

APRIL 5 • KALAHARI RESORT, WISCONSIN DELLS

WISCONSIN EMPLOYMENT FIRST

2017 Conference

Embracing Change:
Together We Make it Happen



▶▶ Embracing Change: Together We Make it Happen



The Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities (BPDD), the Wisconsin Association of People Supporting EmploymentFirst (WI APSE), and People First Wisconsin would like to extend a warm welcome to everyone attending the fourth annual Employment First Conference!

This year's conference title is Embracing Change: Together We Make It Happen. The conference focuses on the changes happening at the state and federal level and how these changes will significantly increase integrated employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities. As last year's keynote speaker, Ari Nieman, President and co-founder of the Autistic Self Advocacy Network, said, "Now more than ever before in the disability rights movement, the momentum is on our side."

Change provides both opportunities and challenges. This conference brings together individuals with disabilities, family members, state vocational rehabilitation counselors, employment providers, policy makers, and educators to learn and share creative ways to address the challenges and take advantage of the opportunities.



“Now more than ever before in the disability rights movement, the momentum is on our side.”

Ari Nieman, President and co-founder of the Autistic Self Advocacy Network

The conference will provide many opportunities for learning, sharing resources, and developing connections. At each breakout session, there will be topics specifically geared towards individuals with disabilities, family members, employment service providers, long-term care providers, state vocational rehabilitation counselors, and educators. Breakout sessions will include:

- ◆ Growth of Integrated Employment and Day Services Options in Wisconsin
- ◆ Fully Engaging Students and Families in the Transition Planning Process - An Endeavor Worth the Effort
- ◆ Employer/Employee Panel – “ Together We Make It Happen”
- ◆ Customized Employment/Discovery and Exploration Works
- ◆ Top Job Developers: Mastering the Art of Employer Discovery and Job Negotiation
- ◆ Strategies for Providing Job Coaching That Feels Natural and Supports Fading
- ◆ Using Natural Supports to Increase Independence On The Job and In The Community
- ◆ A Taste of Motivational Interviewing
- ◆ Implementation of Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA): How is it Impacting Individuals with Disabilities, Families and Providers
- ◆ New Partnerships Between Schools and CRPs: Supporting Student Employment Together
- ◆ Financial Planning/Asset Development
- ◆ Apps for Employment—Successful Employment at Your Fingertips
- ◆ Pre-Employment Transition Services through Vocational Rehabilitation
- ◆ Update on Implementation of Home and Community Based Services Rules for Non-residential Providers

Let's work together to take advantage of the opportunities that change can bring. Together we will make integrated employment possible for all individuals with disabilities in Wisconsin.

Together We Make It Happen!

Both CEU's and CRC's will be available this year! Sponsored by



▶▶ **Employment First: The National Effort Continues**

Employment First (EF) has been an active national movement for over a decade. EF works for the development of policy and practice that makes integrated employment the number one priority for all individuals with disabilities. EF advocates for states to adopt formal laws and policies that result in a significant increase in the number of individuals with disabilities in integrated employment. Currently 46 states are active in the EF movement and 32 have taken formal, statewide policy action.




EF is not just a philosophy, it is results focused. EF strives to achieve the following outcomes in every state:

- ◆ Measurable increases in employment within the general workforce, earning minimum wage or higher with benefits
- ◆ Greater opportunities to pursue self-employment and the development of microenterprises
- ◆ Employment as the first and preferred option when exploring goals and a life path
- ◆ Employment within the general workforce, regardless of the severity of disability and assistance required
- ◆ Work experiences that are typical of other teenagers and young adults
- ◆ Employers actively recruiting, valuing, and including people with disabilities as an integral part of their workforce
- ◆ Increased incomes, financial assets, and economic wealth

- ◆ Greater opportunities to advance in careers, by recognizing and taking full advantage of individual strengths and talents
- ◆ Sufficient funding so that quality services and supports are available as needed for long-term employment success
- ◆ Re-evaluating, on a regular basis, people's decisions not to work and providing services for them to learn about integrated employment safely and with support

We are already on the path to achieve these outcomes in many communities throughout Wisconsin. The Workforce Innovations and Opportunities Act (WIOA) and the new federal Home and Community Based Setting (HCBS) Rule are paving the way for continued advancement toward Employment First outcomes.



