

# EmploymentFirstMaine

## Steering Committee – Draft minutes January 8, 2016

Present: Elaine Ecker NAMI, Rick Langley DRM, Lisa Sturtevant OADS, Debbie Gilmer Syntiro, Betsy Hopkins VR, Shannon Hartman Waban, Janet May CCIDS, Jeanie Coltart CDE, Kevin Owen BRS, Nancy Gable Community Partners, Leticia Huttman SAMHS

### 1. Discussion of meeting schedule, planning:

Feb 12 coalition meeting with Corey Smith not yet scheduled.

June 10 is locked in for Lisa Mills to work with coalition on planning. Otherwise unscheduled.

Discussed planning for recommendations/outcomes that are immediate for action, language for State's strategic plan (10 yrs).

Overview from groups re recommendations they've made, then where to flow in to plan?

Groups to focus on action steps versus recommendations at this point.

Betsy: Hope is that at end of EFM, we'll have a roadmap to continue this work in whatever capacity that might be.

Janet: Looking for guidance re template – how to operationalize, merge those issues. Transition meeting today, things to share.

Lisa to send Corey an email re scheduling.

Developed recommended "northstar" for each group – outcome we want. Steps to get there.

Should see the state ten year plan in play now. Til 2016. Recommendations from this group flowing into a new 10 year strategic plan. See that current plan? le transportation to be addressed?

What's in current plan that needs to be done, improved.

Ten year plan – need to post the current plan to efm website.

Odep work – This is the last year of technical assistance, need to align that plan w/ odep, efm work.

Betsy: Maine's strategic plan to maximize employment for people with disabilities – six priority areas: employer outreach, ME government as model, better support for young people, improve VR services, expand benefits counseling, enhance data collection re workers w disabilities.

Ongoing parking lot, ie transportation.

Perhaps a letter from the chair: Buy-in, get people to see it as opportunity.

Janet: reminder to people re northstar, goals?

Planning on April as full coalition mtg w/ Nancy Brooks Lane transition/business

## **2. Membership discussion:**

Conducted a review of current members and missing representation and developed a list with next steps. Other ideas for membership/recruitment?

Ask Ann Long re reference to transition age child?

## **3. Success Stories/Other Business**

Lisa discussed the curriculum modified by MMC, VR re trainings re working w/ any people with disabilities, any services system under MaineCare. Get info, change the conversation re why work is important. Eliminate barriers.

6 trainings, booked quickly. Bangor almost filled. Roll-out next week  
Benefit and financial navigator program

Website w resources etc.

Requests already re going to continue trainings?

Debbie: Discovering Personal Genius class end of month. Introduction to customized employment - doing webinar, reading assignment before the class on 27<sup>th</sup>.

ACRE class Mar 14 almost full. Employment specialist training - chance to register still.

Leticia: Re 1915i waiver application, OMS working on draft application, to be put out for public comment, then submitted to CMS, planning on later this month.