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Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services
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Interest Form for Leadership Network on Employment Innovation opens May 2

The Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services is pleased to announce the launch of the Leadership Network on Employment Innovation. The Leadership Network will operate for two years and is designed to support a group of 10 providers who have recently transitioned away from billing Sheltered Work prevocational services. By participating in the Leadership Network, these providers signal their commitment to engaging in program transformation to innovate, enhance, and refocus their services to support achievement of Competitive Integrated Employment outcomes.

The Leadership Network supports DDRS' goal to increase individual competitive integrated employment jobs reported in the Day and Employment Services Outcome System report from 23% to 38% by 2027 and ultimately to realize the vision that Hoosiers with intellectual and developmental disabilities have the right to live, love, work, learn, play and pursue their dreams in their community.

General information

Participating providers will receive \$50,000 per year (for a total of \$100,000 over two years) to support dedication of key staff and organizational resources to robust participation in the Leadership Network.

Beginning May 2, 2022, qualifying providers are invited complete the [Interest Form](#) to indicate their intent to participate in the Leadership Network on Employment Innovation.

To qualify, a provider must:

- Be a current DDRS home-and community-based services provider that discontinued billing sheltered work (facility setting) pre-vocational services on a DDRS waiver between April 1, 2020, and January 31, 2022
- Be ready to engage in program transformation to innovate, enhance, and refocus their services to support achievement of competitive integrated employment outcomes
- Commit, for a period of at least 12 months, to the expectations for participation in the Leadership Network



As a part of the Leadership Network, participating providers must commit to:

- Devoting sufficient staff and organizational resources to actively participate in the Leadership Network for a minimum of 12 months
- Attending planned Leadership Network meetings, including:
 - an initial virtual kick-off meeting,
 - quarterly virtual Leadership Network meetings, and
 - twice-yearly in-person meetings
- Leading or co-leading training and other content offered at twice-yearly in-person meetings and an openness to mentoring 2-3 members of the Employment Transformation Collaborative
- Participating in on-site meetings with DDRS staff and project coordinators, including:
 - Initial two-day value stream mapping visit,
 - Follow-up one-day value stream mapping visit,
 - One-day training on customized employment, and
 - One-day coaching session on family and employer Interview processes
- Engaging with offered content webinars, such as: Facilitating community-based employment, customized employment, and meaningful day
- Committing to securing four competitive integrated employment placements during the two-year Leadership Network period
- Ensuring accurate and complete record-keeping to track use of funding towards costs associated with participation in Leadership Network and making records available upon request and/or audit.

Providers participating in the Leadership Network will also be eligible for up to \$400,000 in Transformation Grants beginning in Fall 2022. These grants will only be available to providers that are participating in the Leadership Network. These grants are designed to assist Leadership Network participants in exploring and implementing best practices and building capacity to shift to innovative service models that increase competitive integrated employment outcomes.

Interest Form Process

When completing the Interest Form, providers will be asked to submit a Letter of Intent from provider agency leadership demonstrating intent to enhance and refocus their services innovative service models that increase competitive integrated employment outcomes. The letter of intent should demonstrate, at a minimum, the following:

- affirmation that your agency meets the qualifications for the Leadership Network on Employment Innovation,
- affirmation that your agency leadership (including board of directors) is committed to your agency's participation in the Leadership Network,
- affirmation that your agency has read and agrees to the Leadership Network participation expectations found in this announcement,
- your agency's intent to engage in program transformation to enhance and refocus your services to support achievement of competitive integrated employment outcomes, and
- what your agency hopes to gain from participation in the Leadership Network.

Providers will also be asked to attest to utilize the \$50,000 per-year funding to support participation in the Leadership Network and development of a transformation plan.

There is space available in the Leadership Network for up to 10 qualifying providers; spots will be made available to qualifying providers on a first-come, first-served basis. The Leadership Network is expected to begin meeting in summer 2022. Submitted Interest Forms will be considered through May 31, 2022.

Please direct any questions and/or feedback to kyle.ingram@fssa.in.gov.