

Employment First & Advocacy Newsletter



Questions about employment or advocacy? Contact Tammy Smith, Employment & Advocacy Coordinator

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FIND WHAT YOU L-O-V-E TO DO...

Learn what types of jobs are available locally. Ohio Means Jobs Allen County's website shares job openings and other resources. Check out their website:
<https://ohiomeansjobs-allen-county.com>

Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities or OOD for short, can provide support to help you find a job. The ACBDD Employment and Advocacy Coordinator can refer you, or you can apply on your own at OODWorks.
<https://ood.ohio.gov/information-for-individuals/oodworks>

Volunteering can be a great way to gain work skills. Local churches, food banks, hospitals and service agencies are always looking for volunteers. This is a great way to try new things and build your resume.

Educate yourself about how work may affect benefits like Social Security or SNAP. Ohio Disability Benefits 101 is a great resource.
<https://oh.db101.org/>

How can YOU advocate for what YOU want ?

- Attend a Just Do It Crew meeting. The Allen County People First Just Do It Crew meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at Westgate. Meet other self-advocates and learn how to speak up for what is important to you.
- Speak up at your OhioISP planning meetings. Let your team and SSA know what your goals are for your future. Your Outcome in your OhioISP should be important to YOU. So, remember to share your ideas and ways that YOU want to reach your goal. Also, be sure to share how others can help YOU if YOU need help in going places or doing things.
- DODD-Department of Developmental Disabilities added a page to their website to help YOU on your personal advocacy journey. The page includes the following questions:
 - What issues or causes are important to me?
 - Who am I advocating for?
 - What change do I want to see in the world?
 - What values guide my advocacy efforts?

Check out the page to help on your journey:

<https://dodd.ohio.gov/your-family/advocacy/advocacy-mission-vision>