

9-18-15

To: Employment First stakeholders

From: Statewide Employment First Coordinator Mike Maley

Re: Actions Around Proposed Settlement

(Please forward to your local partners & stakeholders)

Last week there were announcements from many sources about the proposed settlement in the Lane v Brown case, the lawsuit regarding use of sheltered workshop services. This message is just to inform you of some immediate actions we will be taking to further help inform people about the settlement.

1. A copy of the settlement agreement has been posted on the Employment First [website](#).
2. Since Lane v. Brown was a class action lawsuit, we must provide notice to the class. As a result, we are mailing a notice to approximately 4,000 people who currently are or have been in sheltered workshops since 2012. We are also sending notices to Community Developmental Disability Programs (CCDPs), brokerages, employment providers, VR branch offices, and school districts with a request to post and share the information. The notice provides some background, summarizes the proposed agreement, and informs people where to express questions, comments, or objections. We expect this notice to be distributed near the end of September 2015.
3. We will also be posting a copy of this notice, in English and Spanish, on the ODDS and Employment First websites.
4. While the notice does indicate who to contact with questions or comments, it's also possible that individuals with I/DD or their families will contact their service coordinator (SC), personal agent (PA) or employment provider about the notice. As a result we are developing a question and answer document to help SCs, PAs or employment providers respond to some basic questions.
5. Various state staff also plan to provide presentations on the settlement. We are developing a PowerPoint that staff can use so presentations will be consistent.

We may be taking actions in addition to those listed above as we try to make sure stakeholders are informed about this important proposed settlement.

Others stakeholders may also be communicating to help inform people of the settlement. We encourage all of you to help spread the word about the Lane v. Brown proposed settlement.

Thank you all for your continued involvement, support, and advocacy for services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Oregon. If you have comments or other questions, please email them to employment.first@state.or.us.