

**Heather Hagen, BSW, CESP**

Director of Employment Services at DDRC

720.544.8114

[heather.hagen@ddrcco.com](mailto:heather.hagen@ddrcco.com)

Heather Hagen (she/her) proudly serves as the Assistant Director of Employment Services at Developmental Disabilities Resource Center (DDRC) in Colorado. Like many colleagues, Heather fell into the world of supported employment in 2010 by chance and found a passion for helping people pursue their career goals. With over a decade of experience, Heather has witnessed and embraced the evolution of employment services and is passionate about Colorado's commitment to Employment First. In her work, Heather is especially passionate about developing highly competent Employment Support Professionals who approach their work with a historical understanding of disability rights and a passion to cause "good trouble" in pursuit of equity and true inclusion for everyone. A person with lived experience, Heather is a recipient of the Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE) Wendy M. Wood Emerging Leader award and DDRC's Charlie Allinson award. Heather seeks to move the needle in the day-to-day work that we do with career seekers, and to ask for big change in state and national policies.

When not working to transform employment services, Heather enjoys hiking, baking, and cross-stitching with her family and dogs in the Colorado mountains.

---

**Vikki Ortiz, MS, CESP**

Curriculum Developer/Trainer at Colorado Office of Employment First

(303) 981-1025

[Vikki.Ortiz@cuanschutz.edu](mailto:Vikki.Ortiz@cuanschutz.edu)

Vikki is a certified Employment Support Professional and a graduate of both APSE's Emerging Leaders in Employment First professional development program and the National Leadership Consortium on Developmental Disabilities Leadership Institute. She also serves as a Co-President of the Colorado Chapter of the Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE). Her educational background is in Human Development and Family Studies with an M.S. in Family Studies. Vikki has over 6 years of experience in the field and over 15 years of experience in management and training. She has presented nationally on Supported Employment and Employment First and provided consultation and technical assistance to organizations. Vikki has lived experience as an AuDHD woman and has a vision for all people with disabilities to fully realize, pursue, and accomplish their employment goals.

Outside of work, Vikki enjoys adventuring with her husband, Michael, and her daughter, Isabella. She loves being outdoors – camping, hiking, and traveling to new places.