Networks for Training and Development, Inc. proudly presents the

17th Employment Supports Symposium

A Time for Change: New Era, New Possibilities!

May 23 & 24, 2017

Hilton Philadelphia,

City Avenue

4200 City Avenue

Philadelphia, PA 19131

“Employment 1st, Employment NOW!” is an initiative of Philadelphia DBHIDS and Networks for Training and Development, Inc. Funding provided by the City of Philadelphia, Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services (DBHIDS).

# Welcome!

Welcome to Networks for Training and Development, Inc.’s 17th Employment Supports Symposium, ***“A Time for Change: New Era, New Possibilities!”*** This event is sponsored by Philadelphia’s Department of Behavioral Health / Intellectual disAbility Services (DBHIDS). This certainly is a time of great change in the services and supports we provide. WIOA, CMS Final Rule, Employment 1st initiatives, and more...

Over the next two days we will explore strategies for creating great opportunities for those we serve during this time of change! Learn how we can be well-informed about the local, statewide, and national employment policies and initiatives while as a community we move Employment 1st forward. Yes, this is ***A Time for Change,*** but it can also be a ***New Era***, with ***New Possibilities!***

Some of the themes highlighted throughout this year’s Symposium are:

**Change & Technology,**

**Innovative Supports,**

**Provider Practices & Organizational Change,**

**Transition, and more..**

# Accessibility:

We have made every effort to meet individual needs enabling attendees to take full advantage of all the Symposium has to offer. If you have requested an accommodation or have questions about any other accessibility concerns, please check in at the registration table or contact Stacey Figueroa (**staceyf@networksfortraining.org**) at 610.482.4926.

# Join the Conversation:

Wifi is available at the conference. Follow these instructions to connect:

* Look for ***HHONORS*** network
* Select ***“I have a promotional code”***
* Use access code ***PHLPH2217*** to connect.
* You must ***AGREE*** to terms of service.

There will be power strips available at various locations. Feel free to plug in and charge your devices!

The conversation continues on Twitter at ***#employnowphila17***. Let your voice be heard! We will also be broadcasting via Facebook Live throughout the conference.

In addition to these social media activities, please be aware that a videographer will be present at the Symposium. Should you not wish to have video or photos taken, please let them know if you see them. We ask that you also stop by the registration table and make your wishes known. You will be provided with a color code to put on your name tag to alert those taking pictures of your wishes.

Session handouts, Symposium “At A Glance” schedules, and other helpful materials are available at **http://www.insidenetworks.org/symposium\_downloads/** Most handouts have been provided in a variety of formats. Should you require materials in a different format contact Stacey Figueroa, and we will get these to you as soon as possible.

Don’t forget to check the site out and get the materials you need.

# May 23, 2017 - Day One

## 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Registration / Continental Breakfast **7:30 - 9:00 a.m.**

***Registration*** *(Renaissance)*

***Continental Breakfast*** *(Grand Salon)*

***Story Corner*** *(Renaissance)*

Stories generate excitement and can inspire action! Join us for an opportunity to share your stories in traditional and multimedia formats. Stories will be captured during the symposium and made available afterwards. Let’s inspire one another! *Please make sure everyone involved is open to their story being shared.*

Welcome / Opening *(Versailles)*  **9:00 - 9:30 a.m.**

Morning Breakout Sessions **9:45 - 11:00 a.m.**

“Developing Stellar Employment Programs”*(Versailles)*

***Cesilee Coulson***

*(Executive Director, Washington Initiative for Supported Employment - WISE)*

With ongoing changes happening in the service system, now more than ever it is crucial for employment agencies to build and maintain extraordinary teams. Join us as we discuss how we market the work we do, support new employees, and retain quality staff to build a diverse range of career paths that enhance the services we provide.

“Everyone Works with Everyday Technology”*(Merion)*

***Mike Marotta, ATP*** *(President, Inclusive Technology Solutions, LLC)*

So many technology tools are available today. Let’s explore ways we can use everyday technology to enable individuals of all abilities to obtain a job and remain employed.

“Partnerships to Promote Seamless Transition to Adulthood” ***(Gladwyne)***

***Dianne Malley*** *(Transition Pathways, AJ Drexel Autism Inst., Drexel Univ.),*

***Kelly Carroll & Susan Schonfeld*** *(Community Integrated Services - CIS),*

***Jane Cordero*** *(School District of Philadelphia), &*

***Taryn Fogarty*** *(Office of Vocational Rehabilitation - OVR)*

Partnerships and collaborations can create successful transition experiences for students, but development of effective partnerships can be challenging! Join us as one group shares their experience in bringing agencies in Philadelphia together to support individuals with autism and intellectual disabilities as they move from school-based services to adult services.

