

WA State

Alderbrook Employment Forum Tools

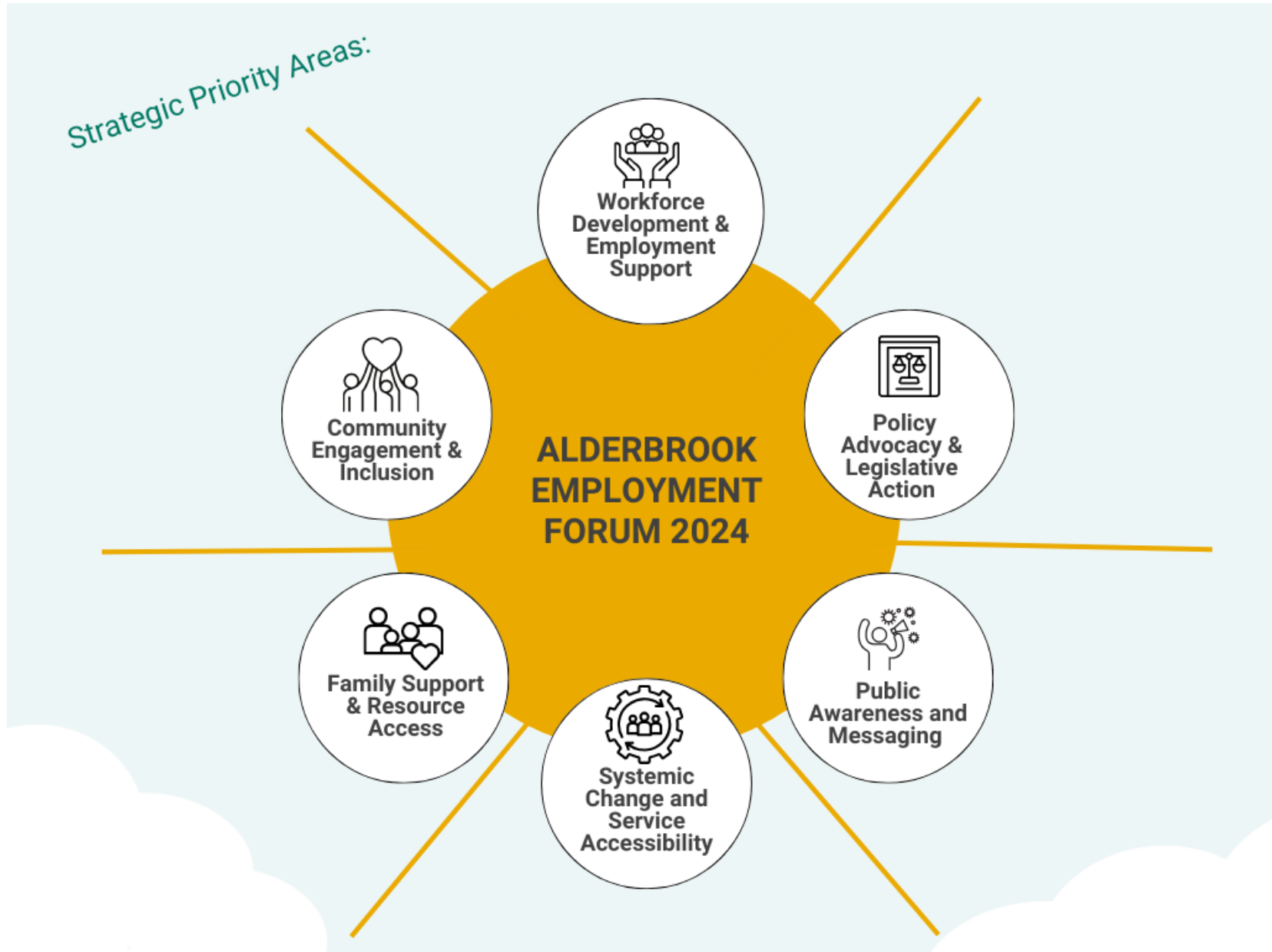


Alderbrook 2024 Forum Graphical Facilitation and Strategic Planning Tools

Forum Graphic Facilitation



Strategic Priority Areas



Priority Area Information

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & INCLUSION

- Foster relationships between individuals with IDD and the broader community, emphasizing inclusion and participation.
- Organize community events such as potlucks, job fairs, and community forums to connect people with IDD with employers and community members.
- Promote the value of inclusive employment through outreach campaigns and events.
- Address barriers to access such as transportation, personal care, and language services for individuals with IDD.
- Build relationships with community organizations to support people with IDD, including partnerships with self-advocates and local leaders.
- Encourage community conversations to promote understanding of DDA and DVR services, focusing on collaboration among providers, counties, and partners.

PUBLIC AWARENESS AND MESSAGING

- Develop clear, united messaging to raise awareness about the value of employment for people with IDD.
- Use marketing and outreach campaigns, including social media and public service announcements, to highlight success stories and advocate for policy change.
- Conduct a media blitz around best practices for transportation, personal care, and language access.
- Organize a rally for "Nothing About Us Without Us" to engage the community and raise awareness.
- Update informational content (such as "Informing Families") to be more accessible, including translations into Spanish.
- Engage with the governor, legislators, and other policymakers to advocate for the long-term investment in community employment for individuals with IDD.

ALDEREBROOK STRATEGIC PRIORITY AREAS:

SYSTEMIC CHANGE AND SERVICE ACCESSIBILITY

- Collaborate with univerEstablish a committee to expand supported employment (SE) positions within DDA and State Government.
- Work with DDA to create a standardized, seamless process for obtaining compensation for DDA work and explore how to streamline transitions into DDA services.
- Work towards the creation of a single entry point for all DSHS services through an online participant portal by 2026.
- Support the creation of seamless braided funding between DDA and DVR for transition services, ensuring participant voices are included in the process.
