

ODP Announcement

Comprehensive Employment Report

ODP Communication Number 096-18

The mission of the Office of Developmental Programs is to support Pennsylvanians with developmental disabilities to achieve greater independence, choice and opportunity in their lives.

AUDIENCE: All interested parties.

PURPOSE: To announce the release of the Office of Developmental Program's first comprehensive employment report.

DISCUSSION: Pennsylvania became an Employment First State on March 10, 2016, when Governor Tom Wolf signed Executive Order 2016-03, "Establishing 'Employment First' Policy and Increasing Competitive-Integrated Employment for Pennsylvania's with a Disability." The Executive Order established policy for agencies under the Governor's jurisdiction, requiring competitive-integrated employment be the first consideration and preferred outcome of all publicly-funded education, employment and training, and long-term supports and service programs for working-age Pennsylvanians with a disability.

Priority Number 11 in the Executive Order Recommendations, published in September 2016, is to "Collect and Coordinate Data." Recommendation #61, specifically, directs the Department of Human Services to collect and publish data on program participants enrolled in programs that provide home and community based services and:

- a. Have employment as a goal in their service plan
- b. Are receiving employment services
- c. Are employed

As a program office under DHS, the Office of Developmental Programs (ODP) is pleased to announce the release of its comprehensive employment report for the Calendar Year 2017 and Quarters 1 and 2 of Calendar Year 2018. ODP anticipates completing this report on a yearly basis.

The State Employment Leadership Network (SELN), through whom ODP receives training and technical assistance, created the following Interagency Collaboration graphic. The illustration identifies the elements of a high-performing employment system and demonstrates how they

work in tandem to lead to better integrated employment outcomes, and ultimately long-term systems change.



The publication of this report is the result of approximately 2 ½ years' preparation and new process implementation, ranging from an SCO baseline employment survey in August 2016, to the implementation of the six new employment individual monitoring questions in November 2016, to the development of an interactive employment dashboard in June 2018.

As a program office, ODP is excited to share this data with our stakeholders and interagency partners. This exchange of information furthers ODP's effort to be transparent regarding our standing as an ID/Autism system invested in helping individuals obtain and maintain competitive-integrated employment, and to inform policy development and program innovation in the months and years to come. ODP would like to thank everyone who has played a part in the efforts which have led to the construction of this report and its publication. You may [view the employment report online](#).

For questions related to this employment report, please contact your regional employment lead.

If you have any questions regarding this Announcement, please email RA-PWODP_OUTREACH@pa.gov