

Employment First Task Force

October 14, 2015

- ▽ Introduction of Task Force members to ODEP subject matter expert, Doug Crandell
- ▽ Employment First State Leadership Mentoring Program (EFSLMP) Update:
 - submitted the Core States renewal application for 2016 ODEP on 10/9/2015
 - Grant cycle begins on November 23rd
 - ✓ 300 hours of SME support
 - ✓ 150 for Provider Transformation
 - ✓ 150 for customized employment and discovery training
 - ✓ using the same set of SMEs as before; Nancy Gurney, Gail Fanjoy and Abby Cooper
- ▽ Members of the E1 Taskforce and Commissioners of the Departments they represent met with Governor Haslam to present the second “Expect Employment” report
- ▽ Workgroups – see summary handout
 - Employers and Providers; Lynette Henderson and Bob Nicholas
 - ✓ Schwan has donated equipment and supplies to the Smyrna VR facility to be used for training purposes. They have made a commitment to hire those that have been successfully trained.
 - Policy; Elise McMillan shared updates regarding the MOU and goals and objectives contained within the three-year strategic plan
 - Individuals and Families; Carrie Hobbs-Guiden
 - ✓ Meetings have been held in Memphis, Nashville and Chattanooga
 - ✓ Updates on Amendment 27/Employment and Community First (ECF) Choices Waiver
 - ✓ Occupational Diploma
 - not all school systems know about the availability of this enhanced diploma
 - ✓ Employment Summit was a success. For 2016, Tennessee Works and DIDD will partner to host the conference. The goal is to make the Summit the conference that is most desired to attend.
 - ✓ Monday Morning Message are shared with families
 - ✓ Special Needs Trust training was held in Chattanooga
 - Data; Elise McMillan; TLDS is progressing and some meetings have been scheduled
- ▽ Review of Goals from the 3-year Strategic Plan
 - Goals and objectives were reviewed by the group. Send your updates on work or completed objectives to Elise McMillan who will update the grid
- ▽ DOE Transition Workgroup
 - “work based learning” for every student
 - First meeting convenes on November 2
- ▽ Doug Crandell – Vision Quest ODEP
 - How do we provide employment services to people with mental health issues?
 - NAMI model
 - Trouble engaging employers

- different models for different diagnoses
- dual diagnosis – Individual Placement Services (IPS)
- See power point and article presented

People with mental health issues or those who are dually diagnosed are:

- ✓ less likely to be employed
- ✓ 30-50% of people with I/DD also have a mental health diagnosis
- ✓ need a blend of IPS and customized employment
- ✓ Fewer people with a dual diagnosis are even referred to VR for services.
“Complicated to support so probably would not benefit from work!”
- ✓ Employment should be a part of the treatment plan instead of “after care”
➔ IPS – for every person who becomes employed there is a return of \$3,000 in tax dollars to the system.
- ✓ Don’t forget to consider self-employment as a viable option

- ▽ Announcement that DOE is holding a PIE conference and will have up to ten (10) tables to rent (\$50 for table and 2 lunches) to self-advocates promoting their business. Contact Alison Gauld at Alison.Gauld@tn.gov or (615)770-6814

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 6, 2016, 9-11:30 AM at the Disability Rights Tennessee office

- Amy will send a Doodle poll for the month of April.