IA-APSE Employment Summit

Employment First: Alive, Well, and Growing in Iowa!

Sessions for Leadership/Supervisors, Job Developers, Job Coaches and Self-Advocates

Wednesday October 3, 2012  8:30-4:30
Thursday October 4, 2012  8:30-4:00
Adventureland Inn, Altoona, IA

Employment First Mission: To change beliefs, practices, systems and funding so that employment in the general workforce is the first and preferred outcome in the provision of publically-funded services for all working age Iowans with disabilities, regardless of level of disability.

Registration Due September 18, 2012
Employment First is growing in Iowa! Although critics claim that Employment First is about closing sheltered workshops, that is not the basis for the movement. Employment First is about giving individuals with disabilities, families, and providers the expectation of inclusive competitive employment as the first priority of public-funded services.

To make Employment First a reality for all Iowans with disabilities, we must move away from the traditional ways of thinking and doing things; therefore this Summit promises to bring new insight into our employment practices.

Join us for the IA-APSE Employment Summit. As you know, the field of Rehabilitation in Iowa is a community of dedicated professionals, and this Summit will bring us together to learn state-of-the-art information and strategies, share our own stories, connect with old friends, make new ones, and re-energize ourselves as we go about the work achieving the vision of Employment First.

SueAnn
President

About the Summit

The IA-APSE Employment Summit is designed for individuals with disabilities, family members, Community Rehabilitation Provider staff, state agency personnel, case managers and other community members committed to improving employment outcomes for Iowans with disabilities. It features national, as well as local speakers sharing progressive and innovative best practice information and strategies to move the agenda of inclusive employment forward.

Where

Adventureland Inn, Altoona, IA 3200 Adventureland Drive Exit 142 off I-80

Adventureland Inn is a year-round destination resort featuring 185 rooms, a restaurant and a lounge. It offers 2 tropical courtyards, 3 large pools, swim-up bar, playful water features, pool-side rooms and suites, relaxing hot tubs and two arcades. A block of rooms will be held until September 18th in the name of IA-APSE Conference for the great rate of $79.00 + tax. You can also use Group # 64660.

Call soon to reserve yours!! 515-265-7321

Don’t forget to bring your swimsuit!
Mr. David Hoff

David Hoff, M.S.W., is a Project Manager for the Institute for Community Inclusion at the University of Massachusetts Boston, and is also the President of National APSE, and Co-Chair of the APSE Public Policy Committee. David has an extensive background in working with public systems and community agencies to enhance employment outcomes for people with disabilities. He has done work across the United States, providing technical assistance and training on effective practices in human services and workforce development. A primary focus of his work is on organizational and systems change to improve employment outcomes, with a particular emphasis on public policies and their impact on the lives of people with disabilities. Along with his work with public disability agencies, much of David’s work is focused on enhancing the ability of the general workforce development system to serve people with disabilities.

Mr. Andrew Imparato

Andrew J. Imparato currently serves as Senior Counsel and Disability Policy Director for the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education Labor and Pensions, chaired by Senator Tom Harkin of Iowa. He is Senator Harkin’s principle adviser on disability issues. As such, he is presently working on a bipartisan disability employment initiative designed to increase the labor market participation of working age people with disabilities in the U.S.

Previously, Mr. Imparato served as President and Chief Executive Officer of the American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD), the largest cross-disability membership organization in the U.S. While at AAPD, Imparato helped to organize a coalition of more than 200 disability, civil rights and employer organizations to support passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act. Imparato testified before the House Education and Labor Committee in support of the bill, played a key role in the negotiations that led to the employer-supported legislative language, and helped with the political strategy to get the bill passed with overwhelming bipartisan support.
Richard G. Luecking, Ed.D.

Dr. Luecking is President of TransCen, Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to improving education and employment success of people with disabilities. During his tenure in this position, which he has held since 1987, he has been responsible for the implementation of numerous model demonstration and research projects related to employment of individuals with disabilities. He and his colleagues at TransCen have initiated a range of local school-to-work transition and employment programs that have been replicated throughout the country and which have resulted in the employment of over 17,000 people with disabilities. During the last two years Dr. Luecking has been a policy advisor to the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Disability Employment Policy, and its Employment First Leadership Mentor Program national initiative.

In addition to these featured speakers, Day One of the conference is filled with Iowa speakers covering such topics as:

- Being An Effective Self-Advocate
- Effective Communication with Employers
- Advocating at the State, National and Local Levels
- Effective Communication for Job Seekers
- Strategies for Supporting Individuals on the Job
- Using Technology to Make a Difference
- Hot Legislation Happenings Effecting Our Field
- Using the TTW and Becoming an EN
Day Two Featured Speaker

Ms. Ellen Condon

Ellen Condon, M. Ed. is the Transition Projects Director at the University of Montana’s Rural Institute on Disabilities where she has worked since 1996. She is also a consultant with Marc Gold & Associates (MG&A), and Griffin-Hammis Associates. Ellen has worked in the field of Developmental Disabilities since 1986. Prior to coming to Montana her experiences included hands-on service delivery, program development and program management in community residential and supported employment programs. She received her Master’s degree in Special Education from Boston College in 1990. At the Rural Institute she has served as the Principal Investigator and Project Director for numerous Federal and state-funded grants. She provides technical assistance, training, and on-site support to schools, agencies, and individuals and families predominantly in the areas of employment, transition, and Social Security Work Incentives. She and her staff have produced numerous publications on Transition issues and employment. She currently also serves as a Subject Matter Expert for the Office of Disability Employment Policy for the Iowa Employment First Project focusing on Customized Employment.

Customized Employment: Creating a Vision of a Working Life for All

What if we began with the expectation that all people would be employed, contributing members of their community as adults? What if we no longer asked adults receiving publically-funded services IF they wanted to work, but where they wanted to work? How do we change our vision of what is possible for people with a significant impact of disability? How do we improve our employment outcomes for the people we serve and support? This session will share information about successful strategies, resources and success stories of youth and adults.

Customized Employment is not just a re-make of Supported Employment. It is a non-comparative approach to service delivery that has proven successful. In this day-long session, Ms. Condon will bring her nationally recognized expertise to help us understand and get excited about this new way of doing business. Be sure and be there! It’s almost a conference in itself!!

IA-APSE Board
Registration Form & Cost Designation

Registration Due September 18th

Name: ____________________________________________________________
Organization: ______________________________________________________
Address: ___________________________________________________________

Phone: ____________________________________________________________
E-mail Address: _____________________________________________________
Special Diet Requests: _______________________________________________
Reasonable Accommodations Needed: _________________________________

If an interpreter or materials in Braille are needed, please let us know by August 31st.

Cost Designation

Price includes Continental Breakfast both mornings, morning and afternoon breaks, lunch both days, and hors d’oeuvres at the Wednesday evening reception, as well as all conference handouts.

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<tr>
<td>Individual with a disability</td>
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<td>Support Staff accompanying individual with a disability</td>
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<td>Non-professional family member of individual with a disability</td>
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<tr>
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For planning purposes only (no reduction in registration costs), let us know:

I plan to attend: (circle one) Both Days Day One Only Day Two Only

By September 18th send completed registration and designated payment to:

IA-APSE c/o Van Buren Job Opportunities 304 Franklin St. Keosauqua IA 52565