

**AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING AN ALLIANCE
BETWEEN
THE OFFICE OF DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT POLICY,
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
AND
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES**

The Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) and the National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA) recognize the value of establishing a collaborative relationship to promote the employment of persons with disabilities. ODEP and NASWA hereby form an Alliance to conduct training, provide integrated efforts to share tools, and outreach activities that promote the recruitment, hiring, retention and advancement of individuals with disabilities, including veterans with disabilities.

Alliance Activities

Specifically, ODEP and NASWA agree to work together to carry out the following activities:

1. Participate in workgroups, committees, conferences and other venues to engage in discussions and share information aimed at promoting employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities.
2. Obtain feedback from NASWA members, affiliates, and partners including the Direct Employers Association on ODEP programs, policy initiatives, resources and methods of outreach to ensure that they are effective and useful from the perspective of the workforce investment system and employers in facilitating the recruitment, hiring, retention and advancement of individuals with disabilities.
3. Provide professional development, training and technical assistance support to NASWA staff, members, affiliates, partners and others including employers on ODEP initiatives and resources.
4. Collaborate to disseminate information to NASWA members, affiliates, partners and others on ODEP tools and resources, initiatives and research in disability employment policy.
5. Participate in meetings and/or discussions with representatives from other ODEP Alliances to exchange information on disability employment issues and explore opportunities for additional collaborative activities.

Alliance Implementation

An implementation team made up of representatives of both parties will meet to establish specific goals, 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 in person, or by conference call, to track and share information on activities and progress in achieving the goals of the Alliance. Team members will include representatives of ODEP's Policy Teams and Policy Communication and Outreach Division, and NASWA. The points of contact for the respective parties are as follows:

ODEP

Serena Lowe
Senior Policy Advisor
(202) 693-7928
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NASWA

Don Wehbey
Economics Director
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General Alliance Provisions

ODEP Alliances provide the parties with an opportunity to participate in a voluntary, cooperative relationship that supports shared goals and furthers the national dialogue on employing persons with disabilities. In accordance with that understanding, the following provisions apply:

- This Alliance agreement will remain in effect for two years.
- By entering into an Alliance with a party, ODEP is not endorsing any of that party's products or services; nor does the Alliance partner enter into this agreement with the purpose of promoting particular products or services of any party.
- Advance review and approval both by DOL and NASWA is required for any jointly developed products, the use of the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) seal or agency logos, the use of registered trademark(s) and related designs of the NASWA or DOL, and/or NASWA press releases or other documents related to the Alliance.
- Any conference, seminar or related activity undertaken pursuant to this agreement will be memorialized in a separate agreement.
- 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.

- Either signatory may terminate this agreement for any reason at any time, provided they give 30 days written notice.

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.

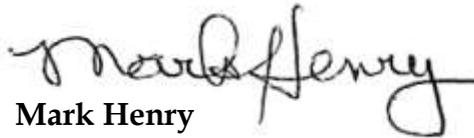
This agreement does not itself authorize the expenditure or reimbursement of any funds. Nothing in this agreement obligates the parties to expend appropriations or enter into any contract or other obligations.

Signatures

In signing this Alliance, ODEP and NASWA demonstrate their joint commitment to the employment, retention, and advancement of persons with disabilities and commit to carrying out the training, integrated efforts to share tools, and outreach activities as described above.



Kathy Martinez
Assistant Secretary
Office of Disability Employment Policy
U.S. Department of Labor



Mark Henry
President-Elect
National Association of State Workforce
Agencies

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