

Employment First Committee Report

October 2021 Meeting

Date of Meeting

October 7, 2021

Meeting's Focus

The Employment First Committee (EFC) met on October 7th, 2021. The meeting began with introductions and an approval of the July EFC meeting's minutes. Members then heard from State Self-Advocacy Network member and self-advocate Rebecca Donabed during the Self-Advocate Spotlight item. Members then discussed the EFCs target priorities for 2021 and, later in the meeting, members brainstormed ideas the planned target priorities for 2022. The initial discussion centered on the age when transitions services for students with disabilities begins, the fear families feel that if their child becomes employed they will lose benefits, and career technical education for people with disabilities. Brainstorming for the 2022 priorities focused on using data to drive the committee's work. After the initial update on the 2021 target priorities, Dr. Marjorie Solomon from the UC Davis School of Medicine presented to the EFC on the topic of the Supported Employment for Young Adults with Autism Grant.

In the afternoon, the EFC was provided a state legislative update by Deputy Director of Policy and Public Affairs Bridget Kolakosky that included the status of the State Council's sponsored Senate Bill 639 and other supported bills as well as a discussion of the policy recommendations included in the 2020 EFC Report. Additionally, the timeline for the creation of the EFC 2021 Report was finalized. During this item, the EFC assigned committee members and staff to complete the different sections of the report and other potential new sections of the report were discussed.

The meeting concluded with updates on standing agenda items such as the Competitive Integrated Employment Blueprint, the implementation status of data sharing legislation, individual member updates and more.

Item's Acted Upon

- Approval of July 2021 minutes
- Approval of the 2021 EFC Report timeline

Future Meeting Dates

TBD