

AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING AN ALLIANCE
BETWEEN
THE OFFICE OF DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT POLICY
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
AND
THE HSC FOUNDATION'S NATIONAL YOUTH TRANSITIONS
COLLABORATIVE

The U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) and the HSC Foundation's National Youth Transitions Collaborative (the Collaborative) recognize the value of establishing a collaborative relationship to promote the employment of youth and veterans with disabilities. The HSC Foundation's National Youth Transitions Center has organized the Collaborative and Leadership Council to provide guidance on the programming (e.g., workshops, trainings, focus groups, roundtables, etc.) occurring there. ODEP and the Collaborative hereby form an alliance to provide the Collaborative's members and other stakeholders with information, technical assistance, and access to resources that will help build the capacity of regional and national organizations to empower youth and returning veterans with disabilities to create a self-directed path to employment.

ODEP and the Collaborative will work together to achieve the following education, communication, and outreach goals:

- Disseminate ODEP's and its technical assistance centers' disability employment related policy products, trainings, and education materials on evidence-based research and effective transition practices at conferences, local meetings, forums, round table discussions, etc. to develop an understanding among the Collaborative's members on how to help youth and returning veterans with disabilities prepare for and attain competitive, integrated employment. Also promote ODEP-funded programs such as the Workforce Recruitment Program.
- Jointly develop information and materials on the advancement of the employment of people with disabilities and in communicating such information (via print and electronic media assistance tools through ODEP's and the Collaborative's web sites) to the Collaborative, nonprofit organizations, and other stakeholders serving youth and returning veterans with disabilities.
- Raise awareness and engage a larger community among the Collaborative, nonprofit organizations, and other stakeholders to facilitate an open dialogue and enhance partnerships that result in solutions that benefit partners, and youth and returning veterans with disabilities.

ODEP's alliances provide parties an opportunity to participate in a voluntary cooperative relationship with ODEP for purposes such as education, outreach, and technical assistance in order to promote a national dialogue on the employment of people with disabilities. These alliances have proved to be valuable tools for both ODEP and its alliance participants. By entering into an alliance with a party, ODEP is not endorsing any products or services of that party; nor does the Agency enter into an alliance with the purpose of promoting particular products or services of any party.

An implementation team made up of representatives of both organizations will meet to develop a plan of action, determine working procedures, and identify the roles and responsibilities of the participants. In addition, they will meet at least three times per year to track and share information on activities and results in achieving the goals of the alliance.

The points of contact for the respective parties are as follows:

DOL/ODEP
Laura Ibanez
202-693-4935
Ibanez.laura@dol.gov

HSC/Collaborative
Ryan Easterly
202-454-1258
reasterly@cscn.org

The parties agree that any conference, seminar or related activity undertaken pursuant to this agreement will be memorialized in a separate agreement. In addition, any proposed jointly developed products, the use of the Department of Labor seal or agency logos, the use of registered trademark(s) and related designs of the Partnership and/or Department of Labor, will require advance review and approval both by the Department of Labor and the Partnership.

This agreement will remain in effect for two years. Either signatory may terminate this agreement for any reason at any time, provided they give 30 days written notice. This agreement may be modified in writing at any time with the concurrence of both signatories.

All disputes arising under this agreement will be resolved by consultation between the parties.

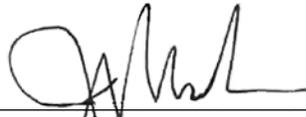
This agreement is not intended to legally bind the parties, nor is it intended to confer any right upon any private person.

Nothing in this agreement shall be interpreted as limiting, superseding or otherwise affecting either party's normal operations or decisions in carrying out its statutory or regulatory duties. This agreement does not limit or restrict the parties from participating in similar activities or arrangements with other entities.

This agreement does not itself authorize the expenditure or reimbursement of any funds. Nothing in this agreement obligates the parties to expend appropriations or enter into any contract or other obligations.



Kathleen Martinez
Assistant Secretary
Program and Office of Disability
Employment Policy
U.S. Department of Labor



Jessie MacKinnon
Vice President,
Partnership Development
The HSC Foundation

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