

# Thank you for joining us for today's National Information Exchange Session.

*Our program will begin promptly at 3:00 p.m. ET. Until then, please sit back and enjoy the music!*



**The AoD Disability Employment TA Center:  
*Transforming Networks through Systems Change, Innovation & Collaboration***

National Information Exchange Sessions

# Maximizing Your Webinar Participation: *Zoom Tips*

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- **Audio Settings:** You can change your [audio settings](#). You can also click the upward arrow (^) next to the microphone icon at the lower-left of the Zoom window to change your speaker.
- **Captioning:** Available in a separate browser window by clicking the [following page on Caption Texted](#).
- **Questions:** If you have a question for today's presenters, please type it in the Q&A box at any time during the presentation. You don't have to wait for the Q&A discussion to begin. Open the Q&A window, type in your question, and then press "send". You can also include questions in the chat box. You will receive a reply back via text in the Q&A window or the question will be answered live.
- **During the Interactive Discussion**
  - **Raise Hand:** [Raise your hand](#) when the interactive discussion begins if you would like to provide feedback or make a comment regarding a specific question that has been asked of the participants.
  - **Unmute/Mute:** Once the host acknowledges you, you can unmute by pressing the "Mute/Unmute" button at the task bar at the bottom of your screen, and then provide your comments. All participants will be able to hear you during this time. Be sure to mute yourself again after you have made your comments.
- **Leave meeting:** Click **Leave meeting** to leave the webinar at any time. You can rejoin if the webinar is still in progress.
- **Recording & Transcript of Today's Meeting:** These will be available upon request and uploaded onto the Center's new website after its launch in February 2021.

# Agenda

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- **Welcome & Introductory Remarks**
- **Introducing the Center's Team**
- **Conceptual Framework for the Center**
- **Core Components**
- **How Can You Get Involved?**
- **Interactive Discussion/Information Exchange**

