





The New Mexico Disabilities Concerns Subcommittee

Richard Davis, MSW, Policy Advisor, ODEP/USDOL September 29, 2017

WORKFORCE • OPPORTUNITY • LEADERSHIP

## It's a Time of



**Enormous Opportunity** 





#### What is "Employment First"?

# employment

- Employment First is not just about "best practice."
- It is about clear public polices that make **COMPETITIVE INTEGRATED EMPLOYMENT** the top priority.
- A critical focus of Employment First must be on shifting public resources to be in alignment with our values.



### **Employment First**

A framework for systems change that is centered on the premise that <u>ALL</u> citizens, including individuals with significant disabilities, are capable of full participation in competitive integrated employment and community life.

Cross-Disability in focus, including physical, mental health, intellectual, and developmental disabilities.



### **Employment First**

- Under this approach, publicly-financed systems are urged to align policies, service delivery practices, and reimbursement structures to commit to
   Competitive Integrated Employment
   as the priority option with respect to the use of publicly-financed day and employment services for youth and adults with significant disabilities.
- Many states have formally committed to the Employment First framework through official executive proclamation or formal legislative action.



### **Competitive Integrated Employment**

 ODEP defines Competitive Integrated **Employment** as work paid directly by employers at the greater of minimum or prevailing wages with commensurate benefits, occurring in a typical work setting where the employee with a disability interacts or has the opportunity to interact continuously with co-workers without disabilities, has an opportunity for advancement and job mobility, and is preferably engaged full-time.





- The Federal government utilizes funding vehicles such as:
- Competitive grants,
- Direct programmatic funding,
- Demonstration projects,
- Pilot initiatives, and
- Increased Federal matching funds
   to help State and local governments prioritize
   strategies that lead to
   Competitive, Integrated Employment (CIE)
   outcomes for individuals with disabilities.



ODEP Technical Brief: <a href="http://employmentfirst.leadcenter.org/employment-first-resources/federal-resources-available-to-support-state-employment-first-efforts">http://employmentfirst.leadcenter.org/employment-first-first-resources/federal-resources-available-to-support-state-employment-first-efforts</a>

### **Current Federal Resources to Support State Employment First Systems-Change Efforts**



- The primary Federal agencies tasked with providing supports to individuals with disabilities have engaged in a number of initiatives in recent years to encourage a greater emphasis on combining Federal funding support and state systems change action focused on the successful transition of youth and adults with significant disabilities into Competitive, Integrated Employment.
- These agencies include:
  - U.S. Department of Education
  - U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
  - U.S. Department of Labor
  - Social Security Administration
  - U.S. Department of Transportation







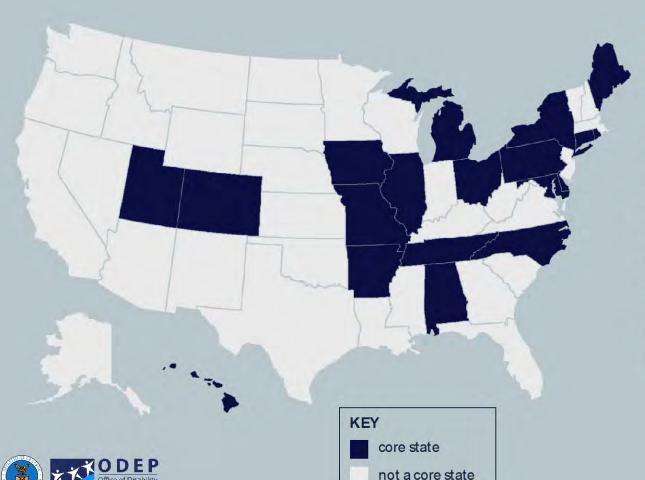
### What is the Employment First State Leadership Mentoring Program (EFSLMP)?



- ➤ Initiative of the Office of Disability Employment Policy within the US Department of Labor
- ➤ Began in October, 2012
- >FY18: 10 Core States / 10 Vision Quest States
  - ➤ 22 States have received intensive technical assistance since 2012
  - ➤ Over 2200+ individuals from 50 States participate in National Community of Practice (Open to all 50 States)

