



LEADING A DISABILITY-INCLUSIVE WORKFORCE AND COMMUNITY

DALE ROGERS TRAINING CENTER



Piper, DRTC Executive Director Deborah Copeland, and Chelsea

As you delve into our 2023-2024 Annual Report, please consider all the incredible stories of individuals doing remarkable work. Their courage and unwavering commitment to building a brighter future for themselves, their families, and others living with disabilities are truly impressive. These individuals demonstrate resilience and determination in navigating their careers.

Their dedication is a powerful reminder that people with disabilities are not only critical to the workforce, but they are also a driving force of change and innovation. You will also see their contributions extend beyond their work roles, as they actively engage in volunteer work, enriching their communities and making a difference in the lives of many others.

They truly are creating a more inclusive and empowering world for everyone.

Bradley Wallace
2024 DRTC Board President

Deborah Copeland, M.Ed.
Executive Director/CEO

2023-2024 Board of Directors

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- Anna Tsakiris (American Fidelity)



Dale Rogers Training Center, Inc. (DRTC) supports people with disabilities through paid vocational training, in-house programs and work opportunities as well as competitive community employment.





DRTC
ABILITY AT WORK

DRTC Agency-wide

818

People with disabilities served,
trained or employed

\$6.96m

Wages earned by people with disabilities
in all programs and employment

10%

Increase in wages earned by people with
disabilities since 2023

67%

Of DRTC employees have a disability

DRTC (you) on Capitol Hill

DRTC employees got their steps in during a trip to Washington, D.C. for SourceAmerica's Grassroots Conference. A team of three – self-advocate Joshua Baker, his wife Sue, and PR Director James Helm – visited our nation's capital to participate in the four-day event.

Joshua and Sue are custodians at DRTC's Tinker Air Force Base Admin Contract through SourceAmerica®. DRTC also holds custodial contracts at the FAA Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center, and federal buildings in downtown OKC, as well as the food service contract at TAFB.

While in Washington, D.C., Joshua visited with Senator James Lankford, Congresswoman Stephanie Bice, and several staffers from additional Oklahoma Congressional delegates. They discussed the importance of SourceAmerica® contracts through the AbilityOne Program®, which employs people living with disabilities.

Joshua also addressed Grassroots Conference members during the Celebration of Stories, speaking directly about his employment journey and faith.

"I'm the sort that never lets anything hold me back in life," Joshua told the audience.



Above: Sen. James Lankford and Joshua

*Right: Sue and Joshua at the Lincoln Memorial
Cover: DRTC Chief Administrative Officer Kevin Sonntag, Joshua and Sue at the White House*



ADVOCACY

Prosperity Bank is proud of its continued association with Dale Rogers Training Center.

It's their programs and continued efforts for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families that's bringing dignity and respect across Oklahoma.



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Working for success

More job seekers are reaching their career goals thanks to DRTC's Employment Services Program!

James worked in DRTC's Production Center for 24 years, always with an eye on employment in the community. DRTC's Employment Consultants worked with James to help him reach his goals. Today, he is a cafeteria monitor at Overholser Elementary School in the Putnam City school district, and both the staff and students appreciate his hard work!

Charlie started working with DRTC's Employment Services Program in 2019, and he recently celebrated his fifth anniversary at Crest as a sacker, cart gatherer, and providing customer service. Crest is very happy he is part of their team.

DRTC's Employment Services Program receives funding and referrals through Oklahoma Rehabilitation Services, working with job seekers living with disabilities to reach their employment goals and helping fill important positions from companies across the Oklahoma City metro. Learn more at DRTC.org.

James



Celebrating champions

DRTC held its annual Ability At Work Awards at the Will Rogers Theatre in Oklahoma City, recognizing champions of disability-inclusion in the workforce. Planning is already underway for the 2025 Ability At Work Awards. Email pr@drtc.org if you're interested in joining as a sponsor or a guest!