“The Next Generation of Transition Students - Family Perspectives”*(Haverford)*

***Tamani Love Molett*** *(Office of Vocational Rehabilitation - OVR),*

***Norma Realpe*** *(Disability Rights Pennsylvania - DRP),*

***Sabra Townsend*** *(The Arc of Philadelphia), &*

***Tamesha Wilson*** *(Northwestern Human Services)*

Come hear from parents who are also professionals in our field and are supporting their children in pursuing their college and career aspirations, and making things happen!

KEYNOTE *(Versailles)* **11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**

##### “Let’s Get to Work - Federal Policies Creating Opportunities to Expand Competitive Integrated Employment “

***Alison Barkoff, J.D.***

*(Dir. of Advocacy, Washington, D.C. Office of the Center for Public Representation - CPR)*

Recent federal policies have created unprecedented opportunities for increasing competitive integrated employment for people with disabilities. Join us for a discussion about changes in states’ day service systems occurring in response to the HCBS Settings Rule, WIOA, and enforcement of Olmstead and the ADA integration mandate around day services. Learn what strategies other states are using to expand competitive integrated employment, potential threats to progress, and opportunities for advocacy and stakeholder engagement by Pennsylvania stakeholders.

Employment 1st, Employment NOW “World Café” **12:30 - 2:45 p.m.**

Join us for an event where YOU decide the topics! Take some time to stop by the Versailles room, and jot down the topics you want to discuss. Come to the World Café ready to join in a series of discussions generated by you and your fellow attendees. Facilitators for discussions, and more detailed guidelines will be available at the event. Box lunches will be provided.

Pulling It All Together! - World Café Summary Discussion **3:00 - 4:00 p.m.**

All participants will reconvene for an opportunity to share their insights, thoughts, and ideas generated during the World Café discussions. Come prepared to share!

# May 24, 2017 - Day Two

## 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Registration **7:30 - 9:00 a.m.**

***Registration*** *(Renaissance)*

Breakfast Buffet / “Bottom Dollar” Viewing **8:00 - 9:00 a.m.**

If you haven’t seen this documentary, make time before the symposium begins to enjoy breakfast and watch “Bottom Dollar”

KEYNOTE *(Versailles)* **9:15 - 10:00 a.m.**

##### “Creativity + Innovation = Change“

***Karen Lee*** *(Exec. Director, Seeking Equality, Empowerment, & Community for People with Developmental Disabilities - SEEC)*

As active, involved members of the community, people with developmental disabilities see themselves in a new light - as achievers, contributors, coworkers, and friends. Karen will share how SEEC helps people have a meaningful life, one person at a time, through the stories of people they have supported.

Morning Breakout Sessions **10:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

“Meaningful Days=Meaningful Lives”*(Versailles)*

***Karen Lee*** *(Exec. Director, Seeking Equality, Empowerment, & Community for People with Developmental Disabilities - SEEC)*

Shopping malls, a walk in the park, and bowling are found on the schedules of too many adults with IDD who aren’t working. In this session we will discuss how to create a schedule that has substance and meaning to the person supported by blending funding, accessing community resources, and networking within a person’s own community.

“Promoting Employment for Individuals with Mental Illness”*(Villanova)*

***Richard C. Baron*** *(Temple University Collaborative on Community Inclusion)*

This session focuses on the importance of competitive employment in the lives of those with serious mental illnesses, the multiple barrier individuals face, the principles of effective rehabilitation programming, and the crucial roles that direct service staff can play in supporting people who choose to return to ‘real work for real pay’. Come prepared to share your perspectives, concerns, and experiences in this challenging arena.

“I’m Not a Job Coach, How Do I Support Employment?”*(Gladwyne)*

***SPIN, Inc.***

How do professionals and others in non-job coach roles support Employment 1st efforts? Come hear creative strategies for promoting employment for all, no matter what your current role is! EVERYONE can think and take action like an Employment Support Professional.

