

# Achieving Quality Employment

Community Employment and Community Life Engagement

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Department of  
Developmental Disabilities

# Employment First in Ohio

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*Governor John Kasich launched the Ohio Employment First when he signed the Executive Order*

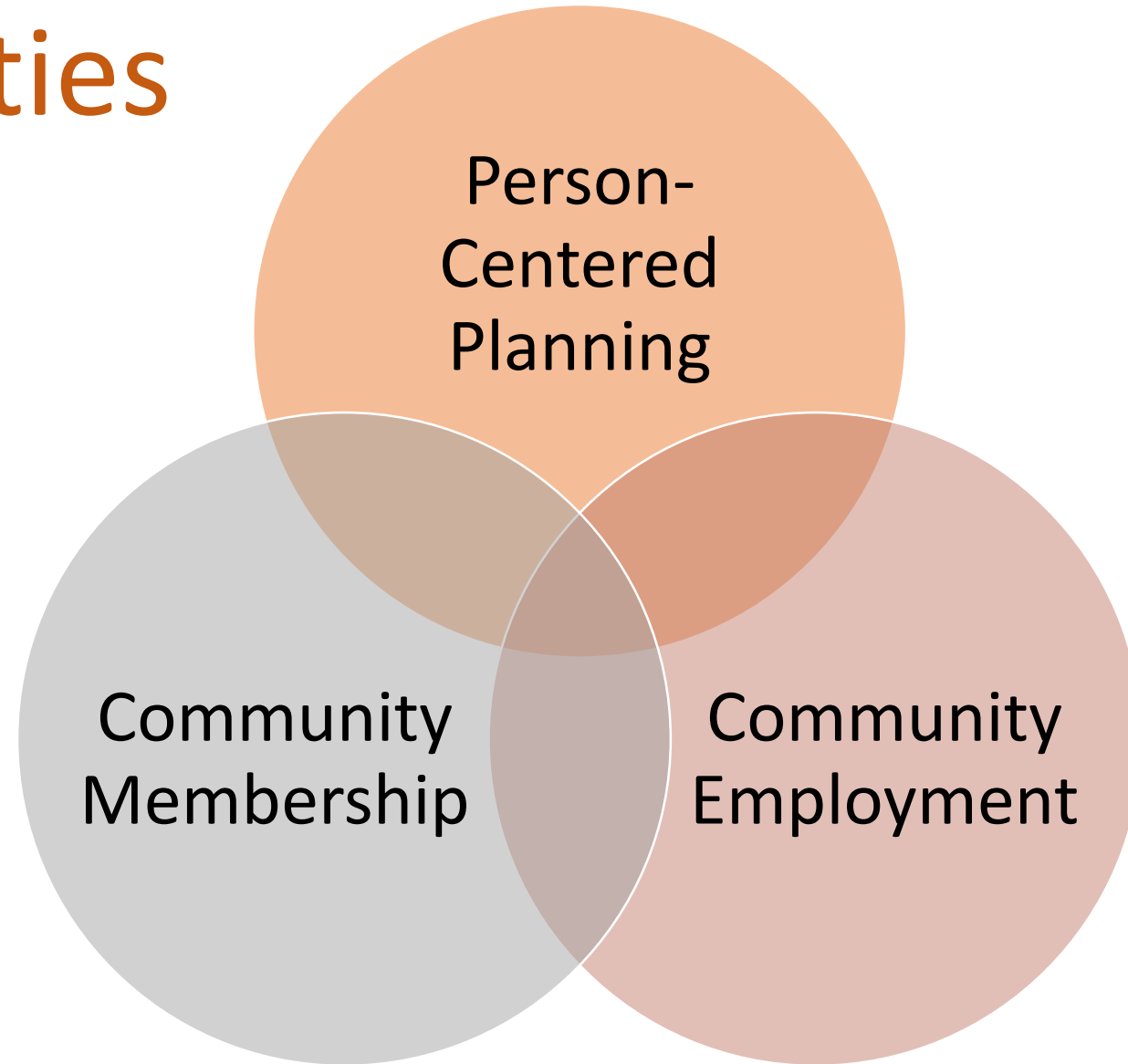


**“Community Employment is the First and Preferred Option for All People with Developmental Disabilities”**

# Employment FIRST not Employment ONLY

- Employment First is a **philosophy**- NOT a program, plan or service
- Community employment is the priority service and preferred outcome for working-age adults
- All people with disabilities are **presumed capable** of community employment

# Ohio's Priorities



# Ohio Employment First Taskforce Transition Vision Plan

## State of Ohio Transition Vision Core Principles

- Community employment is the expectation for all youth
- Transition planning for youth requires multi-agency collaboration
- Early conversation with youth and families is critical
- There are multiple pathways to community employment
- Person-centered planning is key to the development of effective services and supports for transition-age youth

# Ohio Employment First Transition Framework

## Non-Negotiable Foundational Elements:



Person Centered



Outcome Focused



Agency Neutral

# Person-Centered Planning discovers a person's:

- Unique strengths
- Interests
- Abilities
- Preferences
- Available resources
- Support Strategies
- Desired outcomes



# Outcome-Focused



- Actions and supports helps the youth move towards his/her desired outcomes
- Outcomes are accomplished by implementing a specific set of action steps
- Results/progress are seen from the activities, supports and/or services implemented



# Outcome-Focused Planning

**Where is the youth going?**



**Where is the youth today?**



**What steps can the youth and team take to fill that gap?**

*If you don't know where you are going,  
you'll end up someplace else.*

*-Yogi Berra*



# Agency Neutral

- Transition Teams include multi-agency support
- As agencies come together to collaborate, activity should occur in a manner where all involved see value for the youth and no single agency policies or procedures are considered the priority

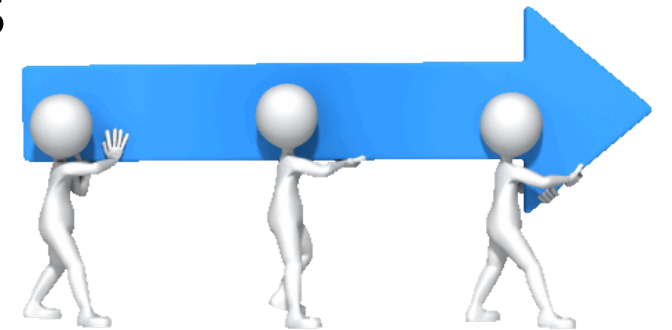


# Agency Neutral

Coordination of employment services and supports from various systems and resources

## ALL TEAM MEMBERS:

- Understand person's outcomes
- Have high expectations for successful actions
- Work together to provide support
- Responsive to changing needs and desires
- Aware of timeframes for completing actions



# Target areas and benefits for Adult Services Include:

- Informed decision making
- Improved health
- Expand natural supports
- Enhanced quality of life
- Develop abilities
- Full community participation
- Stronger connections
- Contributing members
- Increased self-esteem

# Resources

- Ohio Employment First: <https://ohioemploymentfirst.org>
- Job Seekers Guide: <https://jobguide.ohioemploymentfirst.org/>
- Ohio's Disability Benefits 101: <https://oh.db101.org/>
- Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities: <http://dodd.ohio.gov/IndividualFamilies/Pages/Supporting-Families.aspx>
- Charting the LifeCourse: <https://www.frnohio.org/about-lifecourse/charting-the-lifecourse/>
- Ohio Means Jobs: <https://jobseeker.ohiomeansjobs.monster.com/>
- Ohio Self Determination Association: <http://www.osdaohio.org/>

# Questions?

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