EMPLOYMENT FIRST

Every Person. Every Talent. Every Opportunity.

January 2015

Dear Employment First Partners,

Keep up to date on Employment First news in Ohio. Don't forget to contact us if you need a speaker or visit the Community Employment Resource Map for local Employment First news.

If you have a story you would like for us to share, would like to give us feedback, or you need Employment First support, please contact us at EmploymentFirst@dodd.ohio.gov.

Overwhelming Response to "Meaningful Day" Webinar

Thank you to all who attended the January 6 Webinar, "Meaningful Day Services: Putting People on the Path to Success." There was an overwhelmingly positive response and 1000+ people in attendance for this session about how integrated day services are used to explore employment options, teach meaningful skills and encourage independence. A recording of the webinar and all supporting documents can be found here.

The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities
Ohio's Path to Employment First
A summary of Ohio's Employment First Initiative and Future Plans

See Ohio's current plan to support the ongoing implementation of Employment First.

Access the online archive for previous issues of the *Employment First Update.*

Quick Links
Employment First Website
DODD Website

Upcoming Trainings & Events

Click Here!

Join Our Mailing List!

Project: Transformation 2.0 Call for Applicants

Ohio was recently selected as a core state for the Employment First State Leadership Mentoring Program by the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Disability Employment Policy. Through this partnership, Ohio will receive expert technical assistance to support up to eight agencies (both public and private) in transforming their facility-based services to community-based employment and day supports.

Submission of applications will take place by E-mail only. E-mail applications should be submitted to EmploymentFirst@dodd.ohio.gov, with Project Transformation 2.0 in the subject line, and are due by 5 p.m. on January 28th, 2015. You can access the application here.

Webinar, Employment Supports for Those with IDD and Autism- February 26, Noon - 1:00p.m.

Dr. Dennis Cleary MS, OTD, OTR/L and Dr. Andrew Persch, PhD, OTR/L will discuss the need for employment supports for those with IDD and autism, as well as what those employment supports might look like.

The Employment First Team

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Employment First Outcome Tracking System Provider Training

The Employment First Outcome Tracking System launched in Spring 2014 and captures employment outcome data for all people in employment services. The application will be released to employment providers in February. County boards of developmental disabilities and private providers are responsible for entering data into the system based on the Employment First Administrative Rule 5123:2-2-05. A one-hour webinar will be held on the following dates to demonstrate the system and answer questions for new users. To register for training, please click on the preferred training date:

Thursday February 5, 4:00pm
Tuesday February 10, 3:00pm
Tuesday February 17, 9:00am
Wednesday February 18, 9:00am
Tuesday February 24, 1:00pm

A comprehensive guidebook and training video is available here.
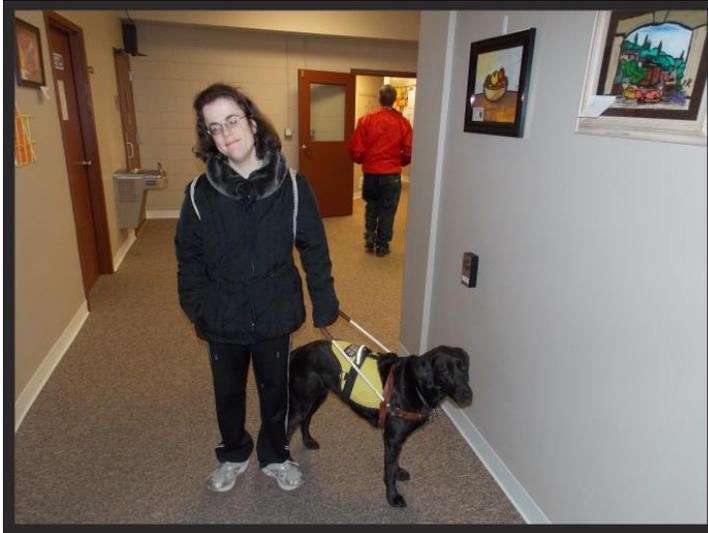
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Employment First Website- Community Employment Resource Map

Please visit the Ohio Employment First website and check out the updated [Community Employment Resource Map](#). The Community Employment Resource Map highlights the activities related to community employment across Ohio. This tool was developed to be a resource to connect families, county boards, providers, and businesses.

Confidence Grows with Connections

Above: Brittany smiles for the camera.

The path to employment can lead to unexpected things. Brittany Schaefferkoetter from Hocking County decided she wanted to work. On her path to employment, she was connected to an internship at Wal-Mart. Brittany did so well during her internship, that she was offered a permanent position. Brittany established friendships and relationships with co-workers that helped build her self-confidence and self-worth. Brittany is now living independently and has become an advocate to others about the importance and benefits of work.

Sincerely,

EMPLOYMENT FIRST

Stay

Get timely DODD news and other relevant information from your desktop, laptop, tablet, or phone:

Connected!