

Executive Order Statewide Stakeholder Policy Meeting

Wednesday, Sept. 1, 2021

1-2:30 p.m.

<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1610323076?pwd=NWpWYzgwSmt3WVJzTE5CN2VaWHNLUT09>

Meeting ID: 161 032 3076

Passcode: 285176

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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
COVID 19 policy changes		10	Acacia
Prioritizing people with I/DD in reemployment in response to COVID.		45	Ryley/Self-Advocates
NDEAM Webinars		5	Angela
VR Updates		10	Howard/VR
ODE/Transition Update		10	TNFs/ODE
Next meeting agenda items/wrap up		5	All

Minutes taken by: Debra Stevens

Facilitated by: Acacia McGuire Anderson

Introductions

Review Agenda

Reordering agenda due to recent EO 21-29 and healthcare rule.

Review last month's meeting minutes

COVID-19 Policy Changes

- Lilia reported Governor Brown first issued an Executive Order that would require healthcare professionals and others working in residential and foster care settings to either be vaccinated or submit to weekly COVID-19 testing.
- At first, only applied to adult foster care and 24-hour residential settings.
- However, now any staff who serve people in these or state offices will need to be vaccinated by October 18th.
- The Governor's EO 21-29 applies to all state employees.
- In addition, contractors also need to be vaccinated if they work in a state office or come into contact with state employees throughout the state for over 15 minutes, including going into state offices.
- The EO likely covers CDDPs, as well.
- Evident that the two directives regarding vaccine mandates overlap and cover a vast portion of the ODDS system.
- Yesterday's message from Lilia noted that most of the system is covered by these directives.
- ODDS is currently putting together FAQs and a transmittal on how to ensure compliance.
- Lilia is very aware of capacity concerns across the entire system.
- Some feel strongly about getting vaccinated; however, there are only a few weeks left to get the vaccine in order to meet the October 18th compliance deadline.
- Lilia understands that some workers will decline the vaccine and find work elsewhere.

Questions

Q – Can you provide more details on other services that could be affected like DSA, Employment services and Supported Living staff? When will that transmittal come out?

A – Acacia understands EO 21-29 has a provision for contractors or workers. Compliance depends upon what a worker's regular job duties are and do they require the worker to go into state offices. For example, SACU, VR, Self-Sufficiency, Child Welfare and may need to attend meetings with individuals in state offices as part of their regular job duties. The OAR refer to healthcare settings, and includes 24-hour residential and foster care and covers persons who, as part of their job, have contact with people residing there. These people are required to be vaccinated. We are working on updating our policy and will provide FAQs and a grid to further clarify these requirements.

Q – What was the reason for the change in messaging between Monday and Tuesday? Monday indicated all CME staff needed to be vaccinated but yesterday's message appears to be slightly dialed back from that to address anyone entering a state building.

A – Lilia reported we wanted to give providers a heads up. Detailed information came out yesterday. More in FAQ and transmittal we are working on right now. CME – may have staff who never interact – up to you to assess if meets requirement for vaccination. CDDP staff –

investigators in group and foster care homes qualify. Licensers covered. CDDP SCs meeting to monitor are covered. All brokerages and CDDPs helping people getting a job are covered. Both the EO and healthcare rule – we are working on a process with DAS to see how process will work.

Q – Are there civil rights issues?

A – Lilia advised to contact your attorney.

Q – Is it fair to say that for DSA, Attendant Care and Employment Services , if staff work with someone who lives alone or with a family, they are not required to vaccinate, but if staff work directly or indirectly with someone living in Foster Care or group homes, they must be vaccinated?

A – The directive and rule apply anytime a worker is going into a state office with an individual.

Q – Why does the Governor think we need a mandate when people should have been vaccinated already?

A – Lilia responded that the Governor wants all vaccinated to be safe. Many people have been vaccinated, but many or also choosing not to be. Hospital capacity and ICU numbers are a major concern.

Q – I assume that people receiving services must be vaccinated to enter state offices as well?

A – Acacia noted this doesn't apply to people receiving services, or those going to state offices for services. So, for example, this is not a requirement for people with I/DD going to VR for VR services.

Q – A person who is working at Ace Hardware and receives job coaching services. Does the job coach need to be vaccinated?

A – Lilia responded depends upon if they only come to meet and what they do with you. If accompanying the person to a state office, they need it.

Q – It seems as though the way this is patchworked makes it difficult to try and dial in how to implement this across agencies. Since state buildings are still closed, does this allow us more time?

A – Acacia noted this is what we are grappling with. Deadline is October 18th. It all depends upon a worker's typical job duties. Lilia added FAQs in guidance might have more information.

