



Employment Symposium

In Partnership With:

*The Area 14 Family Care Council &
The Florida Baptist Children's Homes*

Supporting Work As A Choice

January 11, 2008

Florida Baptist Children's Homes

Lakeland, Florida

Sign In: 8:30 A.M.

Refreshments, Provider Booths Open Until 9:15 A.M.

9:15 A.M.

Welcome & Introductions

Eric Olsen

APD Area 14 Administrator

Keynote Speaker:

Dale DiLeo

Author of

Raymond's Room

Ending the Segregation of People with Disabilities

Presenters:

Lewis Persons

University of South Florida

Jeannie Lewis

Vocational Rehabilitation

Elizabeth Jennings

National Disability Institute



Area 14

Topics:

9:30 A.M.

Dale DiLeo

Keynote Address

“The Future is Now; Full Inclusion for People with Disabilities”

11:15 A.M.

Break For Lunch

Provider Booths Open Until 12:45

1:00 P.M.—2:15 P.M.

Lewis Persons

University of South Florida

“Customized Employment”

Customized employment means individualizing the employment relationship between employees and employers in ways that meet the needs of both. It is based on an individualized determination of the strengths, needs, and interests of the person with a disability, and is also designed to meet the specific needs of the employer. It may include employment developed through job carving, self-employment or entrepreneurial initiatives, or other job development or restructuring strategies that result in job responsibilities being customized and individually negotiated to fit the needs of individuals with a disability. Customized employment assumes the provision of reasonable accommodations and supports necessary for the individual to perform the functions of a job that is individually negotiated and developed (Federal Register, June 26, 2002, Vol. 67, No. 123 pp 43154 -43149). This presentation will focus on the process for determining the ideal conditions for employment and how that information is translated into options for job seekers. The presenter will also share information on state resources for pursuing Customized Employment.

1:00 P.M.—2:15 P.M.

Library

For Families, & Persons Receiving Services

(providers are welcome on a walk in basis as seating is available)

(Limited Seating)

Round Table Discussion With Elizabeth Jennings

National Disability Institute

2:15 P.M.—2:45 P.M. Break

Booths Open



Area 14

Topics:

2:45 P.M.—4:00 P.M.

Elizabeth Jennings National Disability Institute “Social Security Work Incentives”

This presentation will provide an overview of the Social Security Administrations disability benefit programs; Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI). Participants will learn the difference between SSDI and SSI as well as their complimenting healthcare benefits, Medicare and Medicaid. Participants will gain an understanding of work incentives the Social Security Administration offers to allow an individual to return to work and continue to receive some or all of their cash and/or healthcare benefits. Work incentives discussed will include Impairment Related Work Expenses, Blind Work Expenses, Subsidies, Plans for Achieving Self Support, 1619b Medicaid and Extended Medicare. Additionally, participants will receive contact information on the Work Incentive Planning and Assistance projects, free work incentives planning and assistance for Social Security Beneficiaries returning to work.

2:45 P.M.—4:00 P.M.

**Library
For Families & Persons Receiving Services
(providers are welcome on a walk in basis as seating is available)
(Limited Seating)**

Round Table Discussion With Jeannie Lewis Vocational Rehabilitation

4:00 P.M. Booths Open

“A Look at Where We Were, Where We Are & The Future”

Presented by:



- *APD Area 14*
- *Florida Baptist Children’s Homes*
- *Goodwill Industries*
- *Ridge Area Arc*
- *DAB Services*
- *SunCoast New Options*
- *Coaches & Companions*
- *Sunrise of Polk County*



Area 14

About Your Presenters

Dale DiLeo

A widely sought-after speaker and consultant, and well known advocate for people with disabilities, Dale DiLeo has provided training throughout the US and in Canada and Europe on community inclusion for persons with disabilities. Dale has trained over 75,000 participants over the past 30 years, serving as the keynote for the European Union of Supported Employment in Oslo, Norway and presenting again in Barcelona, Spain. He has consulted with state and private agencies, universities, professional associations, and corporations. He is the Past President of the Board of the Association for Persons in Supported Employment (APSE), and is the lead author of that organization's highly respected Ethical Guidelines in Supported Employment. His latest book, *Raymond's Room*, focuses on ending the shameful segregation of people with disabilities in community life.

For more information visit: www.daledileo.com

Jeannie Lewis

Graduated USF 1967

Employed with State of Florida for 35 years beginning in 1967. Employment included Welfare and Social Worker for Aid to Disabled, Blind, Families with Dependent Children and Project Independent programs Supervised Institutional Care Programs, Specialized Family Services, Medicaid Transportation, Pre-Protective Services, and Foster Care Units
Employed with Vocational Rehabilitation began in 1991.

Lewis Persons

Lewis Persons currently services as a project director and principle investigator for employment and transition grants at the Florida Center for Inclusive Communities, Division of Applied Research and Educational Support, University of South Florida. Mr. Persons has thirty years of experience working with children, youth and adults with disabilities both in the non-profit and for profit business sector. He has worked with families of children/youth with special needs, at-risk teens and youth with disabilities who are transitioning from school to work. He has worked with adults with developmental disabilities, specific learning disabilities and physical challenges. He has managed grants and special projects to education the business community regarding workforce diversification and the implications of the Americans with Disabilities Act on employment. He is a Florida Certified Workforce Professional and has managed Workforce Investment Act projects serving adults, dislocated workers, displaced homemakers and at-risk youth. He has also managed a USDOL Workforce Coordinating Grant for the State of Florida under the auspices of Workforce Plus Region 5. Mr. Persons has trained professional and paraprofessional staff as a private consultant for the past twelve years throughout the state of Florida on topics such as Community Inclusion, Person Centered Planning, Support Coordination and Supported Employment.



Area 14

About Your Presenters

Elizabeth Jennings

Elizabeth Jennings is on staff at National Disability Institute and the University of Iowa College of Law, Law, Health Policy & Disability Center. Her varied experience includes creating collaborative agreements, building partnerships and executing grant allocations with United Way of Palm Beach County, assisting individuals in understanding the effect of work on Social Security, Medicaid and Medicare benefits with Gulfstream Goodwill's Benefits Planning, Assistance & Outreach program, training individuals with disabilities on employability skills and assisting individuals in obtaining supported and competitive employment. Elizabeth currently works on asset building strategies for individuals with disabilities throughout the State of Florida, provides training on the impact of work on Social Security benefits under Florida's Medicaid Infrastructure Grant and provides technical assistance to states who have been awarded grants under the Department of Labor's, Disability Program Navigator Initiative and would like to become an Employment Network with the Social Security Administration's Ticket to Work program

Seating Is Limited To 120 Participants.

Pre-registered participants will be given seating priority at sign in.

Registration Instructions:

Reservations are accepted by email only.

Submit your email to:

Art_Ciesla@apd.state.fl.us

On the subject line type: Symposium Registration

In the body of the email type: Your last name then first name, agency you work for (if applicable), phone number and email address.

A Confirmation letter with driving instructions will be emailed to you.

6 CEU's will be provided for those who stay for the entire event.

Split CEU's for each session will not be provided.
One certificate will be issued to each participant at the end of the day.