



EMPLOYMENT FIRST



Every Person. Every Talent. Every Opportunity.

April 2016

Dear Employment First Partners,

Keep up to date on Employment First news in Ohio. Don't forget to [contact us](#) if you need a speaker or visit the [Community Employment Resource Map](#) for local Employment First news.

If you have a story you would like for us to share, would like to give us feedback, or you need Employment First support, please contact us at EmploymentFirst@dodd.ohio.gov.

Success Story: Brandi, VR Counselor

Brandi Dalton is a job developer for The Vocation Station, the community employment program through the Scioto County Board of Developmental Disabilities. In the last 14 months she has had 29 placements.

She has established partnerships with 25 new employers in Scioto County in the same period. She has made contact with over 250 businesses in the area, many of which are receptive to future collaboration in hiring individuals with disabilities

Brandi has helped individuals achieve their dreams in ways that many folks have thought impossible. One success story involves an individual that was served by the board for many years and had a lifelong dream of working at Shawnee State University (SSU). He is



See Ohio's current plan to support the ongoing implementation of Employment First.

Access the [online archive](#) for previous issues of the *Employment First Update*.

Quick Links

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[DODD Website](#)

Upcoming Trainings & Events



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now, with Brandi's assistance, working as an assistant to the men's basketball team at SSU.

Brandi works hard to learn about individuals and find strong job matches that utilizes their strengths and interests. She understands that good job matches are key for individuals to have successful employment experiences. Thank you, Brandi, for all of your work!

May Partnership Training Date Change



The date has changed for the May in-person [Employment First Partnership trainings](#) being held in Columbus, Ohio to May 19-20, 2016. Employment First Partnership providers are required to send all team members who have successfully passed the Supported Employment online course to a two-day in person training within 12 months of passing.

Trainings do not have to be completed in a two day sequence, but team members must attend at least one training for Marketing and Employer Engagement and Job Support and Training. [Register and Learn More](#)

Quarterly Report Now Available

The Employment First Team

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Second Quarter, FY 2016

This is a quarterly update which provides a snap shot of the Ohio Employment First initiative.

GOAL: Empower individuals and families to explore community employment as a first option through person-centered outreach, education and community-based experiences.

Number of people served

Integrated employment services:
8,487

Facility-based employment services:
17,196

Total in Adult Day Services:
35,180

Percentage of individuals receiving integrated employment services since June, 2012



Percentage of individuals receiving facility based employment services since June, 2012



The second Employment First quarterly report highlights progress on the goals in the strategic plan. The report, which includes metrics around capacity building and outcomes, is now available on the [Employment First website](#).

TalentWorks: Tool For Employers and HR Professionals

TalentWorks
Helping Employers Make Their
eRecruiting Tools Accessible

The U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy ([ODEP](#)) has launched "[TalentWorks](#)," a free tool that helps employers and human resources professionals ensure that online job applications and other recruitment tools are accessible for job-seekers with disabilities.

Did You Know?



DODD Clarified Its Interpretation For The HCBS Settings Rule.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services ([CMS](#)) have identified five primary characteristics required for settings where home and community-based services (HCBS) are provided. The rule applies to residential and non-residential settings, including workshops and day programs, funded through HCBS waivers.

DODD has provided clarification regarding these rules. To read more, visit the [Pipeline Weekly article](#).

Things To Try:



[TheSimpleDollar.com](#) published a [guide](#) and tool to help people understand social security disability benefits. This guide will not only answer common questions, such as how to qualify, but also features a [calculator](#) that can help estimate monthly and annual benefits. TheSimpleDollar.com was created to help

people make better and informed decisions about working and benefits.

Sincerely,



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