

Executive Order Statewide Stakeholder Policy Meeting

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

1:00-2:30pm

Join ZoomGov Meeting

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Meeting ID: 161 015 9099

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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 general updates – Discovery; COVID; Trainings		15	Acacia
VR Updates/New Policies		10	Howard
Education - MEGI		10	Mike
Data Report		20	Andre
Capacity Building		40	Acacia
Next meeting agenda items/wrap up		5	All

Minutes taken by: Debra Stevens

Facilitated by: Acacia McGuire Anderson

Reviewed last month's minutes.

ODDS General Updates – Discovery; COVID; Trainings – Acacia

Discovery

- ODDS will be releasing the updated Discovery policy, as well as four free on-demand trainings, in March.
- We will require providers to utilize the new profile framework beginning in September, allowing them time to become familiar with it between March and September.

Q – Amber reported some people may not be ready to return to work in March due to COVID-19 issues.

A – Acacia noted that is why ODDS is requiring providers to use the new Discovery profile later in the year. We want to wait through summer and see where we're at. If not possible, we will need to figure out ways to accommodate people.

COVID-19 Updates

- What can we do?
- Right now we are waiting for the CDC to issue formal guidance regarding vaccinated persons, and then wait for direction from the Governor.
- We will be following CDC and the Governor's guidance after people get vaccinated.
- We are seeing some counties changing risk categories.
- There is an issue with some people declining to get or disclose vaccinations.
- We are asking providers not to predicate services on vaccinations.

Trainings

- In March we are releasing all of our trainings, including job coaching, job development, Discovery and modules for families and SCs/PAs.
- An updated catalog coming out as well as continuing credit information.
- This information will be released in a transmittal.

Q – Are you updating the current SC/PA modules in iLearn?

A – No, these are new modules that will qualify for continuing education credits.

Q – Will they include any DSA training?

A – No, not at the present time. However, one is being built in Captivate. It is an ODDS training, not employment. Acacia volunteered to check on the status of this training.

VR Updates/New Policies

- Howard reported no new updates; however, he will be attending a meeting today.
- Penni reported Michelle Markle has joined VR as the Youth Transition Program Coordinator.

Education – Motivational Enhancement Group Intervention (MEGI) Joy Ward

- Joy reported on the Pre-ETS employment team's work and shared her screen; Darci Shivers could not attend today.
- The team has participated in two guided group Discovery interventions.
- A Guided Group Discovery through the LEAD center offered hands-on support for small groups of job seekers.

- The purpose of the activity is to provide the participant information about what's needed for CIE, like accommodations.
- The result is a "Blueprint" for the person that includes information about their interests and contributions as well as information on topics such as negotiation.
- In the Discovery session, participants examine when and how much to disclose and directs participants to consult with their VRC to talk about disclosure at end of Discovery process.
- The activity also assists participants in identifying business connections in their lives and understanding networking.
- A successful Discovery profile recognizes the need for community collaboration
- Job Coaches and Job Developers from employment and career centers to share what's available for employers and students.
- See the LEAD Center website for information on the Guided Group Discovery: <http://leadcenter.org/resources/tool-manual/guided-group-discovery-youth-version-facilitator-guide-and-supplemental-slide-deck>
- The group shared the following resources:
- Josh Barbour, Link to Lane County Community Information Night Template, https://www.cognitopia.com/apps/MyLife/viewPortfolioShare/Q-NSFRxQglSfR7JXbqq-Uc0j9_KC1TTU4kho6aPQo7Q/portfolio
- Nicole Perdue, Link to Pre-ETS resource website, <https://sites.google.com/lblesd.k12.or.us/pre-etseducatorresources/workplace-readiness-resources>
- The MEGI tools are based on motivational interviewing and consist of 12 one-hour sessions.
- Each session has a focus such as career exploration or job development.
- All TNFs and Pre-ETS coordinators are trained in MEGI.
- Four training sessions are offered at the beginning of the school year.
- Heather Lynch has more information and is available for questions.
- Or, you can reach out to your TNF or Pre-ETS coordinator.

