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October 6, 2020

To: ODDS Staff and Stakeholders

From: Lilia Teninty, Director, Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS) and Acacia McGuire Anderson, Statewide Employment First Coordinator

Subject: National Disability Employment Awareness Month

October is [National Disability Employment Month](#) (NDEAM), and this year's theme is "Increasing Access and Opportunity."

At ODDS, employment is central to our mission to empower Oregonians with intellectual and developmental disabilities to live full lives in their communities.

This year has brought many challenges that forced changes to our service system, including employment services. Many providers and case management entities are exploring creative solutions how to provide services so they can still support people safely during COVID-19.

ODDS and Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) are hosting a virtual "lunch and learn" event on Tuesday, October 13. A panel of experts in Oregon will discuss innovative employment solutions. The panel includes Trey Schneider, who started his employment journey as an intern with Project SEARCH and now works as an Office Support Specialist Assistant at the Bureau of Environmental Services with the City of Portland. Mer Stevens with Community Access Services, Laura Noppenberger with Eastern Oregon Support Services Brokerage, Pennie Hartley with VR, and Anais Keenon with City of Portland will also be featured on the panel.

Please join us from noon to 1 p.m., October 13, for this panel discussion and celebration of National Disability Employment Awareness month.

Register at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2505314618931007502>

Live caption link: <https://www.streamtext.net/player?event=Awareness>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Attached to this message is a flyer for the event and a social media card that can be shared on your channels. Please share widely!

Thank you for your work and for supporting Oregonians with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Sincerely,

Lilia and Acacia

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You can get this document in other languages, large print, braille or a format you prefer. Contact the Oregon Office of Developmental Disabilities Services at 503-945-5811. We accept all relay calls or you can dial 711.