# Welcome & Introductory Remarks

*Julie Hocker, Commissioner  
Administration on Disabilities*

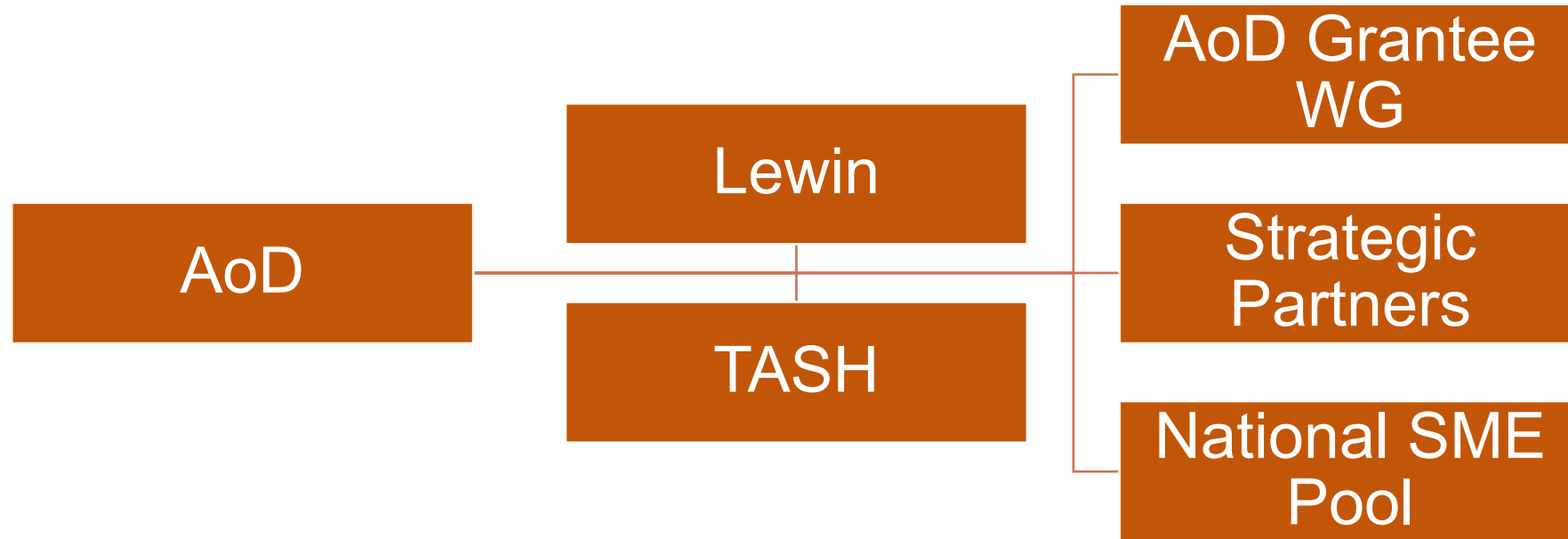


# AoD Disability Employment TA Center:

*An Introduction to the Center's  
Project Team*



# AoD Disability Employment TA Center: *Structure*

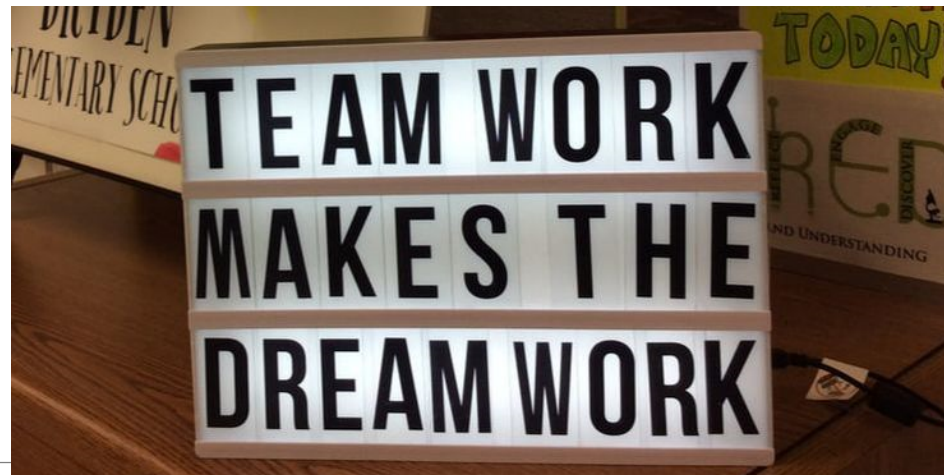


**TEAMWORK**

# AoD Disability Employment TA Center: *AoD Leadership Team*

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- Larissa Crossen, Contracting Officer Representative
- David Jones, Director, Office of Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities Programs
- Corinna Stiles, Director, Office of Independent Living Programs
- Ophelia McLain, Team Lead, Office of Disabilities Services Innovation
- Sean Barrett, Team Lead, Office of Independent Living Programs
- Dana Fink, Project Analyst, State TBI Partnership Program





# AoD Disability Employment TA Center Project Team: *Lewin*

- Erika Robbins, Project Director



- Amy Gonzalez, Project Manager



- Kathleen Woodward, Project Coordinator



- Rebecca Chang, Lewin Evaluation Analyst



# AoD Disability Employment TA Center Project Team: *TASH*

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- Mike Brogioli, TASH's Executive Director



- Serena Lowe, Senior Adviser



- Chernet Weldeab, TASH Project Coordinator



- Nicole LeBlanc, Self-Advocate Adviser



# AoD Disability Employment TA Center: *Strategic Partners & SMEs*

## Strategic Partners

- Association of University Centers on Disabilities
- Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living
- National Council on Independent Living
- National Association of Centers on Developmental Disabilities
- National Association of State Head Injury Administrators
- National Disability Rights Network



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## National Subject Matter Expert Pool

- 60 SMEs thus far
  - ~40% are current/former leaders of AoD grantee entities
  - Remaining are SMEs in the areas of promising practices and systems change related to increasing competitive integrated employment & economic outcomes for people with disabilities
- Employment TA Partners
  - Transcen and WISE

# Polls



# Polling Question #1

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## *What Category of Participant Best Describes You?*

- Self-advocate/user of services from AoD grantee(s)
- Family Member of self-advocate
- AoD Grantee
  - Center for Independent Living (CIL)
  - State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD Council)
  - University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Service (UCEDD)
  - Protection & Advocacy System (P&A)
  - Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) State Partnership Program
- State Government Official
- Federal Government Official
- Subject Matter Expert (SME) in Employment
- Other

# Polling Question #2

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*How would you rank your previous level of engagement in supporting people with disabilities to obtain employment or to influence systems-change focused on increasing competitive integrated employment options for people with disabilities?*

- Very Experienced (10+ Years)
- Moderate Experience (5-10 Years)
- Some Experience (3-5 Years)
- Limited Experience (2 years or less)

