



Strategies for Preparing Employment First Ambassadors

The following strategies can be used to prepare Employment First Ambassadors for sharing their personal employment stories and presenting about the importance of integrated employment for people with disabilities to local groups. The tools and strategies listed should be tailored to the individual(s) you are supporting and the types of presentations they will be doing. Use only what makes sense.

Step 1 – Learn about Your Role as an Employment First Ambassador

- Review and discuss the document titled “Employment First Ambassador Role”
- Review and discuss the PowerPoint called “Employment First Ambassadors: They Get the Job Done!”
- Review and discuss the document called “Employment First Summary”
- Review the Wisconsin Employment First information at <https://wi-bpdd.org/index.php/employment-projects/>

Step 2 – Prepare Your Personal Employment Story

- Complete the worksheet called “Employment First Ambassador Story”
- Discuss answers
- Create a summary paragraph(s) using the information from the worksheet and discussion
- Have the Ambassador practice presenting his/her summary to others for the next week or two, make changes if needed

Step 3 – Prepare a PowerPoint Presentation to Go with Your Story

- Look at the example “My Employment Story” PowerPoints
- Take pictures of the Ambassador at work and in the community to put in his/her PowerPoint.
- Ask the Ambassador to have co-worker or boss to write a few sentences to include in the PowerPoint.
- Example questions to ask boss/co-worker(s):
 1. How has employing me benefitted your business?
 2. How have I contributed to the workplace?
 3. How have you supported me to be successful?

Step 4 – Practice Your Story Using Your Slides

- Over the next week or so, ask the Ambassador to practice telling his/her story using the slides to people a few times.



Step 5 – Include Employment First in Your Presentation

Employment First

- Discuss the upcoming presentation. When is it, who is the audience, etc.?
- Review the appropriate PowerPoint presentation for the audience:
 - Why Hire People with Disabilities - for Businesses
 - EF For Self-Advocates and Family Members
- Discuss with the Ambassador which reasons he/she thinks Wisconsin needs Employment First policies.
- Pick out slides or bullet points for the Ambassador's part of the presentation. Modify the presentation slides to suit your needs and focus of your event.

Step 6 – Practice Together

- Before your Employment First community outreach event, assemble a small audience and practice your presentation with the Ambassador.