



**Community-Based Services:
The Critical Role of Competitive
Employment for
Individuals with Disabilities and
Full Community Participation**

**The Role of UC UCEDD in
Disability Employment Efforts
in Ohio**

Ilka Riddle, PhD & Brady Sellet
UC UCEDD

2014 AUCD Conference



Employment First in Ohio

- Operating in an “Employment First” state
- Ohio’s Gov. Kasich signed Employment First Executive Order in March 2012:
 - Employment as primary expected goal for working-age adults who have a DD
 - Transition IEPs at age 14, outlining measurable post-secondary goals related to competitive employment in integrated setting



Employment First in Ohio

- Ohio's Gov. Kasich signed Employment First Executive Order in March 2012:
 - Each person of working age engaged in person-centered planning process
 - All 88 County Boards of DD required to implement Employment First policy


UC UCEDD & Community Employment

- Employment addressed in/through all four Core Functions:
 - Interdisciplinary Training
 - Community Services
 - Research
 - Information Dissemination



UC UCEDD & Community Employment

- Focus on parents/caregivers and educators
- Focus on training and information dissemination



Community Employment addressed in Interdisciplinary Training

- Employment LEND core curriculum lecture
 - Transitions across the life cycle-transition from school to work and home to the community:
 - Vocational/educational transition planning
 - Transitions across the life cycle-parent perspective


Community Employment addressed in Community Services

- 2014 “WORKing Together” Employment Conference
 - Collaborative effort with southwest Ohio county boards of DD services, parents and self-advocates
- 2015 “WORKing Together” Family and Educator Trainings

Community Employment addressed in Community Services

- 2014 Transition Bootcamp Conference
 - Collaborative effort with local and regional community organizations, parents and caregivers
- 2014/15 Transition Bootcamp Booster Sessions
- Good Life Network Community Project Observer

Full Community Participation addressed in Research

- LEND Trainee Research Projects with Faculty Members:
 - “Assessing Quality of Life in Undergraduate Students with Developmental Disabilities Enrolled in the University of Cincinnati Transition and Access Program (UC TAP)”

Community Employment and Community Inclusion addressed in Research

- LEND Trainee Research Projects with Faculty Members:
 - “Adults with ASD and Families with Adolescents and Adults with ASD: Their Vision for Their Future, Current Regional Services of Adult Support, and Identification of Gaps between Vision and Reality for Action-Planning”

Community Employment addressed in Information Dissemination

- Communications to/with individuals with disabilities and caregivers/family members
- Communications/discussions with our CAC
- Communications to/with Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD):

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Community Employment addressed in Information Dissemination

- In-person; via phone or email
- Website
- Facebook
- Twitter


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Community Employment addressed in Policy Work

- Communications to/with Governor's Office
- Communications with Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities
- Monitoring of Ohio Employment First Implementation
- Monitoring of federal and state policies

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Questions



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Thank You!
