

**Pennsylvania Employment First State Leadership Mentoring Program
2017 Community of Practice Webinar Series**

**Communicating Discovery and Customized Employment to Individuals
and Families**

**February 28, 2017
2:00-3:00 p.m.**

Customized Employment can be a confusing yet exciting adventure for all stakeholders. People who receive supports, families and staff may have heard the term but not know how it fits into their lives. This one hour webinar will give you practical ideas for how, when and where to introduce the topic of customized employment to stakeholders. Join Karen Lee, Executive Director of SEEC in Silver Spring Maryland as she shares the tools they used in becoming a customized employment agency.

Presenter: Karen Lee, with a Master's Degree in Transition, Special Education and Public Policy, has dedicated her 30-year career to advocate for the active engagement of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in all aspects of community life. As the executive director of SEEC for 27 years, a provider of adult services in the Montgomery, Prince Georges Counties in Maryland and the District of Columbia, Karen has staunchly worked to break down barriers to community inclusion and promote Employment First practices for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. From 2006 to 2009, Karen successfully led SEEC through a conversion from a center-based model to delivering day time, community living, and employment supports solely in the community. She has also supported her peers as a consultant providing training and technical assistance to other agencies who want to pursue a similar organizational change. In 2016, Karen received the APSE Public Policy Advocate of the Year Award and was recognized by Maryland's The Daily Record as a Most Admired CEO. Also in 2016, SEEC received the Moving Mountains Award from the National Alliance of Direct Support Professionals for the agency's work on recruitment, training and retaining highly performing direct support staff.

To Join the Webinar: Please register for the PA EFSLMP Community of Practice Webinar Series at the [GoToWebinar](#) registration page. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. **Participants only need to register one time** and they will be registered for all of the webinars in the series and will receive reminders regarding upcoming sessions. If you have already registered, you do not need to register again.

Questions? Please contact Devon Grant at (717) 783-4287 or dgrant@pa.gov with any questions you may have.

The Pennsylvania Employment First State Leadership Mentoring Program (PA EFSLMP) 2017 Community of Practice Webinar Series is held the fourth Tuesday of the month, February through August, at 2:00 pm Eastern Time. In line with the PA EFSLMP emphasis on Provider Transformation, future topics of the PA EFSLMP Community of Practice Webinar Series will be:

- March 28: Engaging Families and Communities (Corey Smith)
- April 25: Engaging Staff in Competitive Integrated Employment Practices (Rick McAllister)

- May 23: Employment Networks & Ticket to Work (Sharyn Hancock)
- June 27: Benefits Planning (Susan Harrell)
- July 25: Mental Health (Richard Toscano)
- August 22: Employer Engagement (Dale Verstegen)

Who Should Participate? Program Managers, Employment Specialists, Job Developers, Job Coaches, Vocational Counselors, Educators, Employment Stakeholders, Supports/Service Coordinators, Self-Advocates and Families.

The **Employment First State Leadership Mentoring Program** (EFSLMP) is a cross-disability, cross-systems change initiative of the US Dept. of Labor, Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP). The goal of EFSLMP is to align policies, coordinate resources, and update service delivery models, in order to facilitate increased integrated employment options for people with the most significant disabilities. Pennsylvania is one of 19 core states selected to receive intensive technical training and assistance. Pennsylvania has requested training related to increased successes in Provider Transformation.

ODEP's EFSLMP National Community of Practice Webinar Series is structured to augment the technical assistance areas of primary focus in Employment First systems change (Capacity Building, Provider Transformation, School-to-Work Transition, Employer Engagement, and Policy/Funding Alignment). CoP participants will benefit from national subject matter experts (SMEs) presenting information and resources to support Employment First efforts. **If you are not a current subscriber to ODEP's EFSLMP mailing list, you can register [here](#).**