Charles and Mark



Kim and Isaiah



Kevin and Milvia



Shawn and Rachel



Angela and Sue



Angela and Nicholas



Jasco team with DRTC Executive Director/CEO Deborah Copeland



Mark Schaffner, Jasco VP of Efficiency, Product Programs, accepting the Employer of the Year Award

Jasco: Employer of the Year

Jasco, an industry leader in electronics, continues to raise the bar for disability-inclusion in the workforce. What started as a simple display assembly contract with DRTC in 2008, today DRTC clients are engaged in various projects both on the main campus and at Jasco’s headquarters in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

More than 100 people in DRTC’s Production Center and 12 people from DRTC who have worked onsite at Jasco have contributed to its success. Projects range from kitting, assembly, packaging and placing RFID stickers on products for placement in Walmart.

“Jasco has provided a wide variety of jobs for us because they see the ability,” said Mark Claunch, DRTC Business Director. **“Jasco looks at us as a workforce solution. They look at us as a partner.”**

Congratulations, Jasco, for being the 2024 DRTC Employer of the Year!

JASCO®



Scan to watch DRTC’s feature on Jasco!

Congratulations to all of our Spotlight Honorees!

Nicholas Schildt

Charles Young

Sue Gill

Rachel Evans

Milvian Hernandez-Tecun

Isaiah Sweeney

Jasco

Keeping safety at the forefront

Coming soon nationwide: a new safety training program spearheaded by DRTC in collaboration with IDD Safe.

Safety and Police Encounters is a multi-unit certification program produced by LearningQ, an accessible learning platform. The five-badge course features video training covering: You and the police, Being safe with police, Proper identification, Your rights, and Police encounters.

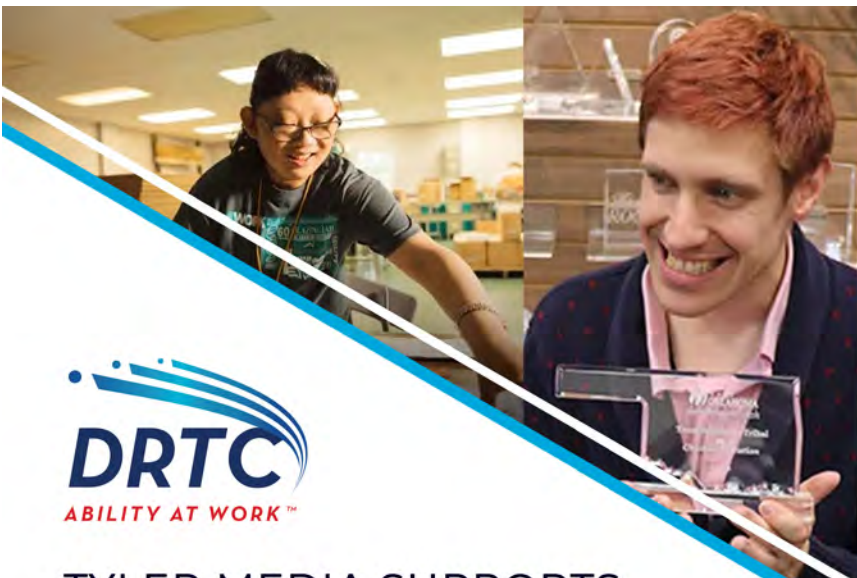
DRTC and IDD Safe have partnered since 2022, providing in-person police safety training to more than 100 people. This new platform will allow more people across the country to learn how to have safe interactions with police. An optional virtual course will provide live interactive sessions with experienced instructors.

“Whether it be an emergency, routine traffic stop, or security at an airport, anyone can find themselves in situations involving law enforcement,” said DRTC Executive Director/CEO Deborah Copeland, M.Ed.

Safety and Police Encounters launches February 2025. Learn more and sign-up at DRTC.org/Safety-And-Police-Encounters.



On set recording Safety and Police Encounters. Scan the QR Code to learn more about this new training.



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Spinning up new businesses

DRTC's newest program providing another onramp to employment is off to a great start!

The Hub Program is an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)-funded program designed to assist people living with disabilities or limiting conditions pursue an entrepreneurial career.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (2023), people with a disability are more likely to be self-employed (8.4%) than those with no disability (5.9%).

