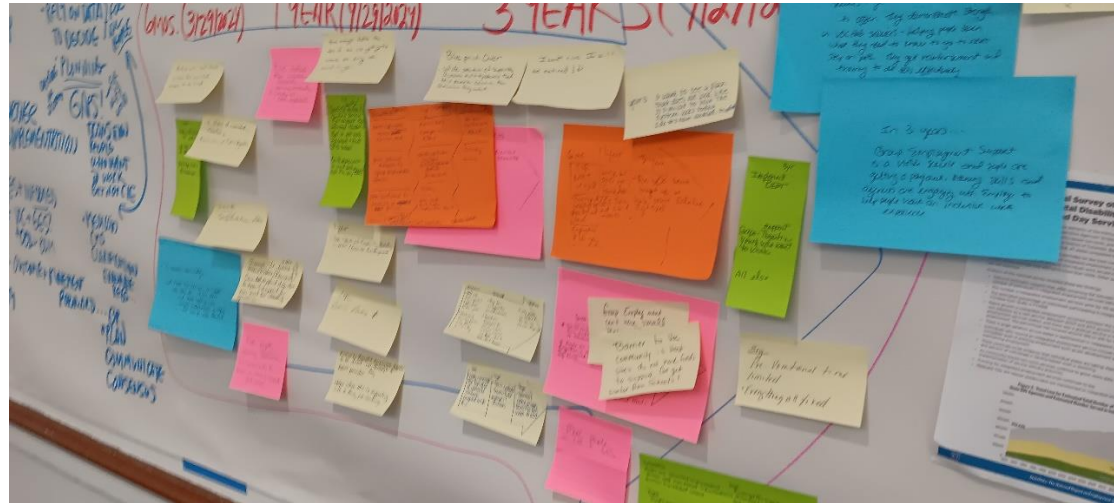


**PRE-VOCATIONAL AND GROUP EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT WORKGROUP  
WORKPLAN September – December 2023**



**Right Now (9/29/2023)**

1. NMT – CIE Rate
2. Increase Use of Group Employment Supports
3. Address Vocational Habilitation being used to support long-term employment
4. Because of #3, identify needs being missed by our service system
5. Meeting cadence: 10/20/2023 1 - 3 pm at the New Albany Library (200 Market St New Albany, Ohio 43054). Zoom follow-up: 11/3/2023, 1 - 2 pm (<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1613487563>), with a continued focus on Group Employment Supports. 11/17/2023 IN-PERSON, Ohio Department of Administrative Services, Willow Conference Room, 4200 Surface Road, Columbus, OH 43228-1395, 1 - 3 pm. Zoom follow-up: 12/1/2023, 1 - 2 pm (<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1605150280>).

**What does the Bright, Successful future of Pre-Vocational and Group and Individual Employment Supports in Ohio look/feel like?**

- A variety of services, supports and solutions for people's specific journeys, with specific time limits based on those journeys
- Flexibility and encouragement to move forward based on reality

- It's about experiences, not just services
- Alignment with OOD and many less "Closed Other" cases
- Everyone who needs it gets it, including people with complex needs
- Well trained case managers, counselors, educators, and providers, all speaking the same language
- Rates that increase the utilization of Group Employment Supports
- Transition youth moving from school to work
- Providers falling out of love of services, but in love with the outcomes people achieve
- Simple, quick authorizations, and clear data that allows decisions to be made and validated

### **Barriers**

- Workforce
- Transportation
- Closed Other - OOD
- Transitioning into adulthood - understanding services, educating families
- People aren't asked the right questions/don't further explore/how to get past the fear

### **Major Themes**

- Specifically enhanced partnership with OOD regarding capacity and improvement of services.
- UCR for CIE transportation
- Two services: one for Pre-Vocational services, one for habilitation to encompass those not on a path to employment
- Community involvement/experiences that are supported through rules and rates
- Comprehensive Assessment and Planning
- Financing and contracting must meet needs of providers to provide best service possible
- Must fill gaps for transition age students
- Simplify the system
- Incorporation of therapies/behavioral health and idea of work as therapy as part of the discussion
- Medicaid/CMS clarification for time limited

### **3 Years from Now**

- GES is robust and being utilized more
- Separate pots of money is blended together so people can choose what services they want and what path they want to go down
- 1 budget and 1 assessment

- BEST brought into services - service definitions right sized
- Works4Me has yielded new innovative ways to support people beyond “closed other”
- A variety of support, experiences and solutions to help people achieve employment goals
- Intense and ongoing training
- Plans don't look different
- Transition aged youth working during and after high school
- More people are employed with better wages

### **1 Year from Now**

- Data to see where we are going
- Discussion of OOD and front door services - different place
- Drafting rule language
- Creating a Medicaid funded service that is not work focused that meets CMS rules
- Providing a new Pre-Vocational service
- Incentivizing employers to provide in-house coaches

### **6 Months from Now**

- Consensus on what everything will look like, and a solid plan to get there
- Clarification and verification of CMS and ODM rules
- Investigating/piloting ways to increase GES utilization
- An assessment of current transition-related services has been completed and work on increasing the quality of transition planning has started
- Resources for complex needs are being investigated
- Set rates (NMT, CIE)
- Training on GEs and Pre-Vocti
- OOD and Works4Me: closed other discussion, with a plan on decreasing the number
- Evaluate HPC doing employment services so we can look at the HPC service

NMT + CIE	Target Dates	Update
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Develop a survey to send to prospective providers to get information to develop rate-setting. (Milliman)</li> <li>b. Disseminate survey and collect data for 10/20/2023 meeting.</li> <li>c. Meet 10/20/2023 1 – 2:30 pm to discuss and develop rates for NMT + CIE; 2:30 – 3 pm begin discussion of Group Employment Support work. (Workgroup)</li> <li>d. Include agreed-upon change in July 2024 Waiver Amendment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 10/6/2023</li> <li>b. 10/20/2023</li> <li>c. 10/20/2023</li> <li>d. 2/1/2023</li> </ul>	

Group Employment Support	Target Dates	Update
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Begin discussion of increasing Group Employment Support utilization at 10/20/2023 meeting. Questions to discuss: How can we increase</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 10/20/2023</li> </ul>	

Group Employment Support	Target Dates	Update
utilization? What incentives are needed? What needs to change? (Workgroup)		
b) Continue the conversation at the 11/3/2023 Zoom session. (Workgroup)	b) 11/3/2023	
c) Draft plan to submit to Director Hauck. (Workgroup, Milliman)	c) 12/15/2023	

Pre-Vocational Support	Target Dates	Update
a) Discussion at 11/17/2023 in-person meeting of Pre-Vocational Supports and Vocational Habilitation. Questions: How do we best address Vocational Habilitation being used to support long-term employment? What is needed to support the system to move toward compliance and a more beneficial pre-vocational service? What needs are being missed by our service system? (Workgroup)	a) 11/17/2023	
b) Review BEST Framework. (Workgroup)	b) 11/17/2023	
	c) 11/17/2023	

Pre-Vocational Support	Target Dates	Update
<p>c) Review ODM and CMS information. (Workgroup)</p> <p>d) Walk through all Pre-Vocational and Group Employment Support work, and ensure all issues are aligned and decided on the 12/1/2023 Zoom session.</p> <p>e) Draft plan to submit to Director Hauck. (Workgroup, Milliman)</p>	<p>d) 12/15/2023</p> <p>e) 12/1/2023</p>	