

October 31st, 2013



ALLEN COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Employment First

Employment First—Allen County

Did you know that every person served by the Allen County Board of DD must have a path to community employment? That includes everyone in Adult Services and in other day habilitation programs. A new rule from the Ohio State Department of DD will soon be coming out that makes it clear that all working age adults must have an identified path to community employment. You'll be hearing about this more at team meetings. There are four different paths that teams will need to look at. They include:

1. You may already be community employed, but need supports to keep your job, improve your job or

advance your career.

2. You may want a community job and need supports to get a job or identify career options.
3. You may be unsure about community employment and need some supports to find out more OR you may need some help understanding the economic impact when you don't work.
4. You may be saying you don't want to work, and need some support to learn about career opportunities and the economic impact you may have if you don't work.

We are working very hard

to help people gain valuable work skills through Adult Services. Our staff are here to help you with your choices!

Angie Herzog
Executive Director
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Mary Beth Corderman is a valued employee at Dollar Tree.

Top 10 Reasons People Say they Don't Want to Work in the Community (and Reasons to Work in the Community)

1. My friends are in the work center. **(You can make other friends in the community.)**
2. I don't think I can do it! **(Employment Services is there to help you. We KNOW you can do it!)**
3. I don't like the hours that I would have to work in the community. **(Staff will work with you to find a job with hours that meet your needs.)**
4. People will make fun of me in the community. **(Staff will work with your employer to make sure people treat you well at your job.)**
5. I just want to do activities. **(Adults who are able to work should be working. It is the responsible thing to do.)**
6. I feel like I'll be really lonely without my friends. **(Even though you leave the work center, you will make new friends AND you can be involved in monthly Employment Services fun activities with your old friends!)**
7. I tried community jobs, and they didn't work out. **(We need to work on the reasons why they didn't work out....let us try to help.)**
8. My parents don't want me to work in the community. **(First of all, do YOU want to work in the community? Let's discuss it all together with your team.)**
9. My family just takes my money and I never get to see it/spend it. **(Another thing to discuss...perhaps the family needs some money, but if we discuss it with you and your family...we might be able to help.)**
10. I might lose my benefits if I work in the community. **(We can help you by doing a benefits analysis. It is rare that an individual loses benefits for working.)**