

# Employment First Committee: Top Three Priorities

*(Adopted from CECY and listed in order of importance)*

**January 31, 2017**

- 1) Data Sharing Legislation/MOU
- 2) Inform and train individuals with IDD and their families in the Employment First Policy
- 3) Convene and organize a stakeholder process on measurements and goals.

## **1) 1.1 Data Sharing Legislation/MOU**

*The data that the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) currently has access to do not allow it to assess employment outcomes by geography, disability type, severity of disability, ethnicity, or age. There is also limited data on the quality of employment for the people served and a lack of data on Regional Center clients who do not receive day or employment services. Without better data, California cannot know how well it is doing to implement Employment First, where it is succeeding, or where it needs to improve. Therefore, legislation to improve data sharing is critical path to implementation of the Employment First Policy.*

## **2) 5.1 Inform and train individuals with IDD and their families in the Employment First Policy.**

*Individuals with IDD and their families need information early on about the Employment First Policy, the possibilities for CIE for all individuals, and the services and supports that can help individuals and their families get there. Service systems respond to demand from consumers and families. Having the knowledge about the possibilities for CIE will lead to people asking for the necessary supports to get there.*

*SCDD could contribute to this work through expansion of its Employment First/Data Dashboard webpages to include stories of success, best practices,*

*employment resources, and training materials. Also, the Council could use its regional staff to train people at the local level about the Employment First Policy and what it could mean for them.*

**Input from EFC on October 25, 2016:**

- *Should EFC play a role in informing self-advocates and families about the Blueprint?* Staff and committee agreed that this question should be **“yes.”**
- *What is EFC uniquely positioned to do in order to inform self-advocates and families about the Blueprint?* Staff and committee agreed that in order to reach local communities, **the EFC should work through the State Council Regional Offices for outreach and trainings on the Blueprint.**
- *What would ‘informing self-advocates and families about the Blueprint’ look like? What is the message and how would it be delivered?* Staff and committee agreed that it is important to **let communities know that the Blueprint is a state priority and to change the public mindset regarding CIE by providing training.** It is also important to **document CIE in the individual’s IPP.**
- *Would we need to partner with any person or entity? If so, who would that be and how would we partner?* Staff and committee agreed that **partnering should take place with DRC/SSAN/other entities in the field.** Another important partner is the **State Council Regional Offices and their network of providers.**
- *What would our timeline look like?* Staff and committee agreed that the **timeline for a rollout of a training plan would likely be 6 to 12 months after the Blueprint is finalized.**
- *What would be the EFC Member and SCDD staff roles and responsibilities?* **To train on the Blueprint and partner with the 12 State Council Regional Offices along with other entities mentioned in question 4.**

**3) 1.2 Convene and organize a stakeholder process on measurements and goals.**

*After the data sharing legislation is passed into law, there needs to be a stakeholder process for deciding on: (1) The most important measures of employment; (2) determining goals for improvement in those measures over time; and (3) goals, if appropriate, for target populations and geographic areas. Consideration of employment measures could include: income earned, hourly earnings, hours worked, level of integration, type of job, access to employer benefits, duration of employment, advancing on the job, and other employment measures.*

