

**Employment First
Transition Work Group Notes
January 10, 2014**

Members Present:

x	Jan Breton – Maine DOE	x	Janet May – CCIDS – Umaine	x	Margaret Cardoza – Self Advocate Community Partners
x	Roberta Lucas – Maine DOE	x	Suzanne Boras – SAUHS	x	Sitara Sheikh – DOL - BRS
x	Dulcey Laberge – DHHS OCFS	x	Atlee Reilly - DRC	Abs	Tricia Barker- Morrison Center
Abs	Peter Phair - NAMI			Abs	Valerie Smith – MDDS Oversight Bd.
				Abs	John Allen - parent

Others Present:

Name: Polly Lawson – Interpreter Name: Gayle Shaw - Interpreter Name

Agenda Item

Discussion

Action to be Taken

<p>Welcome and introductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete form with name, role, telephone and e-mail address • Need notetaker 	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Review transition work group charter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do we ensure that planning starts happening when it's supposed to. • VR doesn't get drawn in until late but can help schools • Would be helpful to begin transition planning when child is 14 • Identify what's working –where are they being written well? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Geographically northern part of state is struggling o Staffing o Resources • Should we align with employment specialists to help those struggling with no place for youth to 		

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action to be Taken
	<p>go – how can we help link ?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should we have a JMG specialist, Goodwill Industries, youth? – or some youth advocate groups? • Not enough skills in job transition – what are the curricula of skill building 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss scope of work/deliverables 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify deliverables for early focus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum – soft skills development • All youth – or most severely disabled? • Law – statement about employment vs day services • Transportation is an issue – if they join day services must go to the day services location before billable (could committee come up with ideas for students with more significant disabilities – we should be working towards a job or schooling not day program) or help young people acquire skills so that transportation doesn't become an issue • Issue of no jobs – develop apprenticeships, places to get community experiences – to understand there is a world outside of school • Consistent process for IEP development • Regional job programs – vocational – some youth may have to earn the right to be part of a job program. CTE Centers need to be accessible – focus on what do we have and do our youth have equal access • Post-secondary schooling\ • Normalizing this process • What is role of DHHS, VR, Parents in 	<p>Continue discussion next time to narrow down deliverables</p>

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action to be Taken
	transition process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moving Forward project for student with emotional disturbance – MOU – youth of transition age, what they should receive from various state agencies 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin development of project definition 	Next meeting	
Elect co-chair and note taker	Janet May agreed to be co-chair	
Next Meeting	Date February 14, 2014 – 1-2:30 PM – Commerce building	Agenda Items Decision making process Review website Continue project definition