Prioritizing People with I/DD in Reemployment in Response to COVID-19

Ryley introduced the presenters: Nicholas (Nick) Kaasa, Aniko Adany, Ross Ryan and Justin Connolly.

The group has been working on strategies to go forward as people plan to return to work.

Nick described how the LifeCourse Trajectory and Star tools helped the group discuss what they want and what they want to avoid in this time of uncertainty.

Ross

- Ross would like us all to get used to the new norm and how to meet in-person as soon as possible. Technology helps some, but we need to begin working together in other ways. Ross wants to avoid more confusion, and would like to see more help for people using technology.
- Nick noted we need to figure out what our new normal is.

Justin

Justin reported he would like to return to working full-time, but can't yet. He is only working two days a week right now, but feels it's better than nothing. Justin wants to avoid catching the virus.

Eddie

- Eddie likes working at Ace Hardware. Good to be out in the community, and likes masks because it's the new norm. We were able to not wear them for a while, but the Delta surge means masks are back for a while. Dangerous not to wear a mask right now.
- Nick noted that Ace Hardware is trying to find a way for him to work in the new normal. What does he want to avoid?
- Eddie would like to see more people get vaccinated so we can take off masks and relax restrictions. Can't do that yet.
- Nick summarized he wants to avoid seeing numbers going up and have this be permanent new normal.

Nick asked the group how has technology helped you do your job?

- Ross – He has been able to attend meetings and how to work with technology.
- Eddie – Technology helps him quite a bit, especially to look up his work schedule.
- Justin – Technology helps him keep up to date with work and meeting schedules.

Ryley introduced the group to the LifeCourse Star tool and noted he had used this tool with the EO Policy group before.

Ryley worked with the presenters to complete the different facets of the Star tool, recording their comments live during the presentation.

Relationships

- Ross – His job coach comes in once a week and reviews what needs to be worked on. Close connection.
- Nick – Valuable relationship.
- Justin – Helped with co-workers, program people.
- Eddie – Good. Co-workers

Strengths and assets

- Justin – Leader for others at his coworkers.
- Ross – Dependable, on time, brings different connections and ways of doing things to others. Role model.
- Eddie – Gets work done, uses check-off lists, positive, gives compliments to other workers.

Community – How does your community support you to do your job?

- Ross – Ryley, job coach and others Emily and senators he knows.
- Nick – Strong community of people around him
- Justin – Very good community support system to do what he needs to do and get where he needs to go.
- Eddie – Provider and boss are parts of his community and help him be successful in doing his job.

I/DD Services

- Ross – Provided him with a job coach and tools and assistive technology like hearing aids, and a Surface Pro from OSAC.
- Justin – Helps him be more independent at his job and helps others, too.
- Eddie – His case manager and ISP team know he loves his job. Support him very well and all encourage him to keep on working.

Ryley – talked about what was most useful to this group.

- Trajectory has done before with this group.
- Nick suggested the LifeCourse Trajectory tool could be used as a homework assignment. Trying out these tools and talk to team what they want and what they want to avoid.
- How can using the Star tool help your team get to where you want to be?
- Homework – test out tools.

Ryley suggested he could send out notes to Acacia for people here to brainstorm before the next EO Policy meeting.

- Acacia likes seeding process; Star and Trajectory tools to send out can help people think how to get used to new normal.

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- How do we have compliant technology and how to use it?
 - Funding – how to make sure going forward we are capturing this.
 - What is our funding ask to support individuals with I/DD wanting to return to work?

Acacia asked the group if this would be helpful for our next steps?

- Aniko suggested looking at what the group's Star looks like compared to the Star vision of what self advocates want.
- Work through the tool to decide what can be discussed, accomplished and what you might come up with.
- Use the Star tool as a framework to guide vision with self advocates' input.
- Ryley noted such a comparison could reveal similarities in using technology, personal assets, etc.

- ARPA funds – how to target to help people get the jobs they want.

- Acacia wants to keep the Star front and center.

NDEAM Webinars

- Angela reported ODDS is planning sessions now.
- Registration is open now.
- Workgroups have been formed including ODDS, Dept. of Education, VR and the Oregon Commission for the Blind.
- Angela sent out a “save the date” card and reviewed session topics.
- People can register for any or all sessions: 10/5, 10/12, 10/19, 10/26.
- Link to register for NDEAM sessions; please spread the word:
<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1602762553?pwd=VnZFSGEwSkc5c0Q3WTlxaTAxQ0FEUT09>

VR Updates

Keith

- Keith reported VR is following the same process as ODDS in interpreting the EO 21-29 and OHA's healthcare rule.
- If a worker comes into a state office, they will need to be vaccinated.
- Same expectation for their program.
- Guidance coming from DAS applies to all executive offices.

Q – Is the state/VR going to ask for vaccine cards as people enter? Just trying to wrap my head around what this might look like.

