Achieving Quality Employment

Community Employment and Community Life Engagement

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Employment First in Ohio

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Governor John Kasich launched the Ohio Employment First when he signed the Executive Order

“Community Employment is the First and Preferred Option for All People with Developmental Disabilities”
Employment FIRST **not** Employment ONLY

• Employment First is a **philosophy** - NOT a program, plan or service

• Community employment is the priority service and preferred outcome for working-age adults

• All people with disabilities are **presumed capable** of community employment
Ohio Employment First Taskforce
Transition Vision Plan

State of Ohio Transition Vision Core Principles

• Community employment is the expectation for all youth
• Transition planning for youth requires multi-agency collaboration
• Early conversation with youth and families is critical
• There are multiple pathways to community employment
• Person-centered planning is key to the development of effective services and supports for transition-age youth
Ohio Employment First Transition Framework

Non-Negotiable Foundational Elements:

- Person Centered
- Outcome Focused
- Agency Neutral
Person-Centered Planning discovers a person’s:

- Unique strengths
- Interests
- Abilities
- Preferences
- Available resources
- Support Strategies
- Desired outcomes
Outcome-Focused

• Actions and supports help the youth move towards his/her desired outcomes
• Outcomes are accomplished by implementing a specific set of action steps
• Results/progress are seen from the activities, supports and/or services implemented
Outcome-Focused Planning

Where is the youth going?

Where is the youth today?

What steps can the youth and team take to fill that gap?
If you don't know where you are going, you'll end up someplace else.

-Yogi Berra
Agency Neutral

• Transition Teams include multi-agency support
• As agencies come together to collaborate, activity should occur in a manner where all involved see value for the youth and no single agency policies or procedures are considered the priority
Agency Neutral

Coordination of employment services and supports from various systems and resources

**ALL TEAM MEMBERS:**

- Understand person’s outcomes
- Have high expectations for successful actions
- Work together to provide support
- Responsive to changing needs and desires
- Aware of timeframes for completing actions
Target areas and benefits for Adult Services Include:

- Informed decision making
- Expand natural supports
- Develop abilities
- Stronger connections
- Increased self-esteem
- Improved health
- Enhanced quality of life
- Full community participation
- Contributing members
Resources

- Ohio Employment First: [https://ohioemploymentfirst.org](https://ohioemploymentfirst.org)
- Job Seekers Guide: [https://jobguide.ohioemploymentfirst.org/](https://jobguide.ohioemploymentfirst.org/)
- Ohio’s Disability Benefits 101: [https://oh.db101.org/](https://oh.db101.org/)
- Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities: [http://dodd.ohio.gov/IndividualFamilies/Pages/Supporting-Families.aspx](http://dodd.ohio.gov/IndividualFamilies/Pages/Supporting-Families.aspx)
- Charting the LifeCourse: [https://www.frnohio.org/about-lifecourse/charting-the-lifecourse/](https://www.frnohio.org/about-lifecourse/charting-the-lifecourse/)
- Ohio Means Jobs: [https://jobseeker.ohiomeansjobs.monster.com/](https://jobseeker.ohiomeansjobs.monster.com/)
Questions?

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