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Check out the Wisconsin Employment First Website: www.wiemploymentfirst.com

- ◆ Find out about upcoming employment events
- ◆ Learn about innovative employment efforts and promising practices in WI
- ◆ Connect with others who are passionate about employment
- ◆ Find out about employment efforts happening in your local community
- ◆ Access valuable state and national employment resources, tools, and data
- ◆ Get the latest updates on “hot topics” effecting individuals with disabilities
- ◆ Become a member of the Wisconsin Employment First Coalition

The website is sponsored by The Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities (WI-BPDD), Wisconsin Association of People Supporting EmploymentFirst (WI APSE), and People First Wisconsin.



Wisconsin Employment First Conference Keynote Speaker: **Patti Killingsworth**

PATTI KILLINGSWORTH is Tennessee's chief of long-term services and supports and is an assistant commissioner for the Bureau of TennCare, the state Medicaid agency. She has led the implementation of an integrated managed long-term services and supports system for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, people with physical disabilities and frail elders. Tennessee's managed care is expanding access to home and community based services and rapidly advancing the rebalancing of resources toward



home and community-based services. In July of 2016, after multiple years of stakeholder engagement and planning, TennCare launched the Employment and Community First CHOICES managed long-term care program for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. This is the first long-term care program in the country specifically designed to advance Employment First. Under the direction of Assistant Commissioner Killingsworth, the state of Tennessee is also the first state to receive both initial and final approval for its statewide transition plan to achieve compliance with the Medicaid Home and Community-Based Settings rule. In addition, Ms. Killingsworth provided testimony to the Wisconsin Assembly Aging and Long-Term Care Committee to showcase best practices being implemented in Tennessee's managed long-term care.

Assistant Commissioner Killingsworth came to Tennessee in 2001 as a special assistant to the deputy to the governor for health policy, coordinating disability policy and issues across state agencies. She became director of policy for TennCare in 2003. She was appointed assistant commissioner and chief administrative officer for TennCare in 2004, with responsibilities for the Division of Member Eligibility and Medical Appeals Services. Prior to coming to Tennessee, Ms. Killingsworth was a deputy director with the Missouri Department of Mental Health's Division of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities. Ms. Killingsworth holds a degree in socio-political communications from Missouri State University.

AGENDA AT A GLANCE

8:00-9:00

Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:00-10:00

Key Note Speaker: Patti Killingsworth

10:00-10:15

Networking and Micro-enterprise vendors

10:15 -11:30

Breakout Sessions 1-8

11:30-12:30

Lunch: Shop at Micro-enterprise Vendors

12:30-12:45

Networking and Micro-enterprise vendors

12:45-2:00

Breakout Sessions 9-16

2:00-2:15

Networking and Micro-enterprise Vendors

2:15-3:30

Breakout Sessions 17-24



Wednesday, April 5, 2017

2017 Employment First Conference Schedule: Sessions 1 - 8

8:00 - 9:00	Registration and Continental Breakfast
9:00 - 10:00	Featured Speaker: Patti Killingsworth Embracing Change: Building and Reconstructing Public Programs to Advance Employment First
10:00 - 10:15	Networking Break and Exhibitors
10:15 - 11:30	CONCURRENT WORKSHOP SESSIONS 1 - 8 SESSION 1 - ROOM: Mangrove, PRESENTER: Patti Killingsworth Advancing Employment First in Partnership with Funders: A Conversation with a Senior Medicaid Official Contracting with Managed Care Organizations SESSION 2 - ROOM: Aralia, PRESENTERS: Shannon Webb/TBD Panel Individuals with Disabilities and Their Employers Making It Happen Together SESSION 3 - ROOM: Marula, PRESENTERS: Sarah Lincoln and Jessica Smith New Supports for Sub-Minimum Wage Workers Interested in Competitive Employment SESSION 4 - ROOM: Aloeswood, PRESENTER: Shannon Webb Partners with Business: Creative & Cost-Effective Workplace Support SESSION 5 (Session 1 of a 3 part series) - ROOM: Tamboti, PRESENTER: Janet Estervig Customized Employment/Discovery and Exploration Works SESSION 6 - ROOM: Guava, PRESENTERS: LaNae Jabas and Jenny Jacobs Engaging Students and Families FULLY in The Transition Process: An Endeavor Worth the Effort SESSION 7 - ROOM: Tamarind, PRESENTERS: Brenda Swoboda and Jennifer Hilgendorf New Partnerships Between Schools and Agencies SESSION 8 - ROOM: Portia, PRESENTERS: Therese Fimian and Michael Callahan The Pathways to Careers Initiative: A Bridge to Integrated Community Employment
11:30 - 12:30	Lunch
12:30 - 12:45	Networking Break and Exhibitors

