

EMPLOYMENT FIRST



Every Person. Every Talent. Every Opportunity.

October 2014

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.

New Website Provides Employment Assistance to Ohioans with Disabilities



OhioMeansAccessibility

In conjunction with observing October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM), the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS), working with [Ohio Means Jobs](#), has unveiled [Ohio Means Accessibility](#) to help job seekers with disabilities post resumes, search for jobs and more.

Funding System Re-design Work Begins



A stakeholder work group, made up of county board representatives, providers, self-advocates and organizations, met on October 6 and October 20. The group reviewed [feedback on the guiding principles](#) from the nearly 700 family members, county board staff, and providers



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

[Employment First Website](#)

[DODD Website](#)

Upcoming Trainings & Events



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who attended community forums in Medina, Findlay, Urbana, Pickerington, Batavia, and Circleville. The group has begun to review service definitions for all adult day array services.

Brady Takes "Control"



Above: Brady at Electro Controls

Before Brady started his job at Electro Controls in the wire harnessing department, he worked at S & H Products in Sidney. After completing a community-based assessment at the business, Brady was offered a job working three days a week. He wanted to work more hours, so he asked his employer for additional training. Due to his perseverance and positive attitude, Brady received additional training and is now working 5 days a week. Congratulations, Brady!

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More National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) Celebrations



We asked you to share your NDEAM celebrations. Here are a few more that took place across the state!

Capabilities, Inc.'s CEO, Karen Blumhorst spoke on the benefits of hiring employees with disabilities on October 6, 2014 on Channel 35 WHIO.

[Read Story](#)

Clinton County Board of Developmental Disabilities posted an article on the local [Chamber of Commerce](#) website and the Mayor of Wilmington declared a proclamation for NDEAM.

Goodwill Industries of Southern Ohio, Inc.

held an NDEAM dinner where nearly 90 people attended, many of whom were employers, individuals served, and other community members. Three employers received special recognition; Wheelersburg Lowes Home Improvement, Schmidt Family Restaurants, and American Family and Trinity Business Group.

Medina County Board of Developmental Disabilities (MCBDD) and more than twenty-two state and local officials gathered at the MCBDD Achievement Center on October 3, 2014 and signed a Local Interagency Agreement for the transitioning of Medina County students with disabilities into the workforce. [Read More](#)

New Hope Industries, Inc. held an employer breakfast on October 16, 2014 to celebrate employers in Knox County who employ persons with disabilities. The event had 100 people in attendance.

Sincerely,

**EMPLOYMENT
FIRST** 

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