# 2015 Employment Fact Sheet

A guide to the benefits of hiring individuals with disabilities

"Oregon is strongest when people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, are employed in their community, pursuing careers and building assets just like people without disabilities."

## Oregon's Commitment to Opportunity

2008 ODDS Policy



Oregon becomes one of the first states to formally adopt an Employment First policy

2013 & 2015 Executive Orders



Governor Kitzhaber issued an Executive Order in support of employment for people with disabilities

2013 MOU Goal



A MOU was signed ensuring that all youth with disabilities leave school with integrated, community employment goals

13-15 Governor's Budget

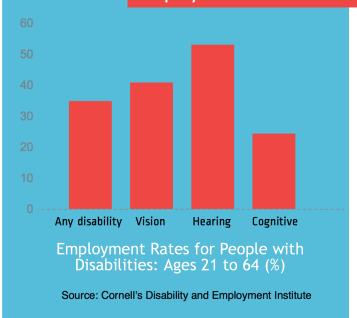


Governor Kitzhaber allocated \$8.6 million to increase integrated employment options for people with disabilities

Legislative Request:

Support Governor's 2015-17 budget package to improve employment outcomes for people with disabilities.

# **Employment Rates for People with Disabilities**



# Background

There are 60,500 people with developmental disabilities in Oregon

In February 2014, the percentage of individuals with disabilities in the labor force fell to 19% compared to 69% for persons with no disability

In Oregon, only **One out of four** adults with cognitive disabilities are employed

Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)

# Employing People with Disabilities Has Added Benefits

#### Return on Investment



Reduce hiring and training costs by increasing retention rates

#### **Innovation**



Utilize disability inclusive teams to stimulate new product and service developments

#### Marketing



Attract a wider consumer base that includes the wider community



#### What we need to work in the community

- Access to integrated, competitive jobs in the general workforce;
- A choice of jobs and careers, with advancement opportunities;
- Minimum wage or above compensation, plus benefits;
- Access to benefits planning services to help workers understand public benefits; and
- Appropriate job supports to obtain and maintain employment.

## **Employment Services in Oregon**

More adults with developmental disabilities are accessing more ODDS employment services

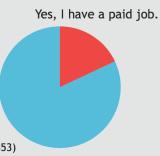




13.1% March 2014 Do you have a paid job in your community?

2 out of every 10 people with I/DD have a paid job in their community

No, I do **not** have a paid job.



2012-2013 NCI Oregon Adult Survey data (n=353)

**Support DD Services** 



Contact Jennifer Bickett, jbickett@communitypath.org, or Anna Keenan-Mudrick, anna@casdd.org, for more information.



SOURCES: Oregon DHS Cornell's Disability and Employment Institute Oregon Employment First Data July 2014 Report

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