Session times and days are subject to change

2017 Employment First Conference Schedule: **Sessions 9 - 16**

10:00 - 10:15 Networking Break and Exhibitors

12:45 - 2:00 **CONCURRENT WORKSHOP SESSIONS 9 - 16**

SESSION 9 - ROOM: Mangrove,

**PRESENTERS: Janet Estervig and and Department of Health Services/Division of Medicaid Services/
Long Term Care Panel**

**Conversations with the Department of Health Services: How is the Home and Community Based
Services (HCBS) Rule moving forward**

SESSION 10 - ROOM: Aralia, PRESENTERS: Beth Wroblewski and Stephanie Drum

Financial Planning Asset Development for Independence

SESSION 11 - ROOM: Marula,

PRESENTERS: Sarah Lincoln, Nancy Molfenter, Deanna Krell and Pam Jenson

WIOA Pre-Employment Transition Services Collaboration and Coordination

SESSION 12 - ROOM: Aloeswood, PRESENTERS: Shannon Webb/EF Ambassadors

WI Employment First Ambassadors: Making a HUGE Impact!

SESSION 13 (Session 2 of a 3 part series) - ROOM: Tamboti, PRESENTER: TBD

Top Job Developers: Mastering the Art of Employer Discovery and Job Negotiation

SESSION 14 - ROOM: Guava, PRESENTER: Michael Callahan

Using Systematic Instruction as a Tool for Engaging Natural Supports in the Workplace

SESSION 15 - ROOM: Tamarind, PRESENTER: Linda Hedenblad

A Taste of Motivational Interviewing

SESSION 16 - ROOM: Portia, PRESENTER: Sara Murphy

**Gunning for Inclusion: Encouraging Independence, Facilitating Natural Supports and
Riding Shotgun**

2:00 - 2:15 Networking Break and Exhibitors

▶▶ 2017 Employment First Conference Schedule: **Sessions 17 - 24**

2:15 - 3:30

CONCURRENT WORKSHOP SESSIONS 17 - 24

SESSION 17 - ROOM: Mangrove,

**PRESENTERS: Janet Estervig and and Department of Health Services/Division of Medicaid Services/
Long Term Care Panel**

**Conversations with the Department of Health Services: How is the Home and Community Based
Services (HCBS) Rule moving forward**

SESSION 18 - ROOM: Aralia, PRESENTERS: Stephanie Drum and Megan Koch

Benefits Counseling 101

SESSION 19 - ROOM: Marula,

PRESENTERS: Brian Kenney and Kathy Tuttle

**Collaborative Connections in Wisconsin—Schools and Agencies Preparing Youth to Be College and
Career Ready**

SESSION 20 - ROOM: Jaclyn Wilsey

Apps & Other A.T. at Work

SESSION 21 (Session 3 of a 3 part series) - ROOM: Tamboti, PRESENTER: TBD

Strategies for Providing Job Coaching That Feels Natural and Supports Fading

SESSION 22 - ROOM: Guava, PRESENTER: Lisa Mills

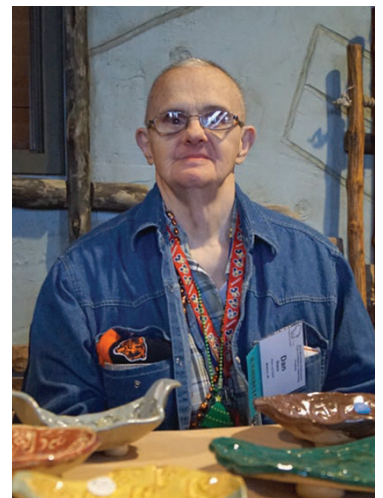
Growth of Integrated Employment and Day Service Options in WI