February 28, 2021, Semi-Annual Lane Report- André

- André provided a sneak peak at data contained in the most recent report, comparing it with the previous six-month report.
- Table One, Page 5, includes calculations for supported employment services.

- Data is displayed for transitioning individuals, aged 14-24 years old and sheltered class members.
 - There were a total of 857 individuals, a drop from 1565 last year, a reflection of when COVID-19 hit.
 - Individuals receiving Discovery dropped 80+ profiles.
 - There were also employment drops, one of lowest drops.
 - Good numbers for individuals entering into VR and their IPEs.
 - Acacia noted we had to stop all Discovery services due to COVID-19 restrictions.
 - Individuals do not typically get this service multiple times a year.
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- Table 3, Page 8, contains general data as of September 2020.
 - This was the first time the number of sheltered workshop persons dropped to zero!
 - Although there was a drop in transition-age persons, employed individuals on average worked more hours.
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- Table 4, Page 9, displays the number of persons working 20 hours or more per week.
 - Our 20-hour policy includes job coaching.
 - Of the total DD population, 28% worked 20 or more hours per week, a jump from six months ago.
 - March 2020 ratios were lower at 15% of the total DD population.
 - 15% to 28% are very good numbers.

Q – Does the report represent a snapshot of September 2020 or is it an aggregate of historical information?

A – The data comes from EOS and represents a snapshot, not historical data.

Q – Are you tracking other 80%?

A – Acacia noted that the data reflects more than just COVID-19 nuances. With EOS data, we can track over time. However, we really should look at the Metric 11 data in the September report regarding supports. That reports reflects the total number of persons who have jobs. The point is that many individuals were in sheltered workshops in the past and we are seeking information about their current employment status, but we need to be careful how we talk about people.

- Margaret noted concerns about people who aren't working or who we have lost track of.
- The report is not reflective of persons in other services.

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- Acacia said the challenges with this report is that it looks at people working, not persons who are retired, in EP, in DSA, etc.
 - Without a centralized case management system, we can't tell why people aren't working; therefore, we are missing the tracking piece.

Q – Do the IEP metrics include other services?

A – EOS displays the total of new employment services. Metric 11 reports on more than 1000 sheltered class members, people who have been stabilized in CIE at least 90 days or more.

- Acacia noted that this data doesn't answer the question of exactly what individuals are doing.
- In there something else we can look into?
- Is there other information helpful for Margaret or the group?
- Margaret asked if there are people needing supports, but not getting them.
- Acacia asked how do we connect with people who lost or drop services due to COVID-19 and might want to reengage?
- Margaret noted her agency focuses on keeping connected with people.

- Kathy reported that at MV Advancements, some people decided to leave services.
- Her agency is looking at opening small group services again to people who have been vaccinated.
- Everyone is trying to figure out how to reengage.

- Tim said that from the beginning of these meetings, he asked how to track people making changes.
- Tim reported that at Garten, SCs and other organizations jumped in to try to serve Garten's sheltered class members, often referring people to other programs without telling Garten.
- The easiest people to track are those who had jobs because there were continuous services with them.
- Services only, but not as much keeping in touch; this has been more difficult even without COVID-19.
- Acacia acknowledged this was a problem before that has gotten worse since COVID-19.

Q – Have we surveyed the original individuals?

A – We have and haven't. Through regular QAs, we have reviewed CDPs for class designation. The previous IR Cathy reviewed for sheltered workshop class members. The current IR Nicole is talking about doing another review, but we don't think it will be an across-the-board review. Staff will not be included; they could ask CMEs, but this would not be popular. The bigger question remains what to do about those not connected.

- Laura noted job safety is a concern.
- Acacia added that more information might be available from interviews conducted by the IR, the VR sub-minimum wage report and information from the two temporary VR employees who were involved with connecting individuals wanting more services.
- Acacia suggested bringing this topic back to the group in April for further discussion.
- Independent Reviewer Nicole is planning to conduct client reviews this year.

Q – Also, regarding Table 4, is it possible that the people who were working more hours were more likely to keep their job through COVID? If so, that might at least partially explain the jump in the percentage of people working more than 20 hours.

