



Salt River
Vocational Rehabilitation Newsletter

Voc Rehab Counselors Complete Post Employment Training—American Indian Rehabilitation (PET-AIR) Program at San Diego State University

Salt River VR Counselors, Paula Smith and Jennifer Webster recently completed the Post-Employment Training-American Indian Rehabilitation (PET-AIR) program through San Diego State University. This 21-unit advanced post graduate certificate program is specifically designed to provide training to professionals in the field of American Indian Rehabilitation. This is the only program of its kind. The program consisted of 3 separate one week “on-campus” administrative training sessions at SDSU, and distance learning for a 12 month cycle. The program has served over 100 participants from various tribal VR programs throughout the nation. Paula and Jennifer were the very first individuals to complete the program on an audit status. Despite being the only two participants without a Bachelor’s Degree, they both received excellent commendation from program staff, and definitely represented SRPMIC well. “Paula and Jen represented SRVR well, and have the capacity to continue with their higher education,” explained Jim Warne, PET-AIR Program Director. Although they do not receive the credential that is associated with this renowned program, they received invaluable training and knowledge that will benefit the Community for years to come. Paula and Jennifer participated in a Master’s Level program, with great success, in spite of the fact that they didn’t meet the minimum qualifications to be enrolled beyond audit status.



Located in
 Human Resources
 (Two Waters-Building B)
 10,005 E. Osborn Rd
 Scottsdale, AZ 85256

SRVR

480-362-2650

Melanie Murray, VR Manager
 Paula Smith, VR Counselor
 Jennifer Curtis, VR Counselor
 Carmella Ramos, VR Technician

**ORIENTATIONS
 EVERY OTHER
 TUESDAY at
 10am
 DATES ON
 page 2** →



Upcoming Orientation Dates

10 AM in TWO WATERS Building B

| | |
|-------------|-------------|
| November 10 | November 24 |
| December 8 | December 22 |
| January 12 | January 26 |
| February 9 | February 23 |
| April 12 | April 26 |
| May 10 | May 24 |

“MY DISABILITY IS ONLY ONE PART OF WHO I AM”

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month

The history of National Disability Employment Awareness Month traces back to 1945, when Congress enacted a law declaring the first week in October each year "National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week." In 1962, the word "physically" was removed to acknowledge the employment needs and contributions of individuals with all types of disabilities. In 1988, Congress expanded the week to a month and changed

the name to National Disability Employment Awareness Month. "This year's theme encapsulates the important message that people with disabilities are just that — *people*," said Jennifer Sheehy, acting assistant secretary of labor for disability employment policy. "And like all people, we are the sum of many parts, including our work experiences. Disability is an important perspective we bring to the table, but, of course, it's not the only one." Employers and employees in all industries can learn more about how to participate in National Disability Employment Awareness Month and

ways they can promote its messages — during October and throughout the year — by visiting www.dol.gov/ndeam.

Salt River held its own Disability Awareness Event at the SR Community Building on October 22nd. Community Members and other attendees were exposed to valuable information regarding disabilities and special needs. Salt River Vocational Rehabilitation Staff was in attendance, providing program information to attendees..



Jennifer Webster at the Salt River Disability Event at the Community Building.

Quarterly S.R.V.R. Statistics

| | |
|--------------------------------------------------|----|
| Eligible Consumers | 40 |
| Active Employment | 13 |
| Employed 90 days (Rehabilitated) | 4 |
| Participated in Training | 4 |
| Participated in Work Experience within Community | 0 |