

EMPLOYMENT FIRST



Every Person. Every Talent. Every Opportunity.

March 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.

Career Advancement



Kyle at work.

In December of 2015, Kyle Eichelberger was promoted to Department Manager of Feed & Livestock at the Rural King in Greenville, Ohio. Kyle began his path to employment by participating in Bridges to Transition.

The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities

Ohio's Path to Employment First

A summary of Ohio's Employment First Initiative and Future Plans

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



[Click Here!](#)

Through this program, Kyle started working part-time at Rural King in January 2015.

In a few months Kyle was offered a full-time position because of his reliability, positive attitude, and great customer service. Rhonda Douglas, Assistant Store Manager who selected Kyle for the Department Manager position, describes Kyle as a "very hard worker, dependable, polite and a great person." Rhonda and Kris Hurd, Human Resources Manager, both shared that Kyle has shown "integrity" and "initiative" throughout his employment at Rural King. Department Managers at Rural King are responsible for inventory maintenance, merchandising, pricing, stocking, and customer service. Rhonda shared that Kyle is learning many of his new responsibilities quickly.

Congratulations Kyle, and thanks to Darke County DD for sharing this story with us!

The Future of Adult Services in Ohio



Promoting person-centered planning, community access, and providing community employment options are the top priorities for the future of adult services in Ohio. Several target areas for improvement have been identified, and these goals, as well as strategies for achieving them, are detailed in the Future of Adult

The Employment First Team

Stacy Collins



Project Lead

1.614.466.6612

Stacy.Collins@dodd.ohio.gov

Tom Hess



Project Manager

1.614.466.7480

Thomas.Hess@dodd.ohio.gov

Courtney Mullin



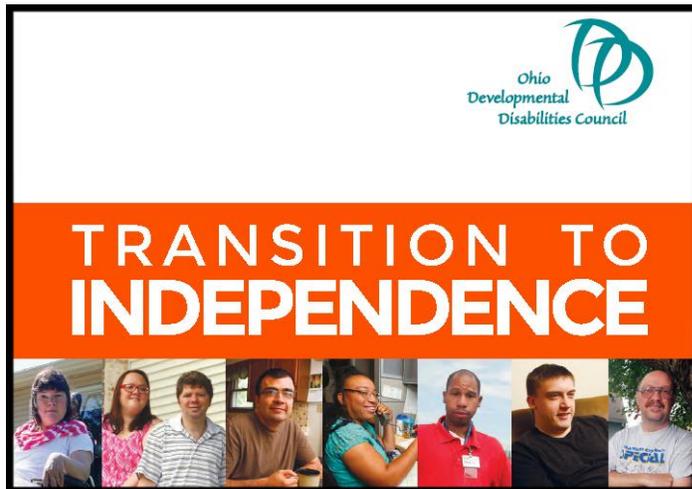
Policy Intern

1.614.466.1689

Courtney.Mullin@dodd.ohio.gov

Services in Ohio presentation. [View the presentation now.](#)

Transitions to Independence (DD Council)



The Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council has published the first in a series of brochures highlighting several Ohioans with disabilities and their journeys to become active and productive members of their communities. Read [Transition to Independence.](#)

Hard-copies of the brochure are also available upon request. To order hard copies, contact Carla Cox at carla.cox@dodd.ohio.gov.

Project Updates

EMPLOYMENT FIRST



Project Update
February, 2016

Employment First has a variety of ongoing and upcoming projects aimed at the goals to empower stakeholders, align policies, increase provider capacity, engagement business, and measure outcomes.

[See our progress.](#)

Interactive Employer Toolkit



Ohio employers need a clear, consistent and practical resource that outlines how best to tap into the skilled and motivated workforce individuals with disabilities represent.

The "[Hiring Ohioans with Disabilities: a Toolkit for Employers, Managers and Human Resource Professionals](#)" makes it easier for Ohio employers to recruit, hire and retain qualified workers with disabilities. The "toolkit" was produced by OOD and the

Ohio Department of Job and Family Services
(ODJFS).

Things To Try:



The LEAD Center is a collaborative of disability, workforce and economic empowerment organizations advancing sustainable individual and systems level change to improve competitive, integrated employment and economic self-sufficiency for all people across the spectrum of disability.

Learn more by visiting the [LEAD Center website](#).

Sincerely,



**Stay
Connected!**

Get timely DODD news and other relevant information from
your desktop, laptop, tablet, or phone:

