

Executive Order Employment First Statewide Stakeholder Policy Meeting

Wednesday April 6, 2016

1:00-3:00pm

HSB Rm #166

500 Summer St, Salem OR 97301

1-888-808-6929

Access Code: 2349190 Host code: 1531(enter access code first)

Go To Meeting: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/525980061>

Review Agenda		2	Acacia	Discussion
Review last month's meeting minutes	Copy of last month's notes	2	Acacia	Discussion

Acacia briefly reviewed the notes from last time. Ross asked why the numbers for people getting jobs appears to be staying flat in VR? Trina – VR has flat and capped grant funds from the federal government. VR usually serves about 15,000 people a year. The total numbers of clients served has not changed much. However Trina explained there has been change in the types of disabilities new clients accessing VR experience- specifically more people experiencing IDD and less people with other disabilities. The data is changing slightly but not a lot. Justin asked- What is keeping people at VR from getting a job? Trina- VR looks at the length of time to getting a job. Once a person gets into a plan, the length of time it takes to get a job could vary from 90 days to 4 years because of individual circumstances. Data shows that people experiencing IDD are generally in plan a little longer than other clients, and Youth in school are in plan even longer than IDD people. There are a lot of variables that go into why it may take a shorter or longer period of time to get a job. Parent expressed concern and question about why a person using VR services may not get a job. Trina- There are also many different reasons why a person may not get a job.

Suggestion: Trina suggested that at next meeting there be further discussion about what goes into VR services, review of data and the reasons that go into the timelines of why people may take different lengths of time to get a job, or may not achieve a job or successful closure.

Maximizing Hours Policy updates/Communication Plan	Communication Plan	30	Angela/Acacia	Discussion
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Discussion:

Acacia talked about how ODDS has been routing the draft policy on maximizing hours to various stakeholder groups and getting feedback. Will provide a final draft of the policy to this group once the feedback has been reviewed and incorporated.

DHS has developed a Communication plan for the 20 hour guidance. Angela Yeager, EF Communications Officer, reviewed Communication Plan. See attached doc. Angela asked for

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feedback. Question- is the info for families and self-advocates at 6th grade level? Angela explained DHS does try to make any communications targeted to families and self-advocates at 6th grade. Policies and other documents targeted to the field staff are often written at the 8th grade level when possible.

<p>Transformation Updates <i>Meeting with Pearl Buck, Edward's Center and Garten</i></p>		20	Acacia/Lilia	Discussion
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Discussion:

Jessica from Edwards Center has been advocating for a discussion about “closing the front door” of sheltered workshops and what this means for providers and capacity concerns. If several providers closed their businesses today, there would be a lot of people who may not have services because of challenges with capacity of providers to provide Supported Employment currently.

ODDS met with Pearl Buck, Edwards, and Garten on March 17th – Acacia provided summary of meeting discussion. Providers expressed need for DHS to be flexible to help providers meet capacity. Had a lot of conversation around the changes in the service descriptions. Suggestions in the meeting included:

- DHS to send out a query to providers to see where providers are at and how DHS can assist them in meeting the HCBS regulations.
- DHS put together a Fact Sheet about what the service descriptions are and what they look like.
- DHS look at replicating aspects of the Seamless Transition Pilot. For example, can an SC, VR counselor, etc. be assigned to the provider org to help the provider and the people transition seamlessly from sheltered work to the community?
- DHS needs to provide more Data. Can we figure out the demographics of people in the sheltered workshops? Also talked about getting and understanding data around individuals who may be receiving multiple services. Also need to analyze where are people going if their sheltered workshop closes.
- There was discussion about policies. How can we begin a community of practice?
- Can ODDS issue the “north star” guidance that promotes the gold standard?

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- DHS gather information from transformation grant providers and share. Note: DHS will be posting RFA for new transformation grants in Mayish.

Providers felt energized after the meeting.

Ross – why is ODDS still looking at day services?

Suggestion- Outreach to residential providers to discuss how to support res providers who may be absorbing the support needs if a sheltered workshop closes. ORA will be starting this conversation at the ORA quarterly this week. Suggest how to budget if you are a SE provider vs. Facility based provider.

<p>Transformation Grant -Update on Transformation Communication meeting -Review RFA and suggest changes</p>	<p>14/16 RFA</p>	<p>45</p>	<p>Corissa/Angela/ Acacia</p>	<p>Discussion</p>
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Discussion:

Acacia gave a brief summary of the expectations for the Transformation grant recipients.