### **2016 Core States**





#### **Core States**

2016

Alabama Maryland
Arkansas Michigan
Colorado Missouri
Connecticut New York

Delaware North Carolina

Ohio

District of Columbia

Hawaii Pennsylvania

Illinois Tennessee

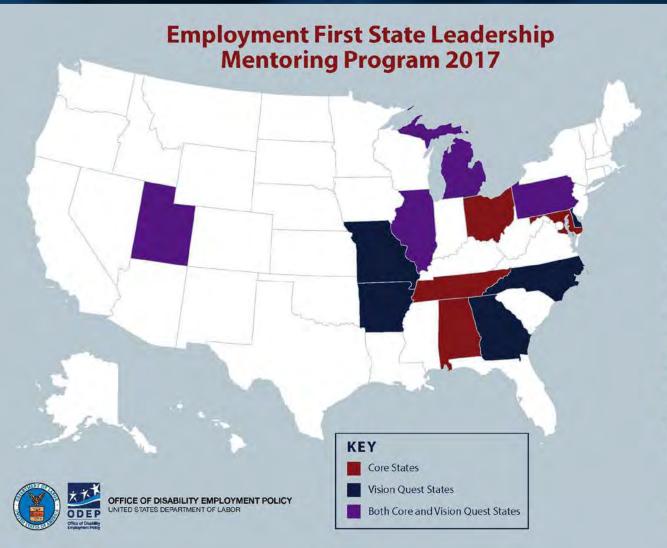
Iowa Utah

Maine









#### **Core States**

Alabama

Maryland

Ohio

Tennessee

#### **Vision Quest States**

Arkansas

Delaware

Georgia

Missouri

North Carolina

#### Both Core and Vision Quest States

Illinois

Michigan

Pennsylvania

Utah



## **Employment First State Leadership Mentoring Program: Unique Features**



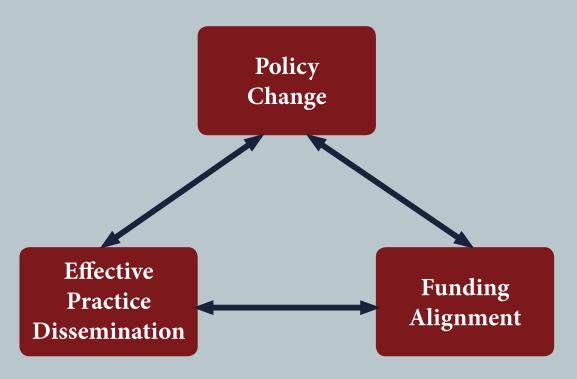
- ODEP requires a minimum of <u>six</u> state agencies receiving Federal funds to be involved in EFSLMP Core State teams:
  - 1. Intellectual & Developmental Disability (I/DD)
    - 2. Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)
      - 3. Workforce Investment
        - 4. Mental Health
          - 5. Education
            - 6. Medicaid
- Innovation in Virtual & Onsite Technical Assistance
- Cross-Disability in Focus

## ODEP's 3-Pronged Approach to EFSLMP



#### **Objectives**

EMPLOYMENT FIRST STATE LEADERSHIP MENTORING PROGRAM

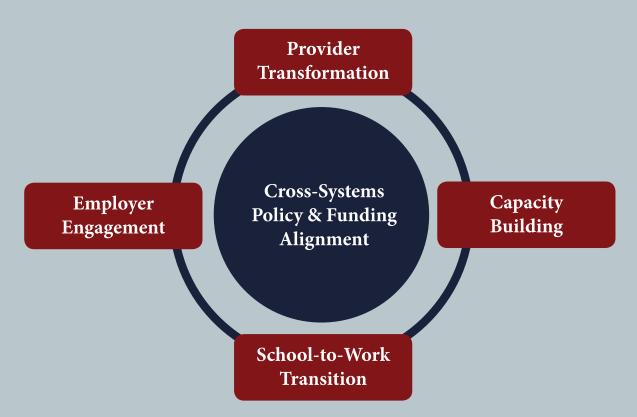




## EFSLMP Core State TA/Training – Key Areas of Foci



#### NT FIRST STATE LEADERSHIP MENTORING PROGRAM





# ODEP's Criteria for Performance Excellence in E1st State Systems Change & Provider Transformation



### ODEP's Criteria for Performance Excellence in E1st State Systems

CHANGE & PROVIDER TRANSFORMATION







#### **E1st State Transformation Guide**

- ODEP identified "10 Critical Areas to Increase Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE)" based on the recommendations put forth in the WIOA Advisory Committee on Increasing Competitive Integrated Employment for Individuals with Disabilities (ACICIEID) Final Report, and developed them into a "State Transformation Activity Record" (STAR) Self-Assessment tool.
- ACICIEID Final Report (Sep. 2016): https://www.dol.gov/odep/topics/pdf/ACICIEID Final Report 9-8-16.pdf
- Dr. David Mank (ACICIEID Chair) and Rich Luecking developed an "E1st State Transformation Guide" based on the "10 Critical Areas" that includes state examples of success in implementing the ACICIEID Final Report recommendations at the state level.
- E1st State Transformation Guide (June 2017): http://employmentfirst.leadcenter.org/employment-first-resources/e1st-state-transformation-guide

