

# EMPLOYMENT FIRST



Every Person. Every Talent. Every Opportunity

Employment First Update

May 2016

## *Skills to Succeed*

Bryon Hayes from Lucas County had group employment, but wanted to find an individualized job in the community. He was referred to OOD through the Employment First Partnership. Bryon was hired directly after completing a community based assessment at Anderson's because of his excellent demonstration of skills.

Bryon has a varying work schedule that includes evening shifts and has a team of people, including his providers, family, and coworkers that help him get to and from work. Bryon works around 30 hours a week between his job at Anderson's and his group employment! Bryon has made many friends at Anderson's and was a part of the team from day one. Congratulations Bryon!





## ***Apply: Online Benefits Planning Training***

Employment First is sponsoring a web-based benefits planning training facilitated by Cornell University.

This intensive credentialing program requires participation in webinars on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, June 3 - July 25, 2016.

**Deadline to apply is June 1.**

[Apply](#)



## *June Partnership Training*

In-person sessions for “Marketing and Employer Engagement” and “Job Support and Training” will be offered on June 29-30 in Columbus.

[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 a least one training for each topic.

[Register](#)



## *Give Your Feedback*

Amendments have been proposed to the Home and Community Based (HCBS) Waiver applications.

You can submit public comments prior to submission of the amendments to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services ([CMS](#)).

[More](#)



## *Work Force Innovation And Opportunity Act (WIOA)*

Section 511 of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act ([WIOA](#)) applies to youth 24 years old or younger and is intended to ensure youth with disabilities have every opportunity to pursue competitive, integrated employment.

There is an outline of steps to be completed before a person under age 24 is able to receive subminimum wage. This provision becomes effective on July 22, and final guidance is projected to be released later this year.

[More](#)



## *Director Martin Talks Employment*

Director Martin recently stopped by [Sunny 95](#) to discuss DODD's Employment Partnership with Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities ([OOD](#)). He discussed the program, and gave progress updates.

[Listen](#)



## *Did You Know?*

**The Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) program has been reauthorized through December 31, 2019.**

The program includes a federal tax incentive for businesses hiring individuals who face significant barriers to employment. Employers must apply for certification through the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services ([ODJFS](#)) to be eligible.

[More](#)



## *Staff Update*

Welcome Courtney Mullin as a project manager with the Employment First Team. She will manage Employment Navigation, the upcoming community of practice, benefits related training and information (including Disability Benefits 101), data collection and analysis, and communication efforts.

Courtney previously held the position of Policy Intern with the Employment First team for two years.

To contact her, please email: [courtney.mullin@dodd.ohio.gov](mailto:courtney.mullin@dodd.ohio.gov).

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**Questions?** Email [employmentfirst@dodd.ohio.gov](mailto:employmentfirst@dodd.ohio.gov) or call 614-466-6612.

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