Employment First

Update

Transition Framework

Person-Centered~Agency Neutral~Outcome Focused

The Employment First Transition Framework tools and resources are now available for download at www.ohioemploymentfirst.org. The Framework is a results-oriented process that leads to individual community employment outcomes for youth with developmental disabilities. It promotes a system of practices at the state, regional, and individual levels that is outcome-focused, person-centered and agency neutral.

Individuals and service agencies regularly commit time and resources to activities intended to assist youth to prepare for and realize meaningful adult lives, including community employment. Despite these efforts, youth and young adults, especially those with more complex disabilities, too often find themselves unemployed, underemployed or in sheltered employment. Studies and follow-up data indicate that a significant number of youth with disabilities continue to fail to achieve productive engagement as adults.

The Employment First transition process was developed with a diverse team of stakeholders from multiple disciplines. It is designed to provide a common approach for transition planning and the identification of service needs across systems such as Education, County Boards of Developmental Disabilities, Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabili-

ties Agency, Mental Health and others that serve transition youth. The result is a Transition Framework that is built on the foundational elements that are person-centered, agency neutral, and outcome-focused.

Employment First efforts support the implementation of the Transition Framework as a strategy to increase community employment for youth with developmental disabilities as they exit high school. Regional multi-agency teams across Ohio are collaborating to examine their local resources, create action plans, and take steps to implement the practices represented in the transition framework.

Transition Framework Tools

The Transition Framework is a process, NOT a procedure, form or a service. The Framework tools have been developed for use at the regional and individual level to facilitate planning and service delivery for effective transition planning.

Among the Framework tools available for download from www.ohioemploymentfirst.org are:

Community Investment in Transition Youth with Disabilities Tool
-this tool is a self-assessment process that will guide the agency to examine their readiness and capacity to serve the transition needs of youth in community employment

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Upcoming Events, Page 2
Check out our upcoming events.

www.ohioemploymentfirst.org

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Transition Assessment Planning Guide
-this guide will assist multi-agency teams to plan assessment activities that result in meaningful, individualized, and important data as well as avoiding duplication of assessment efforts

Backward Planning Tools
-five backward planning tools to guide the process to develop a single plan, managed by a multi-agency team, designed to guide a young person through high school and into the first years of adulthood as they assume adult roles as an employee, a life-long learner and a community member.

Vocabulary Crosswalk
-this is a reference tool that can be consulted to clarify confusing vocabulary that can unintentionally lead to misunderstanding, limit discussions, and prevent collaboration.

Agency Table
-this multi-agency overview can assist team members with a place to start and a way to navigate the various agencies which can offer support, services, and resources to assist the youth along the path to employment.

Path from School to Employment Folder
-this folder is a "conversation starter"

with families and youth. It gives a broad overview of the possible steps, questions, services and decisions that need to be considered during the years of transition planning.

Web-based Supported Employment Training to Launch Soon

Employment Support Professionals and Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors will soon have access to competency-based supported employment training via the Web. DODD, in partnership with Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency, has contracted with Dale DiLeo Consulting to develop the training, which provides an orientation to such topics as career planning, marketing and job development, on-the-job training, benefits planning, and development of natural supports. Each trainee will have three weeks to complete the course, which should take between 12-20 hours, with a one-hour post-test at the end. DODD will offer 12 CEUs for adult services staff, SSAs, superintendents and board members upon successful completion of the course. The Web course is free for trainees, and is scheduled to launch in mid-November. The training is required for providers who are interested in the OOD-DODD Partnership for

Employment First. Watch for an upcoming announcement, and log-in instructions at www.ohio employmentfirst.org.

Employment First Taskforce
and Advisory Committee Members.

Advisory Committee

Advocacy & Protective Services Inc.
Arc of Ohio
Association of People Supporting Employment First
Disability Rights Ohio
Governor Kasich's Office
Griffin-Hammis Associates, LLC
Kent State University
Ohio Association of Adult Services
Ohio Association of County Boards of Developmental Disabilities
Ohio Center for Autism & Low Incidence
Ohio Department of Education
Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities
Ohio Department of Job & Family Services

Ohio Department of Medicaid
Ohio Mental Health and Addication Services
Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council
Ohio Disability Employment Alliance
Ohio Provider Resource Association and other service providers
Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency
Ohio Self Determination Association
Ohio SIBS
Ohio Superintendents of County Boards of Developmental Disabilities
People First of Ohio
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