# Polling Question #3

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*How would you rank your organization's level of engagement/experience in supporting people with disabilities to obtain employment or to influence systems-change focused on increasing competitive integrated employment options for people with disabilities?*

- Highly Engaged (Top 1-3 Priorities of Organization)
- Moderately Engaged (Definitely an organizational priority, but not in the top 3)
- Somewhat Engaged (Have at least one project focused on employment)
- Limited Experience (Not a Priority of the Organization)

# AoD Disability Employment TA Center: *Conceptual Framework*





# Center's Conceptual Framework

## Purpose

The AoD Disability Employment Technical Assistance (TA) Center will provide evidence-based training and TA to AoD grantees across programs to improve capacity to effectuate increased employment and economic outcomes of individuals with disabilities across the nation.

## Focus of TA

Scalability/Sustainability of Evidence-based Practices  
Provision of tools, skills-development, strategies, resource development, and partnerships/collaborations.

## Desired Outcome

Demonstrable improvements in employment & economic outcomes for individuals with an array of abilities directly in connection with efforts by AoD grantees.

# AoD Disability Employment TA Center: *Core Components*



# Core Activities Trajectory

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**Environmental Landscape Assessment**



**Establishment of the Grantee Representative Work Group & 5-Year Strategic Plan**



**Capacity Building & Resource Development**



**Grantee-Specific Virtual TA/Training**

# Information Gathering & Planning Activities

## Landscape Assessment

- Review of all publicly available data on AoD grantee-led employment-related initiatives over past five years; review of the literature re: identification of resources demonstrating strong evidence-base of relevant practices and models.
- Interviews with all AoD Grantee Project Officers; all national AoD Grantee TA partners; 8-10 interviews with individual AoD Grantees.
- 2 Focus Groups for each category of AoD grantee (10 in total); 1 focus group specific to the territories; 3 focus groups of SMEs

## Development of 5-Year Strategic Plan

- Will be informed by all Landscape Assessment Activities, recommendations of the Grantee Representative Work Group, and feedback from the Center's strategic partners and Subject Matter Expert (SME) pool.

# Grantee Representative Work Group

## Membership Requirements

- 15-member Work Group that will advise on the strategic plan direction, goals, and anticipated outcomes of the TA and systems change supported through the Center. AoD grantees will make up 14 out of 15 members, with the breakdown as shown in the table below:

Grantee Type	Number
Centers for Independent Living (CIL)	7
State Councils on Developmental Disabilities (DD Council)	4
University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD)	1
State Protection and Advocacy Agencies (P&A)	1
Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) State Partnership Programs	1

- One member will serve as an ex-officio member will consist of individuals who possess strong experience developing CIE systems-change efforts through either policy, program, or practice

# Grantee Representative Work Group (Continued)

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## Application Process

- AoD is currently calling for nominations to the Grantee Representative Work Group, and the [application](#) will be open from **December 18, 2020 and will close at 11:59 PM EST on January 22, 2021.**
- Individuals may nominate someone or apply themselves as self-nominees. All applicants must complete the application and share additional materials (bio, resume, etc.) no later than the deadline of January 22, 2021.

# Capacity Building for Grantees

## National TA Website & Resource Clearinghouse

- Will serve as the primary hub of 508-compliant materials and resources on disability employment for AoD programs, including already developed resources from nationally-recognized entities and federal partners as well as new resources