SESSION 23 - ROOM: Tamarind, PRESENTER: Linda Hedenblad

Encouraging Open and Positive Conversations

SESSION 24 - ROOM: Portia, PRESENTER: Sara Murphy/Shannon Webb

Embracing Change & Building Full Live





Session Descriptions

Conference Sessions 1 - 8: 10:15 - 11:30

SESSION 1: Advancing Employment First in Partnership with Funders: A Conversation with a Senior Medicaid Official Contracting with Managed Care Organizations

Presenter: Patti Killingsworth

Room: Mangrove

As providers, it can sometimes feel difficult to align with state and MCO funder expectations, particularly when it comes to advancing Employment First. With Medicaid programs facing significant resource limitations, and increasing demand for services from eligible state residents, the focus on quality outcomes can sometimes appear to get lost. As providers, it's critical to be able to speak to the goals and objectives of funders in leveraging their support and investment in what your agency offers. Join our keynote speaker for an open discussion on communicating effectively with funding sources to advance your agency's Employment First services.

SESSION 2: Individuals with Disabilities and Their Employers Making It Happen Together

Presenters: Shannon Webb and panel TBD

Room: Aralia

This panel session features employees with disabilities and their employers sharing their experiences working together. Listen to their inspirational stories and come with your questions!

SESSION 3: WIOA: New Supports for Sub-Minimum Wage Workers Interested in Competitive Employment

Presenters: Sarah Lincoln and Jessica Smith

Room: Marula

WIOA requires that the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation provide specific services to youth with disabilities ages 14-24 prior to them working for sub-minimum wage. WIOA also requires an annual outreach and review service to individuals earning sub-minimum wage working under a 14c certificate. DVR has contracted with UW Whitewater to provide this service statewide. This session will review the 511 portion of WIOA as well as describe the process and procedure being used to provide this service. There will also be a Q&A portion of the agenda to address questions and concerns.

SESSION 4: Partners with Business: Creative & Cost-Effective Workplace Support

Presenter: Shannon Webb and PWB Project Site

Representatives

Room: Aloeswood

Partners with Business is a way to support workers with disabilities to achieve long-term success on the job by using a creative combination of natural and formal supports, both of which are provided by the employer using funds from the long-

term care system or other sources to designate co-worker(s), to provide necessary ongoing supports. In this session you will learn about the Partners with Business model and hear from three agencies and one school district about their experiences implementing the model in communities around WI.

SESSION 5: Customized Employment/Discovery and Exploration Works (Session 1 of a 3-part series)**

Presenter: Janet Estervig

Room: Tamboti

Using a multi-strategy approach in matching the unique skills and contributions each person brings to an employer in need of those skill sets. The discovery process seeks to learn the person's interests, best work environments, job restructuring possibilities, creation of portfolios, and exploring career possibilities to complete a strength-based alternative assessment that includes perceived barriers with solutions, as you take the next step toward seeking employment.

SESSION 6: Engaging Students and Families FULLY in the Transition Process: An Endeavor worth the Effort

Presenters: LaNae Jabas and Jenny Jacobs

Room: Guava

Family Engagement in the transition process is one of the sixteen predictors of post school success for students with disabilities. Learn how the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) has increased the need for families to have an understanding of DVR services and working with outside agencies earlier in their child's transition process. TIG has also created an app that students and families can use to increase their knowledge and input in the Postsecondary Transition Plan process. Student-led IEPs will also be discussed and examples given.

SESSION 7: New Partnerships Between Schools and Agencies

Presenters: Brenda Swoboda and Jennifer Hilgendorf

Room: Tamarind

This session will provide an in-depth look at how to create community based employment opportunities and work experiences through the lens of collaborative partnerships. The goal of this unique team approach is to ensure that youth with disabilities are leaving their high school programs employed and connected to the supports they need for their adult lives!

SESSION 8: The Pathways to Careers Initiative: A Bridge to Integrated Community Employment

Presenters: *Therese Fimian and Michael Callahan*

Room: *Portia*

The Pathways to Careers initiative provides a bridge that organizations can use to move toward implementation of community, integrated employment. Each aspect of Pathways was considered in relation to both a set of strategies and values that reflect best and emerging practices in the field of community employment and, at the same time, respond to the concerns of the individuals, families and support agencies. We will share information about the initiatives customized and supported employment strategies, evaluation, policy, training and capacity building needed for an agency to provide access to community, integrated employment outcomes to individuals with significant disabilities.



