

12-16-16

To: Employment First stakeholders

From: Acacia McGuire Anderson, Statewide Employment First Coordinator

Re: Employment First: Quality Assurance/Improvement Plan Posted

(Please forward to your local partners & stakeholders)

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The DHS Employment First initiative is working to increase and improve the delivery of employment services to individuals with I/DD with the goal of increasing integrated employment for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Quality assurance and quality improvement play an important role in ensuring the success of these efforts.

The 2016 Employment First Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement Plan is posted online at: <http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/EMPLOYMENT/EMPLOYMENT-FIRST/Documents/QA-QI-Plan-2016.pdf>

The plan was developed by a cross-agency group of individuals involved in the quality assurance efforts of their various agencies or organizations including the DHS Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS), DHS Vocational Rehabilitation (VR), and the Oregon Department of Education (ODE), with participation by the Oregon Council on Developmental Disabilities (OCDD). Progress has been made on the plan strategies since it was first published in 2014, and strategies have changed as the system has evolved.

The plan is focused on six primary areas: Quality of Life, Quality of Planning, Quality of Providers, Quality of Services, Quality of Data and Quality of Training. The plan lists a number of goals and strategies for achieving those goals within each area.

The QA Workstream, which includes representation from the above-mentioned programs and agencies, monitors the plan and provides feedback on ongoing progress. For the most recent update on the plan's strategies, go to: <http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/EMPLOYMENT/EMPLOYMENT-FIRST/Documents/QA-QI-Update-2016-FINAL.pdf>

~ Acacia

- A copy of the Frequently Asked Questions from the ODDS/VR Stakeholder call held on Dec. 2 is now posted online:

<http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/EMPLOYMENT/EMPLOYMENT-FIRST/Documents/FAQ%20Stakeholder%20Call%2012-2-16.pdf>