

7-6-15

**To: Employment First stakeholders**

**From: Mike Maley, Statewide Employment First Coordinator**

**Re: Employment First: News on preliminary data**

(Please forward to your local partners & stakeholders)

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**Note:** A new Frequently Asked Questions document for providers/CCDPs/brokerages around the July 1, 2015 policy on no new entries is available: <http://www.oregon.gov/dhs/employment/employment-first/Documents/FAQ-ShelteredWorkshops-Providers.pdf>

I have some news to share this week in regards to statewide efforts around increasing job opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD).

In advance of the Employment First data report, which will be published the end of July 2015, we thought we would share some preliminary data around results from the office of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR). Monitoring VR's results is important to our efforts, as VR is the gateway to employment for many people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

ODDS Clients in VR						
State Fiscal Year	# of Applicants	% Increase	# Entered IPE	% Increase	# Exited VR with Job	% Increase
SFY 2013	923		549		274	
SFY 2015	1,307	42%	1,023	86%	428	56%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,230</b>		<b>1,572</b>		<b>702</b>	

Here are some initial findings from the forthcoming July data report looking only at those who also receive services from the Office of Developmental Disability Services (ODDS).

- More people are applying for VR services. In state fiscal year 2015, there was a 42 percent increase in ODDS clients applying to VR compared to state fiscal year 2013 before the Governor's Executive Order 13-04 was implemented.

- In addition, there was a 86 percent increase in state fiscal year 2015 from state fiscal year 2013 in the number of ODDS clients who entered into an Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE).
- This has translated into a 56 percent increase in ODDS clients exiting VR with an integrated community job in state fiscal year 2015 compared to state fiscal year 2013.

This means more people are seeking out VR services to get a community job, more people with I/DD are getting into a plan, and more people are getting integrated jobs.

We have more work to do as we continue to increase capacity for job development, job coaching and overall integrated job services. But I want to thank everyone who has worked so tirelessly to improve and promote employment opportunities for people with I/DD.

Thank you all for your continued involvement, support, and advocacy for services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Oregon. If you have comments or other questions, please email them to [employment.first@state.or.us](mailto:employment.first@state.or.us).

~ Mike