Session Descriptions

Conference Sessions 9 - 16: 12:45 - 2:00

SESSION 9: Conversations with the Department of Health Services: How is the Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Non-Residential Rule Moving Forward?

Presenters: *Janet Estervig and Department of Health Services/Division of Medicaid Services/Long Term Care presenter panel*

Room: *Mangrove*

The Department of Health Services panel will provide an overview of the implementation of the Home and Community Based Final Settings Rule in Wisconsin that goes into full effect March 2019. The panel will discuss the next steps in implementing the final settings rule with a question and answer opportunity.

SESSION 10: Financial Planning and Asset Development for Independence

Presenters: *Beth Wroblewski and Stephanie Drum*

Room: *Aralia*

Managing budgets, savings, debt and income are all essential to a person's well-being. Money management creates independence, choice in your life and connections to the community. This session will feature options and tools for people to manage their money rather than the other way around!

SESSION 11: WIOA Pre-Employment Transition Services Collaboration and Coordination

Presenter: *Sarah Lincoln, Nancy Molfenter, Pam Jenson, and Deanna Krell*

Room: *Marula*

WIOA requires that the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and the local school districts work collaboratively to provide Pre-Employment Transition Services to students ages 14-21. This session will review the requirements of WIOA for schools and DVR to provide these PreETS services. We will also provide

examples of best practices of the collaboration between schools and DVR to provide positive employment outcomes for students with disabilities in their transition from school to competitive integrated employment.

SESSION 12: WI Employment First Ambassadors: Making a HUGE Impact!

Presenters: *Shannon Webb and EF Ambassadors and Supporting Partners*

Room: *Aloeswood*

For the past two years, the WI BPDD has been fostering the development of more than 30 Employment First Ambassadors. EF Ambassadors are individuals with disabilities who receive support to develop presentations and share their community employment experiences with employers, families, service providers, high schools, and legislators in their local community. Their compelling stories and outreach efforts are having a tremendous impact on local communities and statewide policies. Come to this session to hear about their exciting efforts and learn how you can become or support an EF Ambassador in your local community!

SESSION 13: Top Job Developers: Mastering the Art of Employer Discovery and Job Negotiation (Session 2 of a 3-part series)**

Presenter: *Janet Estervig*

Room: *Tamboti*

Learn how to connect with businesses that will open doors for job seekers with disabilities. Job negotiation is both an art and a science. Using a business approach, you can make meaningful, long-term connections that meet the needs of both employers and people you are serving. Learn how to inventory your communities, analyze labor market data, market your services and develop professional business proposals.

SESSION 14: Using Systematic Instruction as a Tool for Engaging Natural Supports in the Workplace

Presenter: Michael Callahan

Room: Guava

This session will provide an overview of systematic instruction as part of a systematic strategy called The Seven Phase Sequence, designed to engage natural supports from day one of an individual's employment. The critical importance of adapting systematic instruction and job coaching strategies to the natural ways and natural means of the business/ employer will be discussed, including how to engage natural people to play their appropriate roles in training, supervising and supporting their new employee. This holistic approach is essential for fading paid supports. Key principles for effective systematic instruction will also be discussed.

SESSION 15: A Taste of Motivational Interviewing

Presenter: Linda Hedenblad

Room: Tamarind

Motivational Interviewing is a "collaborative conversation to strengthen a person's own motivation for and commitment to change." In this session we will explore the basic concepts of

Motivational Interviewing and experience a taste of how it may be applied. This session will be informative, interactive, and fun.

SESSION 16: Gunning for Inclusion: Encouraging Independence, Facilitating Natural Supports and Riding Shotgun

Presenter: Sara Murphy

Room: Portia

For some service providers, integration and hours in community settings are now being seen as "outcomes" and measures of success for program services. However, people with disabilities are not just asking "to be in the community", but instead are hoping "to be embraced and valued by the community". Service providers must see inclusion and independence- not just integration- as the real measure of their program's success. During this session, Sara Murphy will present strategies for supporting inclusion, independence and social value. The group will discuss ways to encourage self-confidence in community settings, the dignity of risk and how to build a network of support that goes well beyond our program services.



Session Descriptions

Conference Sessions 17 - 24: 2:15 - 3:30

SESSION 17: Conversations with the Department of Health Services: How is the Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Non-Residential Rule Moving Forward?