# ODEP Office of Disability Employment Policy

#### **State Transformation Activity Record (STAR)**





#### **Research to Support CIE**

- Research on service cost savings and improvement of employment outcomes (e.g., wages earned) for competitive integrated employment placements
- Cimera, R. E. (2017). The Percentage of Supported Employees With Significant Disabilities Who Would Earn More in Sheltered Workshops. *Research and Practice for Persons with Severe Disabilities*, DOI: 1540796917697448.
- Cimera, R. E. (2016). A comparison of the cost-ineffectiveness of supported employment versus sheltered work services by state and demographics of program participants. *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation*, 45, 281-294.
- Cimera, R. E. (2012). The economics of supported employment: What new data tell us. Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation, 37, 109-117.
- Cimera, R. E. (2011). Does being in sheltered workshops improve the employment outcomes of supported employees with intellectual disabilities? *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation*, 35, 21-27.
- Cimera, R. E. (2011). Supported versus sheltered employment: Cumulative costs, hours worked, and wages earned. *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation*, *35*, 85-92.



#### **Research to Support CIE**

- Research on service cost savings and improvement of employment outcomes (e.g., wages earned) for competitive integrated employment placements
- Cimera, R. E. (2008). The cost-trends of supported employment versus sheltered employment. *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation*, 28, 15-20.
- Cimera, R. E. (2007). The cost-effectiveness of supported employment and sheltered workshops in Wisconsin (FY 2002–FY 2005). Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation, 26, 153-158.
- Cimera, R. E. (2007). The cumulative cost-effectiveness of supported and sheltered employees with mental retardation. *Research and Practice for Persons with Severe Disabilities*, *32*, 247-252.
- Rusch, F. R., & Braddock, D. (2004). Adult day programs versus supported employment (1988–2002): Spending and service practices of mental retardation and developmental disabilities state agencies. *Research and Practice for Persons with Severe Disabilities*, 29, 237–242.
- Kregel, J., & Dean, D. H. (2002). Sheltered vs. Supported Employment: A Direct Comparison of Long-Term Earnings Outcomes for Individuals with Cognitive Disabilities." In J. Kregel, D. H. Dean, & P. Wehman (Eds.) Achievements and Challenges in Employment Services for People with Disabilities: The Longitudinal Impact of Workplace Supports. Retrieved May 19, 2017 from <a href="http://www.worksupport.com/research/viewContent.cfm/151">http://www.worksupport.com/research/viewContent.cfm/151</a>
- Cimera, R. E. (2000). The cost-efficiency of supported employment programs: A literature review. Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation, 14(1), 51-61.

### **EFSLMP:** Capacity Building TA Process



Identification of System/ Organizational Core Competencies Assessment of Gaps in Needed Competencies TA/Training Needs Assessment

**TA/Training** 

Evaluation of TA/Training Short Term/
Long Term

TA/Training Sustainability Plan Continued Improvement



An Overview of ODEP's Investments in CRPs Committed to Increasing Competitive, Integrated Employment Outcomes for PWD

# EFSLMP & PROVIDER TRANSFORMATION

## Provider Transformation Offerings: Key Areas of TA Emphasis





### **EFSLMP Provider Transformation:** *Macro-Case Study (Iowa) – Approach*



2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Engaged Executive Director of State's Rehabilitation Association in EFSLMP Core State Team	Increased # receiving intensive TA to 17 providers	Provided mini-assessment processes for another 19 providers
Started with providing intensive TA to seven (7) provider organizations, who were also receiving assistance through the state's PIE grant. Focus on customized employment, T2W/EN application, and benchmarking/forecasting projections for phased-in transition of PWD	Held quarterly 2-day TA meetings with state's APSE and Rehabilitation Association	Reinforced previous TA with additional state meetings/conferences/ training opportunities
	Initiated Virtual Community of Practice sponsored by state's VR agency; run by EFSLMP SMEs; promoted by state's APSE and Rehabilitation Association	Expanded reach for statewide Community of Practice on provider transformation

### EFSLMP Provider Transformation: Macro-Case Study (Iowa) – Results thus far



2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Annual Performance Data based on 7 VR providers	Annual Performance Data based on 12 VR providers (reflective of 1/3 of entire VR network in Iowa):	Annual Performance Data based on 18 VR providers (reflective of 1/3 of entire VR network in Iowa):
14 placements—all identified as customized employment placement.	427 consumers with significant disabilities into integrated employment. 86 of these were identified as customized employment cases.	725 additional placements, 150 of which were identified as customized placements.
	The average wage was \$7.81/hour. The average number of hours/week thus far is 17.27.	The average wage was \$8.31/hour and 15.93 hours/week average.

