

Executive Order Statewide Stakeholder Policy Meeting

Wednesday, April 7, 2021

1:00-3:00pm

Join ZoomGov Meeting

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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
IEP Review		15	André
Summer Work Update		15	CJ/Sally
Capacity Prioritization		40	Lilia, Keith, Acacia
VR Updates		10	Keith
ODDS Updates		10	Acacia/Lilia
Next meeting agenda items/wrap up		5	All

Minutes taken by: Debra Stevens

Facilitated by: Acacia McGuire Anderson

Reviewed last month's minutes.

Training

- Acacia added more training modules including for JCs, JDs and families have been released.
- These trainings count for CEUs.
- Courses in iLearn will be migrating to Workday.
- <https://www.oregon.gov/dhs/SENIORS-DISABILITIES/DD/PROVIDERS-PARTNERS/Pages/iLearn-to-Workday.aspx>
- CJ noted that trainings in iLearn need to be wrapped up by June 15th.

Funding

- Lilia reported additional funding is coming into the State as a result of the American Rescue Plan Act 2021; ODDS is reviewing.
- This funding means a 10% increase to the State for DD services.
- Also, this funding will stay in our program area.
- Two different buckets of funding

IEP Review – André Harboe

- André displayed the IEP Metrics SFY 20 Update document.
- Metrics 1-7 apply to persons with I/DD who are working in Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE).
- This report was initiated about seven or eight years ago and originally covered only five metrics.
- This number has varied over the years, which explains why the Metric numbers jump a few numbers to connect past with the present.

- Metric #1 – Displays the percentage of individuals working in CIE and receiving ODDS employment services; this number is slowly rising from a baseline in SFY 15 of 11.8% to 30.9% in SFY 20 (the State FY ended in June 2020).

- Metric #2 – Displays the number of individuals working in CIE and receiving ODDS employment services; this number began from a baseline of 577 in SFY 15 and was up to 1,575 in SFY 20.

- Metric #5 – Displays the number of individuals who are working 20 hours or more per week in CIE settings; this number dropped to 15% in SFY 2020 from 21.6% in SFY 2019. However, the latest EOS data indicates it jumped up. Recuperating.

Q – Metric #5 shows half the people we support working 20 hours or more, correct?

A – That would be a percent of a percent. So of the 30 % working in CIE, 15 % of those work 20 hours or more.

- Metric #6 – Displays the annual number of ODDS individuals who have exited VR employment services and into CIE employment; data shows a drop, but still historically high at 737 in SFY 20.

Q – Looking at Metrics #6 and #2 combined, does the data indicate some people are not needing services over time?

A – Yes. For instance, not everyone is needing job coaching services anymore. These individuals were closed in VR when they stabilized in their jobs.

- Corey noted people get counted twice if they go back into job development.
- Metric #7 – Subset of Metric #6. Same population, but here looking at transition-aged population exiting VR and into CIE; this number was rising in SFY 19, but experienced a dip in SFY 20 due to the pandemic.
- Metric #9 – This metric supports our effort to reduce the number of individuals receiving Sheltered Workshop Services. This number has continued to drop from a baseline of 2,717 to 68 individuals in SFY 20. The data for SFY 21 will show zero persons in sheltered workshops.
- Metric #10 – Displays the number of hours worked in sheltered workshops; although the number in SFY 20 was 2,123, this number is now zero.
- Metric #11 – Displays the number of sheltered workshop class members who have obtained CIE for at least 90 days; methodology was updated in SFY 2019 and data shows 1,039 individuals since SFY 2015.
- Metric #14 – Tracks the number of individuals aged 18 to 21 years old enrolled in ODDS services and found eligible for VR services; this number peaked in SFY 16-17 and is slowly going down. Not many transition-aged individuals go into VR. The dip in numbers in SFY 20, however, is probably due to the pandemic.
- Metric # 15 – Tracks the number of students ages 14-21 enrolled in ODDS. The number of individuals receiving ODDS services has slowly increased from 6,297 in SFY 19 to 6,659 and reflects persons with case management services.
- Metric #17 applies to Strategy #3 Address Service Capacity Needs and tracks the total number of Medicaid-enrolled providers and PSWs who are qualified to deliver CIE services. The number of PSWs has steadily decreased since SFY 16, with the most notable drop from SFY 17 to SFY 16 due to providers who lacked training and

qualifications were no longer allowed to provide that service. SFY 21 may be lower due to the pandemic.

