

# Transforming *now*

Transformation Project Newsletter  
January 2018

## Shout Outs



### **Congratulations Eastco!**

Please join us in recognizing Eastco Diversified Services for officially announcing the closure of their workshop on March 30th, 2018. They are also closing Eastco Screen Imprints (Employment Path to Community) on February 15th, 2018.

Eastco leadership was successful in their planning due to their thoughtful, intentional planning and clear communication with all stakeholders involved. Underlining all of these decisions is a true belief in the people they serve and an investment in their staff to match.

Many are facing this same challenge with an organizational shift in providing services. It's a complex decision, with many considerations and steps along the way. It is no small task, what we are working on together, but these efforts speak volumes to the commitment of the Employment First movement and the brighter future we are creating for the people we serve.

Take the chance to congratulate them in person at the Oregon Garden next week!

**January 29th-31st:**  
[Transformation Recruit, Train, Retain Oregon Garden Event](#)

**February 6th-7th:**  
[Intro to Supported Employment, Discovery, & Employment Planning](#)

**February 1st:**  
[Day 2 of Job Developer Cohort \(rescheduled\)](#)

**February 23rd:**  
[Transformation Data Webinar Series #2](#)

**February 26th-27th:**  
[OELN: Systematic Instruction and Follow Along](#)  
(Pendleton)

**March 23rd:**  
[Transformation Data Webinar Series #3](#)

**March 27th-28th:**  
[OELN: Intro to History of Supported Employment, Discovery, and Person-Centered Employment Planning](#)  
(Medford)

**April 24th-25th:**  
[OELN: Job Development and Marketing](#)

# Transformation Celebration & Planning Event 2018



**Email Ryan with your pictures and videos!**

This event is not just about **planning**, but is also about **celebration!** We are asking attendees to have a success story to share at the event as part of this celebration.

\*If you have not already, please email [Ryan](mailto:ryan@gowise.org) ([ryan@gowise.org](mailto:ryan@gowise.org)) with videos or pictures to go along with your success stories!

(Salem)

**May 15th-16th:**  
**OELN: Social Security Benefits and Work Incentives**  
(Salem)

Note that classes can fill up quickly. Please sign up for future training announcements by joining [our email list here](#).

ODDS funds the OELN Training Series, making it available to employment providers for **no registration cost**.



## **Phase 1: T/TA Concluding**

**Phase 1 Organizations are concluding the 12-month Training and Technical Assistance period, which ends 1/31/2018.**

**Please know that your Wise consultants are still a resource and any ongoing training you are signed up for or coordinating after January 2018 is good to go!**

**Please connect with your Wise contact if you have any questions.**



## **ODDS Model Referral and Release Pilot**

Based on stakeholder feedback, with technical assistance from the National Technical Assistance Center on Transition, the Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS), Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) and the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) collaborated to create a Model Referral and Release of Information form.

The purpose of the model referral and release of information is to:

- Ensure there is a coordinated delivery of employment services available through VR, ODDS, and/or ODE.
- Speed up delivery of employment services by documenting what employment information exists and is available from multiple agencies. This streamlines employment service delivery by decreasing duplication caused when a person must recreate information for multiple agencies. This also helps employment service delivery by decreasing the amount of time case managers and counselors spend following up on employment and eligibility information.
- Make sure the person has agreed to share information that is relevant and necessary for the delivery of employment services.
- To ensure education agencies, VR, and ODDS can share information requiring Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) compliant release of information forms.

- Consistent with Senate Bill 397, which directs the Department of Human Services to develop a “common client confidentiality release form,” the model referral and release form helps fill this requirement.

Before launching this Model Referral and Release statewide, we are asking for local regions to volunteer to test the form by using it for a few months and giving us feedback. This form is intended to save service coordinators, personal agents and VR counselors time and speed up the process for our customers. The local VR branch, Brokerage and Community Developmental Disability Program in an area must all agree to be part of the pilot, since the purpose of the form is to streamline planning and employment service delivery, and reduce questions or confusion regarding the correct form to use.

Local regions interested in piloting the Model Referral & Release should email Allison Enriquez at:

[ALLISON.ENRIQUEZ@state.or.us](mailto:ALLISON.ENRIQUEZ@state.or.us)

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**Check out the new digs for:**

[Oregon Transformation Project](#)  
[Employment-First.org](#)

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wise

The logo for 'wise' features a stylized lowercase 'w' composed of three overlapping shapes in yellow, green, and blue. Below the 'w', the word 'wise' is written in a lowercase, sans-serif font.