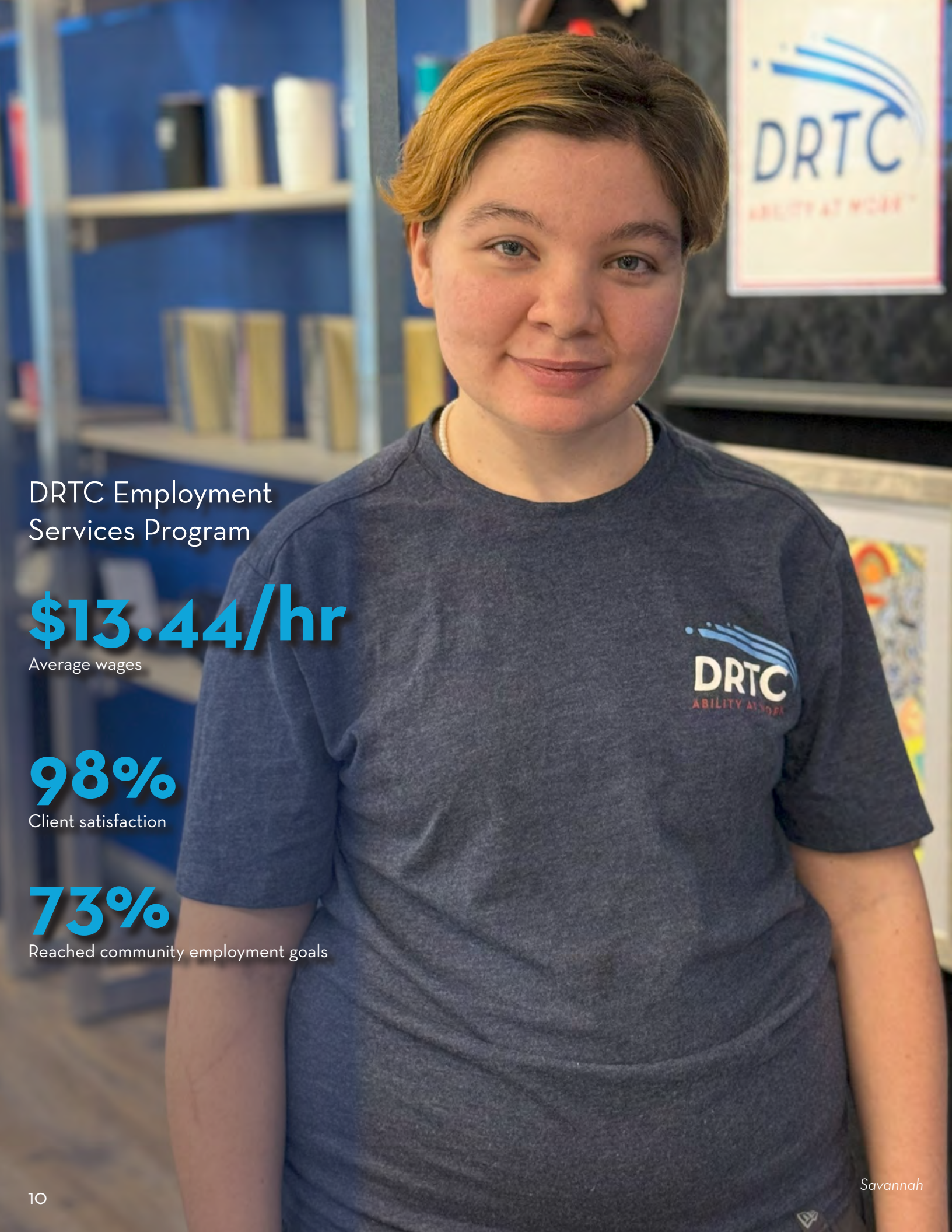
DRTC's Hub Program features an in-depth 10-day business development course. Participants will also be paired with mentors to help give them the confidence to be successful in the long-term.

“This program is effective because it starts with the participants’ strengths, then builds toward the business, providing hands-on support and resources for sustained success,” said Chris Scroggins, DRTC Hub Program Developer.

Learn more about the Hub Program and sign up for more information at DRTC.org/DRTC-Business-Hub.

