

Executive Order Statewide Stakeholder Policy Meeting

Wednesday, October 6, 2021

1-2:30 p.m.

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Agenda	Documents	Time	Owner
Introductions		5	Acacia
Review Agenda		5	Acacia
Review last month's meeting minutes	Copy of last month's notes	5	Acacia
ODDS Policies		10	Acacia
NDEAM Webinars		5	Angela
VR Updates		10	Howard/VR
ODE/Transition Update		10	TNFs/ODE
LifeCourse Next Steps			Ryley
Next meeting agenda items/wrap up		5	All

Minutes taken by: Debra Stevens

Facilitated by: Acacia McGuire Anderson

Introductions

Review Agenda

Review Last Month's Meeting Minutes

- Displayed last month's minutes.
- No questions, comments or corrections.

ODDS Policies - Acacia

- COVID-19 is the largest issue.
- A couple of providers have expressed concern about losing contracts due to smaller group sizes.
- We are seeing one-to-two outbreaks among providers each week, but this seems to be stabilizing.
- If there is situation where a provider risks losing business or where a person risks losing a job, please reach out to your Regional Employment Specialist.
- One provider had only four individuals with two staff and couldn't meet requirements.
- We talked to them to creatively meet their needs.
- ODDS issued emergency policy transmittals.
- A webinar was held today with providers – Temporary Staffing Capacity Policies.

- A draft policy concerning 1:1 Ep rate was discussed at the September Employment First Policy and Innovation Stakeholder meeting.
- ODDS is considering making permanent the temporary 1:1 EP rate put in place before July of this year.
- ODDS is drafting permanent policies around this now.
- Hoping this helps individuals engage in-depth employment exploration.
- We will bring a draft back to this group and also post it online for comment.

- ODDS is also considering making permanent some successful longer-term services delivered remotely.
- Proposing policy now.
- Virtual service delivery is still permissible until the end of the Public Health Emergency.
- However, before that happens, we want to transition to a more permanent policy.

NDEAM Webinars – Angela Yeager

- A series of four webinars in October began yesterday, 10/5, and will continue every Tuesday throughout the month (10/12, 10/19 and 10/26).
- 100 people attended yesterday's webinar that featured presentations from three self-advocates.
- One person spoke about his experience during COVID-19.
- This person had a job, but then had to leave it; however, he then went on to finding an even better job.
- 10/12, Youth Employment Journey addresses transition services.

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- 10/19, Maximizing Hours: How to Navigate Services talks about how individuals can meet the 20-hours/week employment goal.
 - 10/26: Workforce Recovery: Powered by Inclusion looks at employment from the employer perspective.

VR Updates – Heather Lindsey

- Heather reported that VR has released a Vehicle Modification Checklist Tool for staff to use.
- Training will be offered within the next 30 days.
- More policy updates are expected to be published in November.

- An RFP was issued to provide training and TA for VR staff and managers.
- Working through ORA and independent providers, VR conducted polls to determine the types of trainings desired by providers.
- The result was a request for specific employment provider trainings.
- Consequently, VR shifted its RFPs to deliver trainings to employment providers.

- VR's contract with Cornell University ends in December; however, VR is partnering with Cornell on a plan to provide pre-recorded trainings for on-demand learning.
- Cornell and VR are also partnering on a virtual in-service for employment providers.

- Six months ago, VR applied for a grant aimed at helping VR agencies engage more with community colleges.
- Oregon VR received one of eight grants awarded.
- This is a five-year grant; VR will be hiring limited-duration overseers for the grant.
- A focus of the grant will be skill engagement and re-engaging with community colleges.
- Every college VR approached has expressed interest.
- This effort will involve 10 months of planning before first cohort rolls out.

- Acacia reported ODDS has been working with Clackamas Community College on a provider curriculum and have completed a pilot course as well as a Train-the-Trainer course.

- Now looking at securing college credit for these courses.

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- ODDS hopes to launch pilot programs with a couple of other community colleges in time for winter term.

ODE/Transition Update

- Today ODE representatives are attending the 2021 ODE/COSA Special Education Fall Conference. Therefore, Acacia will report on a few education-related items.
- Acacia reported the TTAN meeting yesterday went very well.
- Seamless transition reboot being worked on for school districts.
- Rolling out new PACT trainings virtually with the goal of maintaining connections.
- ODDS is also working with ODE on incorporating Supported Decision-Making into district policies.
- A Supported Decision-Making statute was passed by the Legislature last session for students and adults.
- Allison has been working on ways to use ARPA grant money to develop Supported Decision-Making training.
- ODDS is working to provide new, creative supports for people.

