



**Kentucky Employment First Council**

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**Andy Beshear**

Governor

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# Employment First Council

## Transition Committee Meeting Minutes

May 14, 2026

9:30 am – 10:30 am (EST)

Zoom

Meeting ID: 859 9250 0062

### Members' Present

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Chair Tal Curry, Sara Tinker, Jason Wheatley/Proxy Gretta Hylton, Johnny Callebs, and Zac Sappenfield.

### Members Absent

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Katie Wolf Whaley, Rhonda Logsdon, and Larry Taylor.

### Staff Present

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Jonathan White, Nanci Howard, and Anu Kumari.

### Welcome | Introduction | Agenda Review

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Employment First Transition Committee Chair, Tal Curry, welcomed attendees, and introductions were conducted. The agenda was reviewed and acknowledged by all participants.

### Update on Advocacy and Education Committee Collaboration

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The committee received an update regarding the ongoing activities of the Advocacy and Education Committee. The committee previously discussed the development of a distribution list and strategies for sharing Employment First information with partners and

stakeholders. At this time, the committee has shifted its focus toward development of newsletter inserts related to Employment First initiatives.

## Key Highlights

The committee is developing brief newsletter inserts for potential approval through Cabinet Communications.

It was recommended that the newsletter inserts be included in the Kentucky Department of Education and Career and Technical Education newsletters. Draft examples of the newsletter inserts are currently in development and may be presented to the Employment First Council for review at a future meeting.

The Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document remains posted on the Employment First website; however, updates to several links are needed.

The committee is working with staff from the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation to transition the FAQ document into an HTML format to improve accessibility and simplify future maintenance and link updates.

## Update on the Transition Resource Sheet

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The Transition Resource Sheet was provided in the chat box and also updated on the KY Advisory Council on Autism website at [Transition Resource Sheet for Students with Disabilities](#). An accessible version remains on the website at [Transition Planning Resources – KYACA](#)

The purpose of this hyperlinked document is to support youth and families to make informed decisions about transition services for students with disabilities and is to be shared with youth prior to and during 504/IEP meetings (ages 13/14 to 18/21).

At the end of the two-page document is survey link. [Transition Resource Sheet Survey](#)

The committee was reminded that the most recent version of the resource sheet was dated February 13, 2026, and links had been shared for members who may not have been familiar with the resource. It was noted that the resource sheet could be included within future Advocacy and Education Committee newsletter inserts distributed to educators and other partners.

## Top Transition Planning Resources

- [University of Kentucky Human Development Institute \(UK HDI\)](#)
- [Youth & Adults Suite – KY-SPIN](#)
- [Vocational Rehabilitation \(VR\) Transition Services for Students](#)

## **Transition Distribution List and Dissemination Plan-Document Review**

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The committee reviewed a draft “Transition Distribution List and Dissemination Plan” document intended to support more coordinated communication across stakeholders.

### **Key Highlights**

The distribution list would be used to share transition-related resources through agency newsletters, listservs, social media platforms, and partner communication channels.

The draft document included organization types, contact information, websites, social media platforms, and assigned committee members responsible for maintaining contact information.

The committee emphasized the importance of maintaining updated contact information and developing a regular review schedule to ensure the document remains current and effective. Discussion included assigning responsibility to committee members for maintaining contact information for designated organizations and communication partners.

The committee discussed using the next Transition Committee meeting on June 25<sup>th</sup> as a target date for committee members to review and update assigned contact information within the distribution document. Reminder communications would also be sent prior to the meeting by the Administrator.

## **Transition Distribution List and Dissemination Plan Discussion**

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The committee further discussed implementation of the dissemination plan and strategies for statewide resource sharing.

### **Key Highlights**

Utilizing partner organizations, newsletters, listservs, social media platforms, and existing communication channels to distribute transition-related resources statewide.

Identifying agency contacts, communications staff, division representatives, and community partners who could support dissemination efforts.

Establishing an ongoing review and maintenance process for the distribution document. Supporting long-term communication efforts and reducing the need to recreate distribution lists for future initiatives.

## **Additional Discussion**

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### **Announcement**

An announcement was shared regarding the new Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) case management system. It was reported that the new system is anticipated to go live in mid-July. OVR staff training is scheduled during the first week of June, during which time staff availability may be limited while agency-wide training is completed.

### **Next Steps**

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The Administrator will send the [Google Doc](#) to committee members for review and updates prior to the next Transition Committee meeting on June 25<sup>th</sup> and will distribute reminder communications with future meeting materials and agendas.

Committee members will continue reviewing and updating organization contacts, communication channels, and assigned responsibilities within the Transition Distribution List and Dissemination Plan document.

### **Public Comments**

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None.

### **Adjournment**

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Employment First Committee Chair, Tal Curry, thanked everyone for their contribution and adjourned the meeting.

### **Next Meeting Date**

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Thursday, June 25, 2026  
9:30 am- 10:30 am (EST)