

Job Opportunity

Employment First

Update

Calling Local Leaders

Improving Employment Outcomes

Now, Employment First Local Leaders will have an opportunity to help their communities take a large leap forward in improving employment outcomes for people with developmental disabilities. By applying to be selected as an Employment First Local Leaders Professional Development Planning Team, communities will receive expert guidance in how to enhance local resources, while helping build statewide training models to benefit everyone.

Community teams can apply to be selected as an implementation site for Ohio's professional development statewide plan. Any community in Ohio may apply, and applicants can self-describe the intended geographic area. Multi-county partners are encouraged to apply. Each applicant community should be a collaboration of multiple agencies, including county boards of developmental disabilities, private and county board employment service providers, school districts, families and individuals, employers, vocational rehabilitation staff (BVR/BSVI/VRP3), mental health agencies, and workforce development staff (One-stops). Other team members are welcome to join.

Local leaders are asked to respond to questions pertaining to community

employment supports, existing resources and partnerships, current policies and practices that support Employment First, and identified barriers.

Six implementation sites will be selected to participate in an in-depth self-analysis of their training and technical assistance needs with the support of an expert facilitator. The teams will submit an action plan which contains a list of professional development and technical assistance activities to be implemented in each community. For these six teams, the self-assessment process will take place July through October, with implementation of the plan to follow.

Applications can be found at www.ohioemploymentfirst.org beginning April 1. The deadline for this application is June 1.

Registration Now Open For Employment First Conference

Changing Expectations

The Ohio Employment First Advisory Committee and Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities is pleased to announce the inaugural Employment First Conference which will be held at the Embassy Suites in Dublin on June 4 and 5, 2013. Registration can be found at www.ohioemploymentfirst.org.

Employment First in Ohio is about

April 1, 2013



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Upcoming Events, Page 2

Check out our upcoming events, speaking engagements and taskforce deadlines.

www.ohioemploymentfirst.org

**EMPLOYMENT
FIRST** 

making community employment the first and priority outcome for all citizens with developmental disabilities. The conference will feature two nationally-recognized speakers. Dale DiLeo, author of "Raymond's Room," will speak about building a culture for Employment First on June 4. On June 5th, David Hoff, from the Institute for Community Inclusion and the National APSE President, will speak about employer relationships and the societal changes necessary to achieve the vision of Employment First. Sondra Williams, a self-advocate and recipient of Governor Kasich's 2013 Courage Medal will provide a lunch keynote on day two of the conference.

State leaders from the Employment First Taskforce agencies will serve on a panel to address their respective agencies' plans to implement the culture of Employment First. Other sessions include: postsecondary programs for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities, self-advocates panel, interagency collaboration at the local level, mobile technology in the workplace, benefits planning, person-centered planning, provider panel, strengthening collaboration between agencies, and more.



A Hospitality event is being planned on June 4 by Ohio APSE and will include sponsorship from other organizations. Vendor tables are still available for those organizations, agencies and providers that support the efforts of Employment First. Vendors that provide supported employment programs and services, information on benefits and work incentives, transition to employment planning, customized employment, coaching, and other community employment supports are welcome to apply. An application can be found at www.ohioemploymentfirst.org.

-Kristen Helling

Upcoming Events

Free Customized Employment Certificate Training Series, Marietta, April 2,3

Benefits and Employment in 2013 Workshop, Various Locations, April 8-11

Hidden Talents Diversify the Workforce Youngstown, April 24

Opportunities to Improve Postsecondary Transition, Kent, April 29

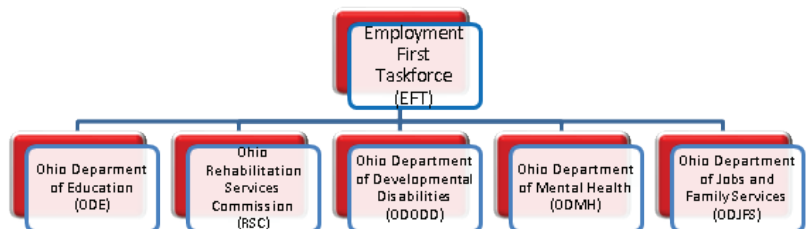
Employment First Conference Embassy Suites, Dublin, June 4,5

For more details on these events, visit www.ohioemploymentfirst.org

Employment First Taskforce and Advisory Committee Members.

Advisory Committee

Advocacy & Protective Services Inc. (APSI)
Arc of Ohio
Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE)
Disability Rights Ohio
Governor Kasich's Office
Griffin-Hammis Associates, LLC
Kent State University
Ohio Association of Adult Services (OAAS)
Ohio Association of County Boards of DD (OACB)
Ohio Center for Autism & Low Incidence (OCALI)
Ohio Department of Education
Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities
Ohio Department of Job & Family Services (ODJFS)
Ohio Department of Mental Health
Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council
Ohio Disability Employment Alliance (ODEA)
Ohio Provider Resource Association and other service providers



Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission
Ohio Self Determination Association
Ohio Superintendents of County Boards of Developmental Disabilities (OSCBDD)
People First of Ohio
The Ohio State University Nisonger Center
University of Cincinnati (UC) University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD)
Ohio SIBS