- Metric #18 also applies to Strategy #3 Address Service Capacity Needs and tracks the number of providers qualified by both VR and ODDS to deliver CIE services. There was a small decrease between SFY 19 and SFY 20, but still higher at 101 than SFY 15 baseline and SFY 17.
- Metric #19 – Tracks the total number of qualified ODDS Discovery providers; dropped by 15 from SFY 19 to SFY 20, possibly due to the pandemic.
- Paul observed there seems to be a correlation between the number of unique (Medicaid-enrolled) providers authorized to deliver Discovery services versus the total number of qualified providers.
- André recalled backlog in some areas like Marion County in the past.
- In general, increase shows only new people as Discovery can only be done once per year.
- CJ pointed out that the number of Discovery services delivered to transition-aged individuals might be lower because they may not need Discovery due to the differences in school and adult services.
- André noted that transition-aged individuals also have more experience in their community and have a better idea of what they want to do after school.
- CJ reported the number of transition persons with I/DD participating in the Summer Work Program has been increasing over time.
- Paul complimented André on how the data sets have improved during the last five years due to André's efforts.
- Please email André with any questions regarding this data.
- Acacia reported that when ODDS meets with the plaintiffs, one agenda will be a quick overview of Lane v Brown.
- Revamping plan – noting how much work already done with no Case Management system.
- Paul suggested comparing Oregon's progress to other states nationally; state-to-state we're above most in the nation regarding employment outcomes.
- Acacia reported that the Institute for Community Inclusion (ICI) produces a state-of-the-state report each year.
- John Butterworth is our partner; she will ask him for data to bring back to this group.
- Our next comprehensive data report comes out in September.

Summer Work Update – CJ Webb

- CJ reported the RFA for providers is moving forward; providers can apply for this year's summer program.
- So far, only one past provider is not participating in 2021.
- Current programs need to submit a restart plan covering issues about health and safety.
- Approved one program thus far and in the process of approving two more.
- 22 programs approved in total.
- There could be as many as 479 students.
- Minimum requirement is 150 students with I/DD.
- Past participation has always been higher at end of summer.
- Accepted three new programs in 2020 – no Pre ETS. Contracts getting into place now; waiting to see their restart plans.
- Camp LEAD, Oregon core, camping over the summer; no overnights this year, but day camp in central Oregon will be held over a two-week period.
- Keith complimented CJ's work, especially in developing relationships with providers in rural counties to reach impoverished and other marginalized communities.
- The Youth Rising program in Klamath Falls offers meaningful work experiences to students.
- CJ noted the program is exciting because it uses peer advocates and focus on looking at real careers for students.

Capacity Prioritization

- Acacia shared a LifeCourse document about building capacity from the previous EO Policy meeting.
- We don't have wait lists; therefore, it is a challenge to estimate the number of persons served, as well as providers.
- COVID-19 caused us to regroup and consider what might be needed for services to resume.
- Acacia displayed a graphic she created around outcomes.
- Last meeting versus now – hopeful we will have funding for provider relief.
- Low reward/low work – not finding this – provider forum, revamping local EF groups with grant money, expanding Jobs Plus pilot.
- High reward/low work – electronic signatures, virtual services, training residential staff, relaunching REC training, EOS data, iLearn, core comp certifications.
- High reward/high work – start-up grants, rebuilding grants, group insurance, State as Model Employer.
- Corey suggested adding to high/high – CM and billing system for VR and ODDS to reduce paperwork

- Low reward/high work – nothing noted as of now.
- Acacia reported there has been talk for years about placing an employment specialist or capacity development specialist in provider agencies to help staff and support the CME.
- Paul agreed and said that in the past, his agency employed a person who was an expert on transition.
- We need SMEs in CMEs as employment entails a whole body of work now.
- Difficult for CMs not to have someone in the office; the EF Regional Team has been helpful, but there is a need for an on-site person.
- Heather Hopkins-Slechta reported she met with Lilia today and discussed investing in capacity development.
- Keith reported VR recently received approval to use electronic signatures on all vendor forms; they are still working on forms for clients.
- Benefits counseling? Where to put? This was a barrier in the past and should be high/high.
- EP providers and vendors – 1:1 EP temp rate right now. Anybody successful using it?
- It has been helpful in figuring out strengths and interests.
- 1:1 EP support allows more opportunities to provide assistance in things like virtual online trainings.
- Ellen pointed out it would seem like benefits counseling could be done virtually, leading to the ability of a statewide provider to provide services to multiple people.

Q – Does ODDS plan to offer an on-demand benefits counseling 101 training in the future?

A – Acacia reported there are now three modules available in iLearn, including training on a benefits counseling tool. Plus, we have fact sheets available.

- Corey suggested something along the lines of Road2Work for benefits counseling.
- Margaret noted the number one barrier is a trained workforce.
- VRCs don't always understand the I/DD world; providers and VRCs could use mutual trainings to learn to work together.
- Keith said VR has only one trainer right now, but VR is looking at ways to hire more trainers into the department.
- Will need to figure out how to bring in provider network.

Q – Is there going to be an updated assessment on VR rates? New provider contracts now require more paperwork, but rates have stayed the same.

A – Keith said it comes down to being able to pay people to work. In the past, grants and contingency funding from ODDS have had the biggest impact. However, VR's budget is structured in a way that it cannot provide contingency funding, just services delivered. This is legislated.

