



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Community of Practice Webinar Series

Understanding Community Engagement: A Two Part Employment First Webinar

[Wednesday October 26, 2022 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. ET](#)

As we observe National Disability Employment Awareness Month throughout October, you are invited to join the Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP), the Department of Education, the Department of Health and Human Services and members of Federal Community Engagement Cross-Agency Workgroup, for a [two-part webinar series](#) on Understanding Community Engagement and its role in expanding Competitive Integrated Employment.

Part One: The Role of Non-Work Activities in Developing Critical Skills for Competitive, Integrated Employment. Join leaders, direct support professionals and people supported as they discuss the invaluable role non-work activities play in Community Engagement and building critical life and social skills needed to ultimately find success in employment. Hear both firsthand accounts of how community-based activities foster social and professional development as well as research behind the importance of community engagement as part of Employment First efforts.

Part One Webinar Objectives:

- Understand the definition of “Community Engagement” and how it differs from other forms of non-work activities.

- Learn why Community Engagement programs are a crucial aspect of Employment First and Competitive Integrated Employment.
- Discuss how non-work activities build necessary, interpersonal, communication and professional skills that lead to successful employment outcomes.
- Receive the latest research on the importance of Community Engagement.

The webinar will be facilitated by:

John Butterworth, Senior Research Fellow and Director of Employment Systems Change and Evaluation, Institute for Community Inclusion, University of Massachusetts Boston

Karen Lee, Executive Director, Supporting Employment Equality and Community (SEEC)

Jennifer Sulewski, Senior Research Associate and Project Manager, Institute for Community Inclusion, University of Massachusetts Boston

Stay tuned for an announcement about Part Two, coming soon!

Please email any accommodation requests to vrn@econsys.com

[Register](#)