A – No. There will be an Executive Order 21-29 Vaccination Compliance form that the employer of record will have record and retain. It will need to be given to the state agency that works with that group.

Q – If VR is not verifying vaccination status, is that true also of, for example, providers? Something in addition to an attestation?

A – Lilia responded the entity is required to attest. Planning that the main entity contractor would be responsible. Think extent of it. Discussing enforcement on healthcare side. Things moving quickly. In the Governor’s office, decisions are made on a different level than state management.

Q – What about vaccine mandates for supported people working in state office buildings?

A – If somebody is on contract to supply supports, mandate applies if the supported person is working there.

Q – Is there a drop-dead date? Want for staff communication.

A – Lilia hopes a communication will go out this week, but it may not include everything. ODDS graphic shows vaccination dates to meet the October 18th deadline.

VR Updates – Heather

- The VR In-Service concluded with over 450 people attending over the three-day virtual training.
- The In-Service included an employment provider strand for the first time.
- Great feedback.
- VR has contracted with Cornell University to provide monthly lunch and learns; they provided a sub-section at the event.
- Our own VR staff has been working to improve virtual communication.
- The In-Service provided great professional development opportunities for attendees.
- Keynotes were great.
- VR wants to do something annually.

Policy Updates – Howard

- Howard reported VR clarified guidance to staff regarding obtaining a Release of Information from clients, reminding them of confidentiality rules.
- Heather added VR has updated policy and rules around the vehicle purchase and modification process. Increasing vendor partnerships.

Q – When will the new normal layout for in-person meetings comes out?

A – Heather responded we hope to get back to in-person meetings, but we’re not there yet.

Q – Are there transportation updates?

A – There have been discussions. Acacia reported she will find someone from DOT to present here. Bus routes, etc. have changed and we wonder what the future plan is.

- Nicole noted there should be new transportation money when the infrastructure bill passes.

ODE/Transition Update

- Sally reported each school district is administering their own COVID-19 guidance.
- Josh Barbour, TNF, is working on goals and plans for the upcoming school year.
- Kriss is working on professional development opportunities for staff and students, IEP inclusion, identifying and connecting with potential partners in the local community, Supported Decision-Making, smoother transitioning for students, train the trainer courses and transition programming
- Josh is providing supports to providers to locate school IEP information and working on ways to get meaningful pre-employment training information to providers.
- Helping teachers and providers align goals so that there is consistency on both sides.
- ODE is partnering with ODDS to get PACT training in all counties.
- Training person-centered facilitators.
- Professional development, also growing TTAN, providing more training on Supported Decision-Making, LifeCourse, MAPS, reboot of seamless model.
- Researched-based model.
- Transition is not a place but a continuation of services.
- Josh reported transition is embedded into everything they do.
- The earlier schools and providers talk about transitioning, the better.
- Goal is to have agencies at the table for students earlier.
- Kriss wants to ensure everyone knows they all have a place at the table.
- Kriss will send slides to Acacia.
- There is also information on the Transition Oregon website (<https://transitionoregon.org>), a Google site created by educators, as well as a transition podcast. The next Oregon Statewide Transition Conference is planned for March 2022.
- Josh provided the link to the Latest Oregon Transition Podcast:
<https://oregontransitionpodcast.podbean.com/e/otp-season-3-6-success-stories/>

Next meeting agenda items/wrap up

Next meeting on October 6th.
 COVID-19 updates
 TNF updates
 NDEAM
 LifeCourse work
 Success stories

Membership:			
X	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
	N/A Oregon Commission for the Blind	X	Keith Ozols DHS – Vocational Rehabilitation
X	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
X	Heather Lindsey Vocational Rehabilitation		Justin Connolly Oregon Self Advocacy Coalition – Self Advocate
X	Kriss Rita Education, Transition Network	X	Acacia McGuire Anderson DHS – Employment First
X	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	Sally Simich		Senator Sara Gelser

	Oregon Department of Education		Oregon Senate – Legislature
X	Pennie Hartley Vocational Rehabilitation		
	Invited Guests:		
	Rebecca Sexton – ODDS	X	Ellen Mendoza – DOJ
X	Angela Yeager – ODDS	X	Theresa Knowles, ODDS
X	André Harboe – ODDS		Robin Brandt, VR
X	Tim Acker – ODDS	X	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		Tim Rocak, Garten
X	Melanie Hartwig, ODDS		Sheri Boyd, VR
	Julia Ansberry, Trellis		Tami Socolofsky, Trellis
X	Aniko Adeny	X	Nicholas Kaasa
X	Eddie (with Ryley Newport)	X	Sarah Stratham
X	Josh Barbour, TNF Linn, Benton, Lane Counties		