LifeCourse Next Steps – Ryley Newport

- Ryley shared a LifeCourse graphic developed by OSAC and self-advocates during the last meeting and led a discussion of what might come next between now and November.
- Ryley reviewed the graphic, “Employment Post-COVID.”
- One piece that stood out was discussion around the “new normal.”
- The graphic revealed that most people want to avoid COVID-19 numbers going up, rather than wanting to have to adjust to a new normal.
- Good framework for discussion.
- Hard to plan when heads are lowered due to all that is currently going on.
- Staff shortages and other issues are affecting all of us.
- Can use elements of the Transition manual to work through this discussion.
- Paul expressed appreciation to Ryley for illustrating how to use LifeCourse as a planning tool.
- Melanie agreed with Paul, as she really enjoyed hearing from people who are living this experience and what they wanted to see continue and what they wanted to avoid.

- Ryley added he liked working with Nick on this.
- Have contracted with Nick to train people on how to help people using LifeCourse tools.
- Amber noted that providers are buried now, in chaos and crisis.
- Margaret added she is “a little numb from the constant overwhelm at work.”
- Ryley acknowledged it’s hard to stay connected with all the stress.
- Ryley suggested maybe putting further discussion off until after the beginning of the year?
- Doesn’t want guests to feel they are not valued.
- Acacia liked the idea of reviewing the new Transition guide and practicing using the new LifeCourse tools.
- Topic can be picked up again later.
- Ryley suggested the group doesn’t need to review the guide page-by-page; rather, just use a little bit.

EOS – André Harboe

- The EOS website has not changed in the last four-to-five years.
- Changes to the website will be implemented effective November 1st.
- André displayed the EOS home page.
- One of the changes will be that each time a person logs on, a different employment story written by Angela will display on the home page.
- André is also trying to incorporate the EOS logo created with this group as much as possible throughout the EOS application.
- André pointed out how the Provider tab has been reconfigured to allow users to more easily search for and compare providers.
- What needs to be added to home page?
- What would help people research providers better?
- Compare providers not as intuitive as needed. André is still working with the webpage developers to improve search and comparison functions.

Next meeting agenda items/wrap up

Success stories
 ODOT presentation?
 Transition guide review and practice of LifeCourse tools
 Transportation
 Policy updates
 Updates to capacity grants

Membership:			
	Seth Johnson Opportunity Foundation of Central Oregon – Providers	X	Paul Partridge Deschutes CDDP – Counties
	Corey Jeppesen Oregon Resource Association (ORA) – Providers		Laura Noppenberger Eastern Oregon Support Services Brokerage
	Heather Hopkins-Slechta Full Access Brokerage High Desert – Brokerage		Roberta Dunn FACT – Family Members
	N/A Oregon Commission for the Blind		Keith Ozols DHS – Vocational Rehabilitation
	Ross Ryan Oregon Self Advocacy Coalition – Self Advocate	X	Liz Fox Alternative Work Concepts – Providers
X	Ryley Newport Oregon Council on Developmental Disabilities – Advocacy	X	Margaret Theisen Pearl Buck -- Providers
	Mike Franklin Oregon Department of Education		Allen Cress Edwards Center – Providers
X	Heather Lindsey Vocational Rehabilitation	X	Justin Connolly Oregon Self Advocacy Coalition – Self Advocate
	Kriss Rita Education, Transition Network	X	Acacia McGuire Anderson DHS – Employment First
	Lilia Teninty DHS – Office of Developmental Disabilities		Michael Salitore Molalla School District – Education
X	Kathy Schlotfeldt MV Advancements – Providers		Howard Fulk Vocational Rehabilitation
			Senator Sara Gelser Oregon Senate – Legislature

	Invited Guests:		
X	Rebecca Sexton – ODDS		Ellen Mendoza – DOJ
	Angela Yeager – ODDS	X	Theresa Knowles, ODDS
X	André Harboe – ODDS		Robin Brandt, VR
	Tim Acker – ODDS		Erica Drake, ODDS
	Allison Enriquez – ODDS	X	Julie Huber – ODDS
X	Nathan Deeks, ODDS	X	Karen McKenney, FACT
X	Brad Collins, ODDS	X	Amber Robles, Living Opportunities
X	Gene Rada, ODDS	X	Nicole Jorwic, IR
	Maria Gwilliam, MV Advancements		Tim Rocak, Garten
X	Melanie Hartwig, ODDS		Sheri Boyd, VR
	Julia Ansberry, Trellis		Tami Socolofsky, Trellis
X	Stephanie Roncal, ODDS	X	Donna Lowry