- Advocate for access to personal care services across all regions.
- Ensure counties develop culturally responsive and competent system navigation with a focus on diverse populations.

FAMILY SUPPORT & RESOURCE ACCESS

- Simplify and clarify resources and information for families, ensuring accessibility and reducing barriers to understanding.
- Develop training materials on employment for families and peer-to-peer (P2P) system navigators.
- Use "Benefits on Blast" to improve communication around employment benefits and related topics.
- Prioritize the inclusion of information on transportation and access to services for families navigating the system.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT & EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT

- Collaborate with universities to create a pipeline to the field, enhancing professionalism and retention.
- Pay staff livable wages and address wage disparities in the employment sector.
- Standardized training for employment consultants across counties.
- Revamp DDA self-employment guidelines to make self-employment more viable.
- Support for work-from-home positions for individuals with IDD.
- Develop additional outcome payments for increasing work hours, supporting individuals with complex needs, and serving rural communities.
- Engage with other industries to promote inclusive employment practices.
- Job development strategy: Shift the focus from "selling services" to "meeting employer needs."
- Support job development through outreach to employers and creating long-lasting relationships, including with large employers ("big dogs").

POLICY ADVOCACY & LEGISLATIVE ACTION

- Push for the legalization of cannabis federally and create a dedicated fund for DDA from cannabis tax revenue.
- Develop clear and consistent messaging to the governor and legislators advocating for increased investment in community employment and inclusion for individuals with IDD.
- Advocate for the inclusion of lifelong Family Resource Coordination (FRC) services for individuals over 3 years old, contracted to community providers by 2025.
- Prioritize DDA services, framing them as essential, not optional, through targeted policy actions.
- Advocate for the lifting of work hour and income limits for individuals with IDD without affecting benefits.
- Create stories that highlight the benefits of employment for people with IDD, tying these stories to policy changes.

Strategic Planning Template