- Meeting with board if needed
- Organizational assessment
- Strategic plan – what are the steps you need to help your org transformation
- Training and TA plan
- Interim reports from WISE and Living Opps for each provider
- Monthly reports from WISE and Living Opps

DHS working on a communication plan to help better communicate the expectations, efforts, provider experiences, best practices, challenges, and successes of transformation.

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Acacia opened the floor for discussion about possible recommendations for changes to the Phase 2 Request for Application – anticipated to be posted in Mayish. Knowing what we know now, what would you have done differently? What has been the most valuable?

- Ross expressed concerns about need to avoid labeling and need to focus on natural supports for the clients being supported.
- Suggestion- can providers who are succeeding at transformation help mentor other providers? Yes, absolutely, we are trying to identify providers who are successful and can be mentors and champions in supporting other providers to move forward.
- Suggestion-Outcomes include use of natural supports.
- Suggestion- grants be offered to employment placement agencies who serve non-disabled job seekers to encourage them to serve IDD individuals. May be something to consider for the rural capacity building. This may also apply to the idea of providing more expansion and start up grants if funds available.
- Suggestion- need to engage the CDDP's/Brokerages and families more into the process.

DHS is hoping that the RFA will be open ended. Meaning providers will be able to apply when they are ready to apply. And, DHS is considering incorporating an option for a provider to access limited TA services that a provider may need that may not warrant the entire "full meal deal" transformation grant.

Rate Update		15	Acacia/Lilia	Discussion
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Discussion:

Acacia provided a brief update on rate revisions for Job development, job coaching and Discovery services. There are proposed changes to these 3 different services. ODDS has received significant feedback from CMS about what needs to be incorporated in the policies, particularly around the maintenance rates.

Historically, providers received a single rate to provide whatever employment service they provided.

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ODDS has broken out the services – now have initial, ongoing and maintenance rates ODDS is proposing. CMS however says that job coaching is not intended to be forever. ODDS has continued discussions to help CMS understand there may be some circumstances where a maintenance rate may be justified. May need to have very specific justification in policy to allow. CMS has also had a lot of questions about the level of a provider’s “direct contact”. ODDS currently funds supported employment services based on the number of hours a person is working vs. the number of hours the job coach is providing direct service. CMS has said that there still needs to be direct service time. What is the definition of “direct service”?

Trina- has the job coach rate between VR and DD been reconciled? Heard that the DD rates were lower than VR rates. Acacia explained that rates for Tier 1 people in DD assume that individuals will work the most hours but require the least amount of support. The base rate is the same across all the tiers but then other assumptions made for people with higher Tiers. Burns and Associates did analyze the VR rates and compare to DD to try to reconcile the rate differential concerns.

Jessica – concerns that sometimes people get jobs when they are not yet in VR, but are told to go back to VR for the initial job coaching. Acacia explained that we do want people to access VR services when possible because they have the expertise to make sure the person has the supports in place to ensure stabilization. However, we do not want there to be a delay in the job, so DD has been willing to consider exception to fund Job coaching temporarily until person can go through VR eligibility and get VR services on board. There may also be situations in which it does not make sense to make the person go back to VR. In these cases, ODDS can review for exception.

Transportation update		Acacia	
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Discussion:

Have put a question out through NASDDDS about how other states are dealing with transportation challenges, particularly in rural areas.

Also part of the Rural stakeholder group discussions

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Regional EF Specialists are also involved in local conversations about Transportation challenges. For example, in one area, there was a meeting with a public transportation provider and they did not realize there was not a bus route that went by the VR and DD office so at the end of the meeting, public transport entity agreed to add a new bus route.

Had some conversation with EOSSB about - have a policy coming out soon.

Looking at a rate per ride – one provider enrollment agreement, and one rate per ride.

Next meeting agenda items/wrap up		5	All	Discussion
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- VR data – services that are provided. Flow of services through the process.
- Continue conversation and bring updates about the Transformation
- How do we reach employers successfully
- School Data –
- Discuss change of name for the Policy group. Suggestion- drop the “Executive Order” from the title of the EF Statewide Stakeholder Policy Meeting.

