# **Item 15: Partnerships between VR and Behavioral Health Agencies**

**SRC Recommendation 2022.3**

**Expanding Partnerships between Vocational Rehabilitation and Behavioral Health Agencies** **(June 9, 2022)**

## Issue

Local behavioral health agencies could benefit from a state level partnership model like the Competitive Integrated Employment Blueprint. A formalized process (example: local partnership agreements) could help enhance services and increase opportunities for employment for individuals with behavioral health disabilities.

## Recommendation

To increase and sustain successful employment outcomes for individuals with mental illness, the SRC recommends that DOR develop a blueprint that:

1. Identifies barriers, challenges, and successful programs;
2. Identifies the key stakeholders and leaders on the state and local level; and,
3. Increases communication, resources and training for agencies and organizations.

## DOR Response (December 19, 2022)

The DOR appreciates the SRC’s recommendation and agrees with the need to increase and sustain successful employment outcomes for individuals with behavioral health disabilities. There are initiatives underway that when made public, will align with the intent of the SRC’s recommendation. The DOR looks forward to sharing information with the SRC when these initiatives become public.