Presenter: Janet Estervig and Department of Health Services/Division of Medicaid Services/Long Term Care presenter panel

Room: Mangrove

The Department of Health Services panel will provide an overview of the implementation of the Home and Community Based Final Settings Rule in Wisconsin that goes into full effect March 2019. The panel will discuss the next steps in implementing the final settings rule with a question and answer opportunity.

SESSION 18: Benefits Counseling 101

Presenters: Stephanie Drum and Megan Koch

Room: Aralia

Benefits Counseling is an important service to help people with disabilities to see their path to work. People can confidently reach their employment goals by understanding and using work incentives, assuring they have access to medical insurance and understanding their cash benefits.

SESSION 19: Collaborative Connections in Wisconsin— Schools and Agencies Preparing Youth to be College and Career Ready

Presenter: Brian Kenney, Kathy Tuttle, Marathon County Job Center, DWD Youth Apprenticeship

Room: Marula

This session brings together a diverse group of agencies to highlight resources for youth in career planning towards employment and careers. Representatives from the Wisconsin Transition Improvement Grant (TIG), Marathon County Job Center, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) and Department of Workforce Development (DWD)—Wisconsin Youth Apprenticeship (YA) program will share collaborative activities and opportunities available for youth and schools in Wisconsin.

SESSION 20: Apps and Other Assistive Technology at Work

Presenter: Jaclyn Wilsey

Room: Aloeswood

This session will focus on specific apps to foster independence for natural supports in the workplace, as well as other forms of assistive technology. Would you benefit from learning about apps to help with notetaking, memory, nervousness, and more? Join in the discussion of built-in accessibility and native apps to help reduce job coaching supports and increase independence, confidence, and comprehension. At the end of this session there will be open dialogue for others to share helpful technology or apps.

SESSION 21 : Strategies for Providing Job Coaching That Feels Natural and Supports Fading (Part 3 of a 3-part series)**

Presenter: Janet Estervig

Room: Tamboti

This training will promote innovative thinking and new approaches as you support people with disabilities in their jobs through job analysis, systematic instruction, job matching, use of technology, supporting co-workers, developing adaptations to lead to increased independence, support soft skills mastery and what it means to “fade” Job Coach support.



SESSION 22: Growth of Integrated Employment and Day Service Options in WI

Presenter: Lisa Mills

Room: Guava

This session will discuss the increasing number of providers around the state that are offering integrated prevocational and integrated day services in addition to supported employment. Models will be shared. Partnerships with IRIS Consultant Agencies and Family Care Managed Care Organizations will be highlighted. The importance of ensuring these options are available statewide will also be discussed, given the Medicaid Home and Community-Based Settings Rule and statewide compliance required by March of 2019.



SESSION 23: Encouraging Open and Positive Conversations

Presenter: Linda Hedenblad

Room: Tamarind

Interpersonal dynamics can be very complex. Our typical way of working through tough conversations can often make them more divisive. When someone is expressing anger, being passive or being resistant, it often means they are trying to be heard. In this session we will explore tools to better diffuse difficult conversations.

SESSION 24: Embracing Change & Building Full Lives

Presenter: Sara Murphy, Shannon Webb and Representatives from Project Sites

Room: Portia

For two years, WI-BPDD’s Building Full Lives Project (BFL) has been working to expand provider capacity to assist people with disabilities to engage in their communities in meaningful ways. The project is currently supporting 9 agencies throughout the state to transform their service delivery models from site-based services to community-based settings. In today’s session, a panel of BFL providers will discuss the service transformation process within their agencies, the challenges they faced and more importantly, the impacts and successes they are now seeing. Please come learn more about the innovative community-based day and employment services these providers have put in place.



Index of Presenters

Michael Callahan

Using Systematic Instruction as a Tool for Engaging Natural Supports in the Workplace

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Stephanie Drum

Benefits Counseling 101

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Janet Estervig

*Customized Employment/Discovery and Exploration Works
Top Job Developers: Mastering the Art of Employer Discovery and Job Negotiation
Strategies for Providing Job Coaching That Feels Natural and Supports Fading
Conversations with the Department of Health Services: How is the Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Rule moving forward*

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Therese Fimian

The Pathways to Careers Initiative: A Bridge to Integrated Community Employment

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Linda Hedenblad

*A Taste of Motivational Interviewing
Encouraging Open and Positive Conversations*