Next MEETING is MAY 4th 1-3pm

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Total time: 2:00

Minutes taken by: Corissa Neufeldt Facilitated by: Lilia Teninty/Trina Lee/Acacia McGuire

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Membership:		
	Seth Johnson Opportunity Foundation of Central Oregon – Service Provider	Sarah Jane Owens Association of Oregon Community Mental Health Programs - Counties
	Cynthia Owens Oregon Council on Developmental Disabilities – Advocacy	x Paul Partridge Yamhill County Developmental Disability Program - Counties
	Chris Burnett Oregon Rehabilitation Association (ORA) – Providers	x Bill Uhlman Eastern Oregon Support Services Brokerage – Support Services
P	Heather Hopkins - Slechta Full Access Brokerage High Desert – Support Services Brokerages	Michelle Markle Portland Public Schools - Education
	Senator Sara Gelser Oregon Senate – Legislature	x Trina Lee DHS – Vocational Rehabilitation
P	Morgan Rincon Oregon Commission for the Blind – Vocational Rehabilitation	x Liz Fox Oregon State Rehabilitation Council – Vocational Rehabilitation
x	Ross Ryan Oregon Self Advocacy Coalition – Self Advocates	P Laurie Kash Rainer School District – Education
P	Jaime Daignault Oregon Council on Developmental Disabilities – Advocacy	P Jessica Leitner Edwards Center – Providers
	Marcia Ingledue The ARC Oregon – Advocacy Organization – Self Advocacy	Sydney Shook Families Connected – Families
	Sarah Drinkwater Department of Education – Education	Roberta Dunn

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			Family and Community Together – Family Members
x	Lilia Teninty DHS – Office of Developmental Disabilities (ODDS)		Senator Lee Beyer Oregon Senate – Legislature
P	Jordan Ohlde Oregon Self Advocacy Coalition – Self Advocate	x	Justin Connolly Oregon Self Advocacy Coalition – Self Advocate
	Jordana Barclay Oregon Workforce Partnership – Workforce		
	Invited Guests		
	Robert Costello - VR		Julie Sobel – ORA
x	Angela Yeager – Employment First	x	Ann Balzell - VR
x	Andre Harboe – Employment First		Danielle Vander Linden - ORA
P	Tim Acker – Employment First		Julie Huber - ODDS
x	Corissa Neufeldt – Employment First	x	Mitch Kruska - ODE
	Allison Enriquez - ODDS	x	Brean Arnold – Employment First
x	Ryley Newport - OCDD		Tim Rocack – Garten
x	Acacia McGuire Anderson - ODDS		Howard Fulk – ODDS Employment Specialist
	Heather Lindsey - ODE	P	Gordon Magella – DRO
	Stephanie Roncal - ODDS		Corey Jeppersen - ORA
	Erica Drake – ODDS Employment Specialist		

Future Agenda Items	Owner	Discussion/Decision
Transformation Grants <i>Next steps regarding communication</i>	All	Discussion
Update on maximizing hours	Acacia	Discussion
Update on SW Forum	Acacia	Discussion
Update on ODDS rule	Acacia	Discussion
Capacity	All	Discussion (April)

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Transformation Grants <i>Next steps regarding communication</i>	All	Discussion
<i>Sheltered Workshops</i>		
Budget <i>Specifically the 8 million dollar innovation fund</i>	Lilia/Acacia/ Trina	Discussion
VR Data <i>To show the several different disabilities that are being tracked compared to individuals with I/DD and what those trends are, specifically to areas of the state where there isn't any access to employment services. (Bill Uhlman)</i>	Trina/VR	Discussion
POS Data <i>Specifically around transition students who no longer have access to sheltered workshops and did not choose ongoing ODDS supports</i>	Education	Discussion (July)
Data <i>From sheltered workshops that have closed and what people are doing now</i>	Andre	Discussion (March)
Program/Workstream Updates	Executive/ Workstream leads	Discussion
Employment Department Reporting <i>Pros and Cons list to recommend to the department (Added 8/5/15)</i>		
Self-Employment <i>Enhance the experience to promote (added 8/5/15 and again 2/3/16)</i>	All	Discussion
How do we reach employers successfully?	All/Angela	Discussion

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Future Agenda Items	Owner	Discussion/Decision
Transformation Grants <i>Next steps regarding communication</i>	All	Discussion
Family to Family Networks	All	Discussion
Definition of what an integrated setting is – ongoing	All	Discussion

Outstanding Action Items			
Complete	Items for follow-up action	Due	Assigned
<input type="checkbox"/>			

Completed Action Items – <i>To be removed when no longer relevant and added to tracker.</i>			

Date	Decisions
	<i>To be removed when no longer relevant and added to tracker</i>