Meeting Focus
1-8-26	10	Review of NYLC goals/objectives; identify group project
1-20-26	9	Group project discussed and agreed upon for educ/advocacy—book project
2-12-26	11	Purpose and value of Sharing your Story for education/advocacy tool—developing your story utilizing outline
2-24-26	5	Group met according to location (central/northeast members). Confidence skill building: identifying challenges and goals as relates to your personal story
2-26-26	7	Group met according to location (Lincoln/Omaha members). Confidence skill building: identifying challenges and goals as relates to your personal story
3-12-26	12	Continue to develop your story as advocacy/education tool—adapting your outline into written story format
3-26-26	10	The power of personal stories—learning from other disability advocates

In person Meetings—these meetings are occurring once a month (Last Saturday of the month) in different locations, held at a local public library meeting room

Date	Attendance	Agenda/Meeting Focus
1-31-26 Omaha	4	Social skill building, identifying your strengths
2-28-26 Lincoln	9	Building confidence—sharing and speaking in a group; Developing your personal story
3-28-26 Grand Island		This meeting was initially scheduled to be held in GI on 3/28; but had to be reschedule for 4/11 in Lincoln due to low attendance numbers (fewer people willing to travel to GI). <i>The meeting was held on 4/11 and 8 members were present. We had a speaker, Joni Thomas, who shared her lived experiences with a physical disability; spoke of her decades of disability advocacy experiences and value to sharing personal story in advocacy/education.</i>

NYLC Presentations/Outreach

Date	Event
1/8/26	NYLC program presentation/outreach to all ESU transition coordinators
2/11/26	ESU Chat-and-Chow monthly virtual meeting with students and teaches: NYLC program presentation and self-advocacy training (Kadee, Johnathon, Aiden-NYLC council members)
3/5/26	Program presentation to Autism Action Partnership – outreach to Prosper Academy programs (Steph, NYLC member)
3/10/26	program presentation and outreach to Norfolk VR staff
3/16/26	program presentation and outreach to Kearney VR staff
3/23/26	Program presentation and outreach to Project Search students at Cornhusker Hotel, Lincoln (Katelyn- NYLC council member, also previous Project Search participant)
3/30/26	program presentation and outreach to North Platte VR staff
3/31/26	program presentation and outreach to Kearney VR staff

Upcoming: Outreach/recruitment events planned for April 25 in York and June 14th in Lincoln. NYLC members will be attending these events and presenting to potential new members and their families about NYLC and their experiences.