A – Yes, these are the ones who stayed in their jobs and got more hours. Many people who were working in essential retail businesses ended up working more hours on average.

Q – Are there disincentives in the residential system that are hindering people returning to employment? Do they lead residential providers to influence people not to return to work?

A – No. There is a fear among people in congregate care about returning to work. We have tried to encourage supported decision-making. Family members are also concerned about their sons/daughters returning to work.

- André reported that from July 2020 to this year, we exceeded our goal of 6200 individuals in new employment services (the target population from Executive Order 15-01) by July 1, 2021; by February 2020 we already had 6480 individuals.

Capacity Building - Acacia

- How do we now go forward?
- We are operating around 60% from pre-COVID-19 times.

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- Last time we talked about how we would know we have a problem and what that problem is.
 - Reviewed last meeting notes and updates from comments.

 - Other reports we want to look at, like IEP report? WIOA?
 - Use capacity feature in EOS.
 - ODDS is hosting a webinar series where accomplishments can be shared.
 - Streamlining background checks.
 - Revamp EF teams to utilize for recruiting more service providers.
 - Expand virtual services to rural areas.
 - Start-up groups, if we have option or dollars. Many requests for funding.
 - To offset the costs of insurance, providers could join together.
 - Anything missing or need to add?

LifeCourse Star Discussion

- Acacia shared the group's previous LifeCourse Star and new feedback received.
- Big question: Where do we go from here? How do we work together as a state to move it forward?
- This group is high level.
- Acacia is happy to lead and put in format.
- Need input from others.
- What would be helpful to you to bring back?
- Tim suggested some prioritization. Overwhelming to think about all.
- Acacia suggested prioritizing as a group.
- Helpful if we put together and then look at it as a group and move items around, as needed.
- Identify what we can easily take on and then decide what we can partner on?

- Laura reported Mid-Columbia is looking at working closely with VR, schools and CDDPs. They don't have agencies to refer people to, so they are pulling data together about what can be done to provide reasonable support.

- Corey noted it is hard to visualize steps to address need until we have agreed on priorities.

- Acacia suggested rearranging priorities together as a group.

- There do exist common priorities among many providers like the need for start-up grants.
- Acacia suggested coming back as a group in April to discuss IEPs.
- Is there an interest in identifying IEP or other report metrics that we would like to compare over the years on the data report, for instance, impact from COVID-19?
- Or, can we already do this? Such as, over time, how many in CIE, in a new service, etc.
- André noted much of what we are looking at is in the IEP; usually what is in the data report is also reflected in the IEP.

Next meeting agenda items/wrap up

- General COVID-19 issues, Discovery, training updates.
- Angela offered to provide an update on impact Oregon.
- Summer Grant Program – Howard said he will invite CJ and Sally to present.

Membership:			
	Seth Johnson Opportunity Foundation of Central Oregon – Providers	X	Paul Partridge Deschutes CDDP – Counties
X	Corey Jeppesen Oregon Resource Association (ORA) – Providers	X	Laura Noppenberger Eastern Oregon Support Services Brokerage
	Heather Hopkins-Slechta Full Access Brokerage High Desert – Brokerage		Roberta Dunn FACT – Family Members
	Cam Jordan 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
X	Mike Franklin Oregon Department of Education	X	Allen Cress Edwards Center – Providers
	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	X	Howard Fulk Vocational Rehabilitation
X	Joy Ward Douglas ESD K-12		Senator Sara Gelser Oregon Senate – Legislature
	Invited Guests:		
X	Rebecca Sexton – ODDS	X	Ellen Mendoza – DOJ
X	Angela Yeager – ODDS		Theresa Knowles, ODDS
X	André Harboe – ODDS		Robin Brandt, VR
X	Tim Acker – ODDS		Erica Drake, ODDS
X	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	X	Tim Rocak, Garten
X	Melanie Hartwig, ODDS		Sheri Boyd, VR
	Julia Ansberry, Trellis		Tami Socolofsky, Trellis
X	Stephanie Roncal, ODDS	X	Pennie Hartley, VR
X	Sally Simich, ODE	X	Micah Sischo, ODDS
X	James Lindekugel, Shangri-La		