

Clinton County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Transition Services for students and young adults

Ohio's Employment First Initiative - The initiative includes legislation and an Executive Order to improve collaboration among the Departments of Developmental Disabilities, Mental Health, Education and Job and Family Services, and the Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission to increase meaningful employment opportunities for people with developmental disabilities.

<http://www.ohioemploymentfirst.org>

The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities has developed the Employment First Rule (5123.2-2-05 and 5123.022 of Revised Code) giving individuals with developmental disabilities access to services and supports to work in a competitive job in the community that will offer greater wealth, quality of life and self-worth. In order for this to take place the Ohio DD system is required to align policies, procedures, eligibility, enrollment and planning for services across our state agencies.

<http://dodd.ohio.gov/newsroom/Pages/Employment-First-Initiative.aspx>

<http://dodd.ohio.gov>

Clinton County Board of DD is in the process of adopting and implementing a local policy that will encourage individuals 14 and older who are determined eligible for services provided by the CCBDD to participate in exploration and discovery opportunities that are individualized and teach skill building, community work, volunteering and/or entrepreneurship in our community.

We will develop a strategic plan that will include the following points.

- The CCBDD will hire an Employment First Manager to oversee the services for transition of youth and young adults with disabilities. The position will be posted the first week of March, 2014.
- The Employment First Manager will educate the community of the Employment First Policies to school districts, families, students and local businesses and agencies. This person will also connect with the local community to locate potential businesses that may be future employers for interested and motivated students and adults. Spring 2014 and ongoing
- The Employment First Manager will collaborate with local school districts to support effective transition planning for students with disabilities. Spring 2014 and ongoing
- The CCBDD's intent during the summer of 2014 is to hold a 2 week long summer orientation camp for youth 16+ to meet, get acquainted, practice skill development , and begin to explore areas of interests and strengths. July, 2014
- The Employment First Manager will work with Orion Inc. provider of services, to complete a Community Employment Skills Assessment as part of the student's transition plan (on their IEP). Summer/Fall 2014 and ongoing

Clinton County Board of Developmental Disabilities

It is our mission to provide programs, services and support for eligible residents of Clinton County which will assist them to live, work, and play in their community.