### How can YOU Get Involved in Employment First?



- Ways to Get Involved in E1st Systems Change:
  - EFSLMP FY2018 Application Period
    - Orientation & Demonstration: September 27, 2017, 1-2:30 ET.
       (Recorded)
    - Online Application portal available: September 27, 2017, after webinar.
    - Online Application due: 11:59 p.m. ET, Friday, October 13, 2017.
    - The online application will be available after the webinar on September 27. If you do not currently have an account for EconSys Online Tool, sign up here: <a href="https://apps.econsys.com/ta-planner/users/sign\_up">https://apps.econsys.com/ta-planner/users/sign\_up</a>
  - Register to access free TA/Training via the EFSLMP Community of Practice.
     To subscribe: <a href="http://www.econsys.com/eflsmp/?subscribe">http://www.econsys.com/eflsmp/?subscribe</a>

### **Employment First: Available Resources**



- Employment First Web Platform Featured Resources:
- http://employmentfirst.leadcenter.org/national-data/featured-resources
- Provider Transformation Manual:
- http://employmentfirst.leadcenter.org/employment-first-resources/providertransformation-manual
- E1st State Transformation Guide:
- <a href="http://employmentfirst.leadcenter.org/employment-first-resources/e1st-state-transformation-guide">http://employmentfirst.leadcenter.org/employment-first-resources/e1st-state-transformation-guide</a>
- Vision Quest Replication Manual: <a href="http://employmentfirst.leadcenter.org/employment-first-resources/vision-quest-replication-manual">http://employmentfirst.leadcenter.org/employment-first-resources/vision-quest-replication-manual</a>
- ODEP's Criteria for Performance Excellence:
- <a href="http://employmentfirst.leadcenter.org/employment-first-resources/criteria-for-performance-excellence-in-employment-first-state-systems-change-provider-transformation">http://employmentfirst.leadcenter.org/employment-first-resources/criteria-for-performance-excellence-in-employment-first-state-systems-change-provider-transformation</a>

## **Employment First:** *Available Resources*



- Federal Resources Available to Support State Employment First Efforts
- <a href="http://employmentfirst.leadcenter.org/employment-first-resources/federal-resources-available-to-support-state-employment-first-efforts">http://employmentfirst.leadcenter.org/employment-first-resources/federal-resources-available-to-support-state-employment-first-efforts</a>
- Connecting the Dots: Using Federal Policy to Promote Employment First Systems-Change Efforts
- http://employmentfirst.leadcenter.org/employment-firstresources/connecting-the-dots-using-federal-policy-to-promoteemployment-first-systems-change-efforts
- Federal Legal Framework that Supports Integrated Employment Outcomes of Youth and Adults with Significant Disabilities
- <a href="http://employmentfirst.leadcenter.org/employment-first-resources/federal-legal-framework-that-supports-integrated-employment-outcomes-of-youth-and-adults-with-significant-disabilities">http://employmentfirst.leadcenter.org/employment-first-resources/federal-legal-framework-that-supports-integrated-employment-outcomes-of-youth-and-adults-with-significant-disabilities</a>

## **EFSLMP Provider Transformation TA: Available Resources**



- ODEP's Criteria for Performance Excellence in Employment First State Systems Change & Provider Transformation
- Sample Provider Transformation Self-Assessment Tool
- HCBS Provider Survey/Assessment Tool
- Benchmarking Analysis and Measurement Tools, Gantt Charts
- Funding Diversification Wheel
- Provider Transformation Action Plans
- Representative List of Resource Leveraging Strategies
- ODEP's CE Competency Model
- ODEP's Integrated Employment Toolkit: www.dol.gov/odep/ietoolkit

## National Employment 1<sup>st</sup> Web Platform via LEAD Center



### employmentfirst.leadcenter.org





#### **New Mexico State Profile**

• State Data:

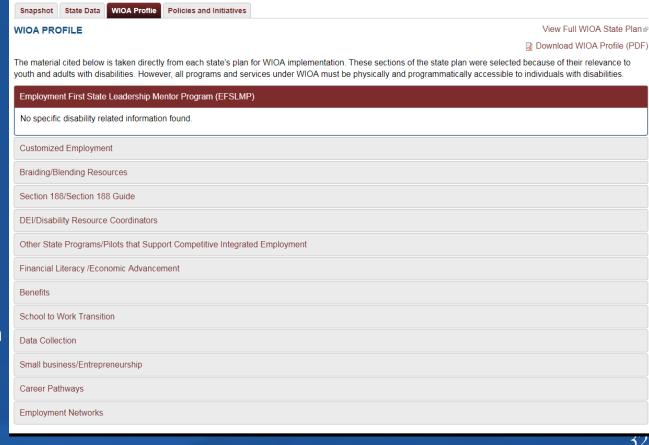
General, SSA Outcomes, Mental Health Outcomes, Workforce Development Outcomes, VR Outcomes, I/DD Outcomes, Education Outcomes, AbilityOne/JWOD Program Stats, Wage and Hour Division 14(c) Certificate **Holding Entities Stats** 

GENERAL	2013	2014	201
Population.	2,085,287	2,085,572	2,085,109
Number of people with disabilities (all disabilities, ages 18-64).	165,038	158,816	156,118
Number of people with disabilities who are employed (all disabilities, ages 18-64).	58,220	48,261	48,13
Number of people without disabilities who are employed (ages 18-64).	755,937	769,057	771,84
Percentage of working age people who are employed (all disabilities).	35.28%	30.39%	30.84%
Percentage of working age people who are employed (NO disabilities).	70.10%	71.23%	72.13%
Overall unemployment rate.	6.90%	6.50%	6.60%
Poverty Rate (all disabilities).	24.30%	26.50%	24.80%
Poverty Rate (NO disabilities).	21.60%	20.50%	19.70%
Number of males with disabilities (all ages).	159,355	149,516	153,26
Number of females with disabilities (all ages).	152,418	151,999	153,74
Number of Caucasians with disabilities (all ages).	243,404	229,027	229,60
Number of African Americans with disabilities (all ages).	6,123	6,009	8,54
Number of Hispanic/Latinos with disabilities (all ages).	131,004	132,403	131,18
Number of American Indians/Alaska Natives with disabilities (all ages).	25,064	26,274	27,22
Number of Asians with disabilities (all ages).	2,242	1,842	1,52
Number of Hawaiians/Pacific Islanders with disabilities (all ages).	327	N/A	N//
Number of with multiple races disabilities (all ages).	6,378	8,038	9,540
Number of others with disabilities (all ages).	28,235	30,138	30,453





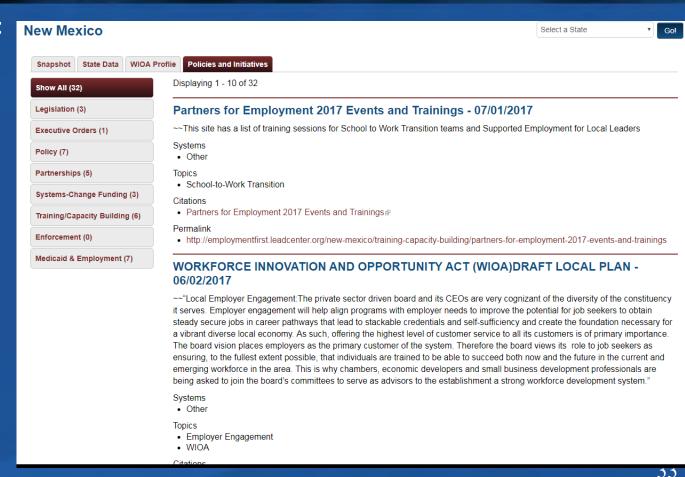
- WIOA Profile:
- Customized Employment
- Braiding/Blending
- Section 188
- DEI/Disability Resource
   Coordinators
- Other State Programs
- Financial Literacy
- Economic Advancement
- Benefits
- School to Work Transition
- Data Collection
- Career Pathways
- Employment Networks







- Policies & Initiatives:
- Legislation (3)
- Executive Orders (1)
- Policy (7)
- Partnerships (5)
- Systems-Change Funding (3)
- Training/Capacity Building (6)
- Enforcement (0)
- Medicaid & Employment (7)







#### Richard Davis

Policy Advisor
Office of Disability Employment Policy
U.S. Department of Labor
202-693-4923

Davis.Richard.A@dol.gov