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- VR's budget has steadily decreased over time. However, there is hope it will benefit from the new relief funds.
 - Corey noted that the minimum wage has been going up, but funding has not, which makes it difficult to hire and retain people.
 - Acacia heard that some agencies have foregone job development and put all eggs into job coaching positions to keep people working.
 - Some in job development are training job coaches to do job development.
 - As providers bring staff back on, will particular services need a boost or just across the board depending on the agency?
 - Job coaching is easier than job development as it's more sustainable.
 - Although each requires a different skill set, the same people do both in small agencies.
 - It's important to note how job coaching works as a maintenance service to bring new people into the system key to sustainability. Unique to each provider
 - Tim Rocak reported Garten's job development needs to be beefed up the most.
 - Garten secured five new placements last month through work of two job developers.
 - Exceptions process to allow to move from ongoing job coaching services back to initial due to COVID-19 related issues.
 - Heather noted she is seeing more instances of providers staffing internally because it's easier.
 - Reemployment a thing? Seeing?
 - Margaret noted reemployment is driven by the employer's environment and not by the employee
 - Corey heard from two ORA members last week that they are prepping budgets for next week; their boards are looking at employment services. They need ODDS to say what potential funding is coming.

VR Updates

- Keith reported VR training is working on job developer and job coaching training for VR staff.
- VR In-Service coming up August 17-18. Not open yet for registration, though.
- In-Service will include complete employer track.
- Open conference – all can attend.
- Cornell University coming in to present.
- Recruiting best practices from field in Oregon.
- Keynotes include Temple Grandin, a prominent scientist and activist who is on the Autism spectrum; she will be sharing her success story in the field of agriculture.

- Due to VR's continuing relationship with Cornell University, they have been offering free trainings for vendors, but trainings filled quickly.
- About 200 slots for people to attend now. Extending trainings. Time after trainings to talk about how employment efforts are working in your state.
- Director Fariborz is advocating for funds coming to the state from the American Rescue Plan.
- Focused on community-based organizations to see that some funds go to them; going through the legislative cycle now.
- We know need to reemploy our staff.
- The American Jobs Plan will benefit both VR and employment in creating one-stop centers.
- Past funds came directly to states, now advocating with the federal government for a national focus.
- Ask and allocate resources to ensure getting funds for employment.

ODDS Updates – Acacia

- New and updated Discovery guidance is out and available online.
- Four on-demand free trainings are available in iLearn.
- Remind providers that trainings are moving from iLearn to Workday effective June 15th.
- ODDS will offer a series of Zoom meetings to answer questions.
- As you go through iLearn, people need to print their own transcripts. Upload them.
- The new Discovery policy will be mandated effective September 2021.
- Holding TA webinars late summer.

Oregon Statewide Transition Conference 2021 – Cynthia Cameron and Darci Shivers

- Seven sponsors for the conference.
- Breakout sessions covering collaborative communication and working relationships.
- Keynotes – Micah Fialka-Feldman, Alex Cherup and Barry Whaley
- Josh reported the conference was well received and well attended.
- Better than in-person.
- Feedback included comments that attendees appreciated the ability to watch recorded sessions and participate online.
- Friday morning meeting is scheduled to begin planning for next year's conference.
- Definitely want to record conference again.
- Comments:
- Introduction to PSO data for providers would be helpful.
- Facilitating interviews information was very helpful.

- Conference coincided when children are currently attending hybrid classes at school.
- Very good management of the technology for the conference; Acacia noted hers was the easiest virtual presentation she has done.
- Acacia heard comments that the session by Sheri Boyd regarding new business and engagement was very helpful for VR vendors.

Impact Oregon – Angela Yeager

- Angela shared the new video ad: https://youtu.be/A_oamNyv38s
- The more people who link the video, the more it will show up in browser searches.
- Please share widely.

Next meeting Agenda items/wrap up

- Next meeting will be held May 5th.
- Agenda items will include a Lane v Brown update, as well as general updates and more discussion on capacity building.

Membership:			
	Seth Johnson Opportunity Foundation of Central Oregon – Providers	X	Paul Partridge Deschutes CDDP – Counties
X	Corey Jeppesen Oregon Resource Association (ORA) – Providers		Laura Noppenberger Eastern Oregon Support Services Brokerage
X	Heather Hopkins-Slechta Full Access Brokerage High Desert – Brokerage		Roberta Dunn FACT – Family Members
X	Cam Jordan Oregon Commission for the Blind	X	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		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
X	Lilia Teninty DHS – Office of Developmental Disabilities	X	Michael Salitore Molalla School District – Education
X	Kathy Schlotfeldt MV Advancements – Providers	X	Howard Fulk Vocational Rehabilitation
	Joy Ward Douglas ESD K-12		Senator Sara Gelser Oregon Senate – Legislature
X	Josh Barbour Lane Education School District	X	C.J. Webb Vocational Rehabilitation
	Invited Guests:		
X	Rebecca Sexton – ODDS	X	Ellen Mendoza – DOJ
X	Angela Yeager – ODDS	X	Theresa Knowles, ODDS
X	André Harboe – ODDS		Robin Brandt, VR
	Tim Acker – ODDS		Erica Drake, ODDS
X	Allison Enriquez – ODDS	X	Julie Huber – ODDS
	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
	Sally Simich, ODE		Micah Sicho, ODDS
	James Lindekugel, Shangri-La	X	Darci Shivers, Douglas ESD
X	Cynthia Cameron, S. Oregon ESD		