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Jennifer Hilgendorf

New Partnerships Between Schools and Agencies

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Engaging Students and Families FULLY in the Transition Process: An Endeavor worth the Effort

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Collaborative Connections in Wisconsin—Schools and Agencies preparing youth to be college and career ready

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Patti Killingsworth

*Embracing Change: Building and Reconstructing Public Programs to Advance Employment First
Advancing Employment First in Partnership with Funders: A Conversation with a Senior Medicaid Official Contracting with Managed Care Organizations*

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Lisa Mills

Growth of Integrated Employment and Day Service Options in WI

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Sarah Lincoln

*New Supports for Sub-Minimum Wage Workers
Interested in Competitive WIOA Pre-Employment Transition Services Collaboration and Coordination*

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Sara Murphy

*Embracing Change & Building Full Lives
Gunning for Inclusion: Encouraging independence, \facilitating natural supports and riding shotgun.*

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Brenda Swoboda

New Partnerships Between Schools and Agencies

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Shannon Webb

*Individuals with Disabilities and Their Employers
Making It Happen Together
Partners with Business: Creative & Cost-Effective Workplace Support*

WI Employment First Ambassadors: Making a HUGE Impact!

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Jaclyn Wilsey

Apps & Other A.T. at Work

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Beth Wroblewski

Financial Planning and Asset Development for Independence

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Wisconsin Employment First Partners



WI Employment First Partners are engaged in outreach activities in their local community, such as presenting to business groups, holding legislative breakfasts, and conducting media campaigns, that promote Employment First principles and raise awareness of the importance of integrated employment for people with disabilities.

Call to Action

Do You Believe...

- ◆ That people with disabilities can and should be contributing members in their communities?
- ◆ That everyone deserves the opportunity to find and develop their best talents and contributions?
- ◆ That businesses can benefit from employees who are enthusiastic and well-matched to their business needs?
- ◆ That local economies benefit from workers who purchase more goods and services and pay taxes?
- ◆ That many of us need assistance to find our talents and ways to use them in our communities?
- ◆ That dedicated, well-trained employment service providers can effectively match individual worker talents with business needs?
- ◆ That workers, families, businesses, schools, employment agencies and entire communities CAN come together to include people with disabilities as productive members in the workplace?
- ◆ That Wisconsin can do better supporting all people with disabilities to pursue integrated employment?

If Yes...

Join the Employment First Coalition!

- ◆ Go to www.wiemploymentfirst.com
- ◆ Get information about upcoming employment events
- ◆ Learn about innovative employment efforts and promising practices in WI
- ◆ Connect with others who are passionate about employment
- ◆ Find out about employment efforts happening in your local community
- ◆ Access valuable state and national employment resources, tools, and data
- ◆ Join the 15 grassroots Employment First Partners Working in Your Local Communities or start a group yourself!
- ◆ Engage in community outreach activities in local communities that lead to increased community, integrated employment opportunities for people with disabilities:
 - ◆ Presentations to local businesses, service clubs, and High Schools
 - ◆ Legislative breakfasts and town hall meetings
 - ◆ Employer recognition events