## Capacity Building through Resource Development and Dissemination

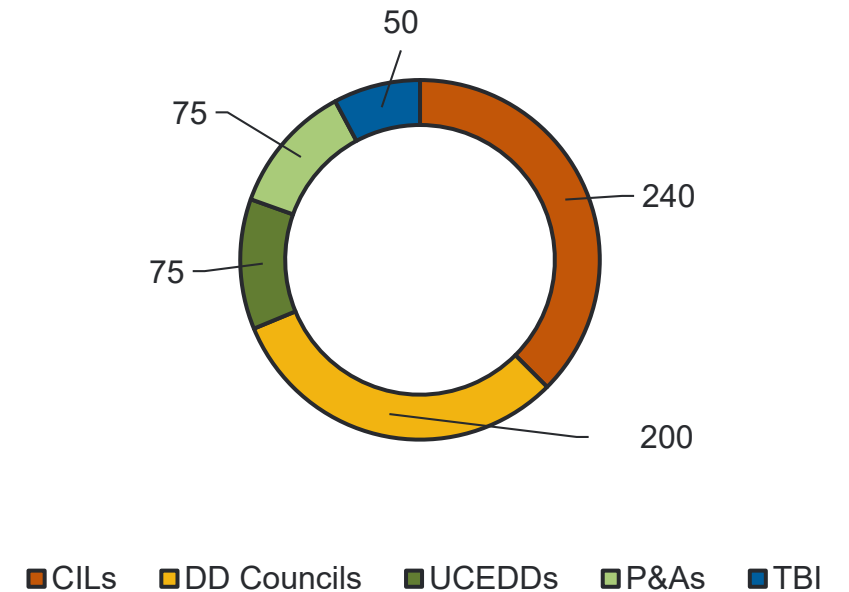
- Includes:
  - 20 informational/technical resources per year: 12 will target specific AoD grantees and 6 will be applicable across the AoD Disability Network
  - Starting in Year 1:
    - Annual State Policy Academies: 3-4 seminars per academy
    - Annual Federal Policy Academies: 3-4 seminars per academy

# Direct TA to Grantees: Year One

## TA to Grantees

- **Estimated hours for 2021:** 650
- **Includes:**
  - **On-demand, real-time TA** based on grantee requests, with minimum hours breakdown for each category of grantee shown in diagram
  - **Quarterly training intensives** for all interested AoD grantee front-line staff and leadership
  - **Creation of a National Community of Practice (CoP)** with monthly interactive webinars, blog posts, SME troubleshooting/brainstorming sessions, and podcasts
  - **Quarterly Provider Network Training Workshop series** to support relationship-building between providers and CILs/DD Councils
  - **Results & Innovation in Systems Excellence (RISE) Peer Action Learning Communities** focused on specific milestones and composed of 3-6 state teams

Minimum TA Hours per AoD Grantee Type





# What will Guide and Inform the Focus of the Center's Training/TA Activities?



# Additional TA Components (Years 2-5)

## Intensive On-Site/Virtual TA to State Teams

- For 5 States to receive intensive TA
- Estimated TA hours of 150/state team

## Conference Presentations

- Years 2-5
- 2-4 Presentations/annually

## Mini-Prize Competition

- In Years 2 and 4, the Center will host a mini-prize competition to recognize innovative strategies and models that have been created/piloted by AoD grantees

## Evaluation

- Efforts-to-outcomes data collection and performance measurement system to help state teams and AoD grantees track progress related to improving outcomes and systems-change efforts

# Next Steps

- Upcoming Events/Activities
- How YOU Can Get Engaged



# Next 120 Days: *Key Activities*

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- Major Deliverables
  - Launch Website, Clearinghouse of Resources, and National Community of Practice
  - Hold first meeting with Grantee Representative Work Group
  - Submit environmental landscape assessment
  - Submit 5-Year Strategic Plan
- Begin providing AoD grantee-specific T/TA no later than Q3-FY2021.



# How YOU Can Get Engaged Immediately

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- ✓ Attend one of the Stakeholder Information & Listening Sessions
- National Community of Practice Launch (Feb 2021)
  - To sign up, please use our [registration form](#).
- Nominate yourself or someone else for the Center's Grantee Representative Work Group
  - Nominations Open from December 18-January 21
  - [Nomination form](#)

# Interactive Discussion & Information Exchange



# Questions for Participants – Question #1

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*What ideas/recommendations do you have for encouraging, incentivizing, and supporting strong engagement of AoD grantees in the Center's TA/training activities?*

## Questions for Participants – Question #2

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*What key topics do you think the Center should prioritize in terms of resource development and technical assistance in the first year?*



## Questions for Participants – Question #3

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*What modes of learning/activity do you think are the most effective in this virtual world we are living in?*

*[Examples: informational written resources; training curriculum; virtual trainings/webinars; smaller topically focused working groups; brainstorming sessions with SMEs; modularized trainings; podcasts; blogs; etc.]*

# Questions for Participants – Question #4

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*When offering TA/training and support to the AoD Grantees in the area of disability employment, what should we avoid doing?*

# Questions for Participants – Question #5

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*How frequently would you like to be communicated with regarding the AoD TA Center's progress?*

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# Thank You!

If you have any questions,  
please reach out to us at:

[AoDEmploymentTA@gmail.com](mailto:AoDEmploymentTA@gmail.com)