Johnathan





DRTC Employment
Services Program

\$13.44/hr

Average wages

98%

Client satisfaction

73%

Reached community employment goals



DRTC Fiscal Year 2024

Federal Contracts 81.8%



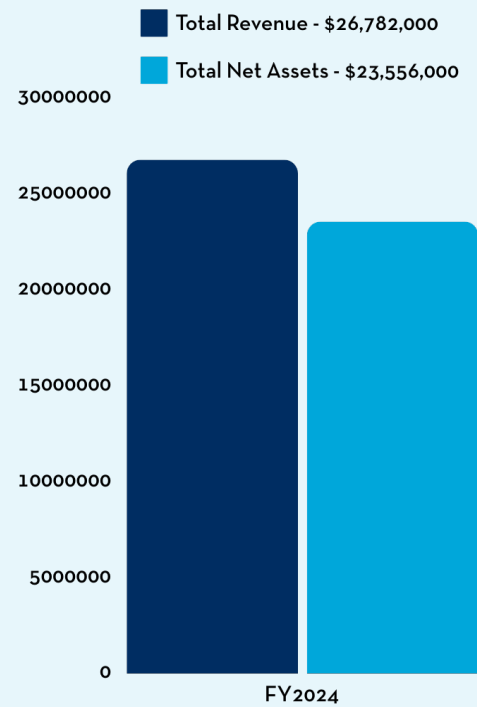
Developmental Disability Services (DDS) 4.3%

Dept. of Rehabilitation Services (DRS) 1.3%

Outside Sales 7.2%

Other 5.4%

Includes United Way & Donations



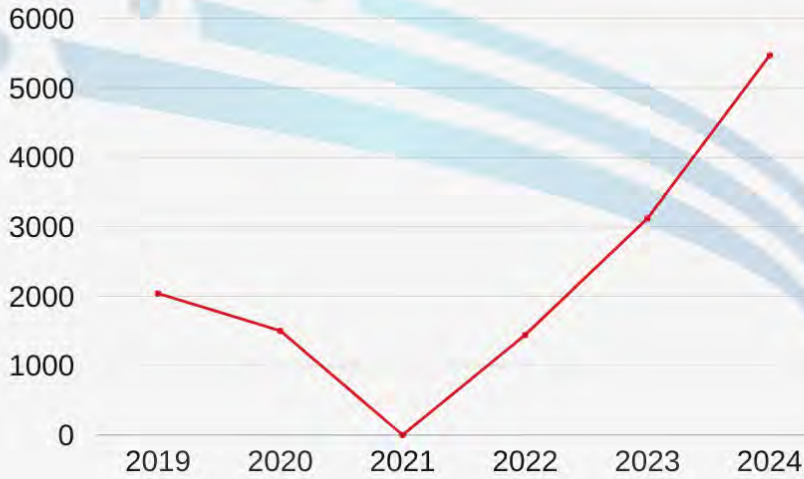
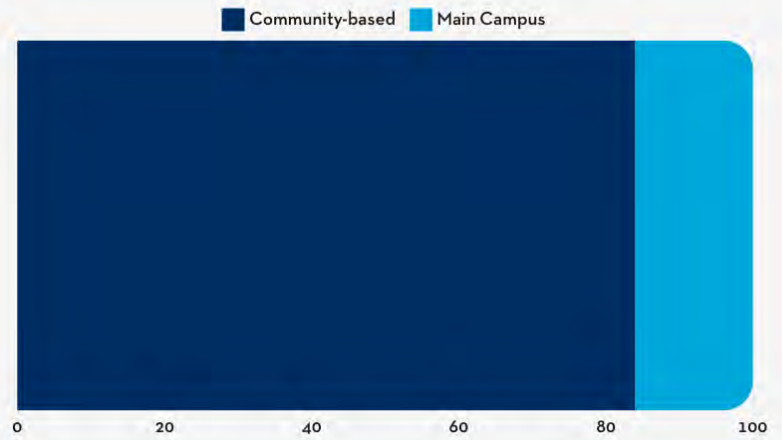
Visit our new showroom featuring DRTC Awards, Promotional Items, and Framing at 2502 N. Utah Ave., Oklahoma City

SERVICES PROVIDED

Based on location

84% in the community

16% at DRTC's Main Campus



VOLUNTEER HOURS

Provided by DRTC in the community.

2024: 5,470

2023: 3,120

2022: 1,440

2021: 0 (COVID-19)

2020: 1,501

2019: 2,039

That's a wrap!



Kaden, Kathy, Stan, LaToya and Tobias at the end of their video shoot for Safety and Police Encounters (see page 8)