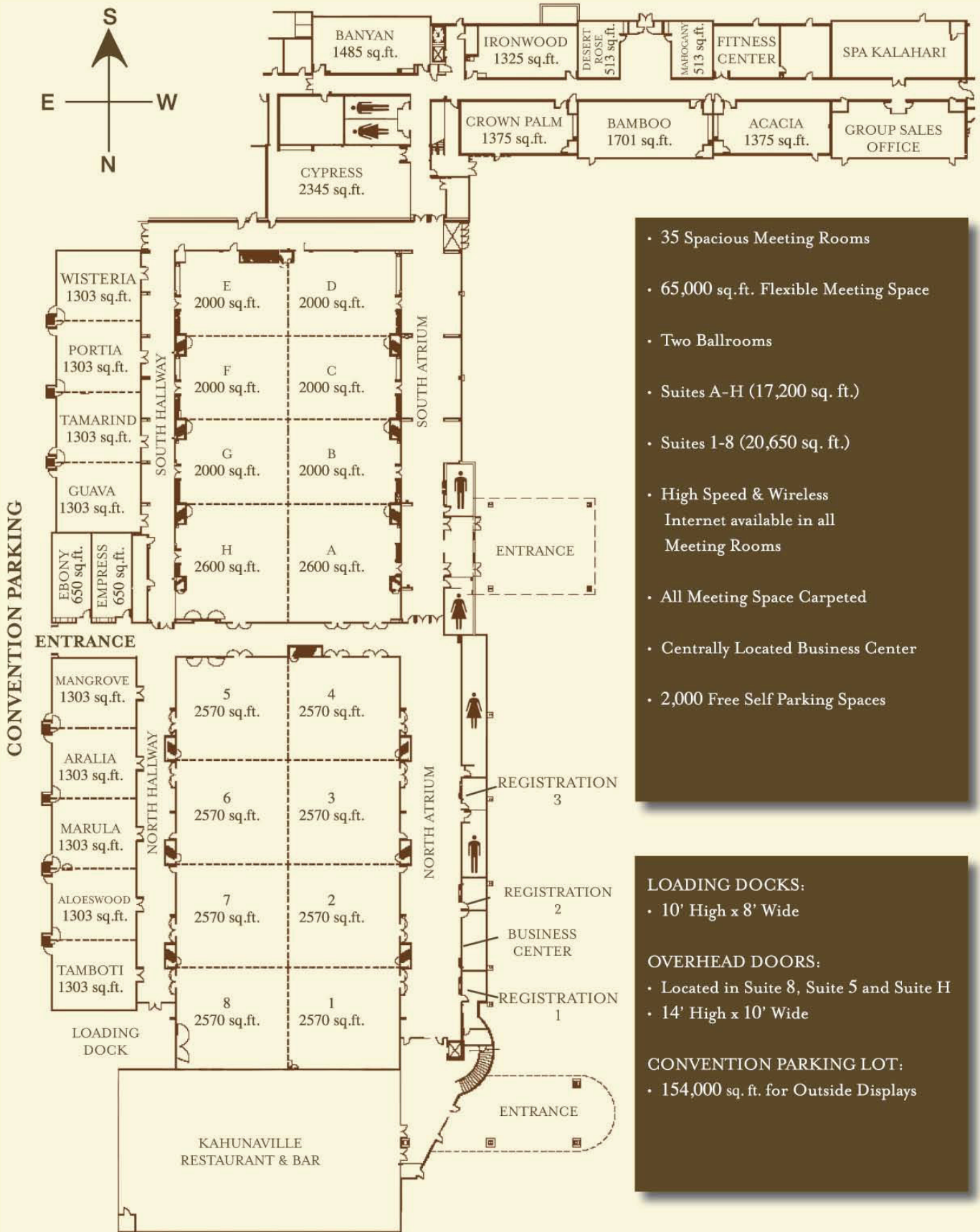
**To get more involved contact:
Ann Sievert, Wisconsin Board for Persons with Developmental
Disabilities at 608-267-9897 or ann.sievert@wisconsin.gov**



***Thank you for attending the
2017 Employment First Conference:***

**▶▶ Embracing Change:
Together We Make it Happen
See you next year!**





- 35 Spacious Meeting Rooms
- 65,000 sq.ft. Flexible Meeting Space
- Two Ballrooms
- Suites A-H (17,200 sq. ft.)
- Suites 1-8 (20,650 sq. ft.)
- High Speed & Wireless Internet available in all Meeting Rooms
- All Meeting Space Carpeted
- Centrally Located Business Center
- 2,000 Free Self Parking Spaces

- LOADING DOCKS:**
- 10' High x 8' Wide
- OVERHEAD DOORS:**
- Located in Suite 8, Suite 5 and Suite H
 - 14' High x 10' Wide
- CONVENTION PARKING LOT:**
- 154,000 sq. ft. for Outside Displays

When you leave this year's conference, don't forget to:

✓ Visit the Employment First website at www.wiemploymentfirst.com and sign up to be part of the Employment First Coalition

✓ Connect with one of your local Employment First Partners or start a new group

✓ Become or support someone with a disability to become an Employment First Ambassador

✓ Help at least one individual with a disability get a job in the community

✓ Talk to at least one business about why hiring an individual with a disability makes good business sense

✓ Talk to your legislator about the importance of increasing opportunities for individuals with disabilities to work in the community

✓ Recognize and support businesses that hire individuals with disabilities

✓ Come back again and join us for the 2018 Employment First Conference



People First Wisconsin



See Our ~~dis~~Ability