“Networking: Establishing, Building, & Maintaining Vital Relationships”*(Merion)*

***Gary Fedor*** *(President, Sandler Training)*

This interactive session will share key benefits and strategies of networking. What is holding you back? How do you get connected to events? How do you meet people? What are the do’s and don’ts of networking? If these questions seem all too familiar to you, join us for the answers, and bump your connections to the next level!

“A Social Media Plan to Reach Your Donors, Volunteers and Customers”*(Haverford)*

***Jennifer Gardella, Ph.D.*** *(Your Social Media Hour)*

You know social media is important to your organization. Jennifer will share an overview of digital marketing, and how social media *done right* can be an invaluable tool to get your message across to multiple stakeholders. Come prepared with your laptop, notebook, or portable device, as you will have the opportunity to work on a plan for YOUR particular organization.

“Taking Care of Yourself” Relaxation Room *(Bala) -*  **10:15 - 3:00 p.m.**

Set aside some time to visit the Relaxation Room. A variety of local practitioners will be on hand to provide a sampling of alternative therapies such as massage, reflexology, Reiki, and more...

LUNCHEON - “Conversations That Matter” *(Versailles) - sit-down lunch will be provided* **12:00 - 1:30 p.m.**

Octavia Green Dream Job Award Winner ***- Elizabeth Carlson***

Networks’ Employee Recognition Award ***-*** George Callaway

George has been with Networks since its beginnings! At first George came and volunteered his services, but gradually established himself in the organization’s daily activities. He truly has embodied the meaning of self-advocacy in his work life - advocating for schedule changes, work task changes, and more to meet his needs throughout the years. Join us as the staff of Networks take some time to honor the commitment and faithfulness of George as one of Networks’ first employees! After 25 years George is STILL an integral part of our Networks’ family, and we are pleased to recorgnize him for his dedication, longevity, and commitment.

Conversations That Matter ***-*** *(local success stories)*

ODP & OVR Updates on PA: Where We Are... WIOA, CMS Final Rule, Executive Order, & Beyond *(Versailles)* **1:45 - 2:45 p.m.**

***Opening*** *- Nancy Thaler and guests*

***Panel Discussion***

Afternoon Breakout Sessions **3:00 - 4:00 p.m.**

“Mid-Atlantic Perspectives on APSE: Regional Efforts in Employment 1st”*(Villanova)*

***Representatives from PA APSE & NJ APSE***

APSE has a strong Employment 1st presence nationwide. With so many changes happening within our system, it is difficult to keep track of all of the changes, but our local chapters can shed some light on the subject! PA and NJ APSE are partnering for this session to share a regional perspective on employment efforts. Come join this session to hear what is happening in our region.

“Follow In Our Footsteps: Employment 1st at KenCrest”*(Versailles)*

***Allison Smale, Lisa Harner, & Stephanie Garrett*** *(KenCrest Services)*

For the past 18 months, staff at KenCrest have been living and breathing the work of transitioning 20 individuals from their day program to community-based employment. Come learn about what to do - and what not to do - when launching Employment 1st Initiatives in your programs, and everyday life.

“Pennsylvania ABLE Savings Program: A Savings Plan from the PA Treasury for Individuals with Qualified Disabilities”*(Merion)*

***Ryan Buxon*** *(Bureau of Savings Programs, Pennsylvania Treasury)*

Modeled after college savings accounts, ABLE accounts allow individuals with qualifying disabilities and their families to save for a wide range of disability-related expenses. These federal tax-free savings and investment options are offered to encourage individuals with a disability and their families to save private funds to support health, independence, and quality of life while maintaining government benefits.

“Make it Work”*(Gladwyne)*

***Cathy Grow*** *(Warrior Run High School)*

Cathy Grow, Transition Coordinator, developed and oversees the Defenders’ Café at Warrior Run High School in Norhtumberland County, PA. Join us as she shares about Warrior Run School District’s comprehensive transition program, Warrior Run Internship Network (WIN), and the inception of Defenders’ Café, a vocational training program for students in autistic and life skills supports classes, while focusing on the employability of all students, regardless of the severity of their disability.

“CareerLink: Serving People of ALL Abilities!” *(Haverford)*

***Chris Bellias, Joe Cipolla, & Nicki Woods*** *(JEVS)*

This session will tell the story of how a large urban, non-profit workforce is transforming one of the largest CareerLinks in the state to offer employment service to all of its constituents. Come hear how to access this user-friendly location, learn more about the importance of WIOA, and how to make the system work for a diverse customer base.

# CONTACT INFORMATION:

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