

Arizona's First Employment First Team & Community Conversation

Jessica Winchester, MBA, ACRE Gina Griffiths, MSW

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Agenda

- Meet the Employment First Team
- Overview of the Employment First Project
- Advance Employment First Community Conversation
 - Share your thoughts!
- Stay engaged



Meet AZ's First Employment First Team

- Employment First Program
 Manager
 Jessica Winchester,
 MBA, ACRE
- Employment First
 Coordinator
 Gina Griffiths, MSW





AZ's Employment First Project

- Vision: employment is the first and preferred option for all individuals with disabilities.
- We are committed to move Employment First principles from theory to action
- Dismantle barriers, amplify strengths, and promote a diverse workforce.
- Ensure that every individual can contribute to and thrive within their community, making employment not just an aspiration, but a reality for all.



AZ Employment First Implementation Strategies

Collaboration

Data-Driven Decisions

Building

Communication



AZ Employment First Activities and Actions

Training & TA

Outreach

Engage employers

Solicit feedback

Statewide leadership and coordination

Share information



Create the Conversation

Here's how you can participate today:

- Speak up during discussions raise your hand or unmute when invited
- Use the Menti app for our first question
- Join breakout conversations small group time helps everyone get heard
- Drop your ideas in the chat at any time
- Prefer to share later? Email us anytime at <u>EmploymentFirst@Arizona.edu</u>



Join at menti.com | Use vote code 5860 9710

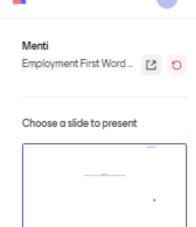
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Employment First Conversation Introduction

When you hear the phrase 'Employment First,' what's one word that comes to mind?



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integrated employment
         accessibility
                 competitive wages
 empowering
             individualized
                                 help disability rights
                        empowerment
          diversity
                                                collaboration
                  inclusion
                                              independence
equity
                                            everyone
                        inclusivity
                                          involvement
                       opportunity
                                          access
                         accommodations
                         accessibility inclusion
                     workforce development
                    expectations
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Employment First Conversation 1

What would success look like, for you or your community, if Employment First worked the way it should?



Employment First Conversation 2

Can you share a story or example of when someone in your community wanted to work but ran into challenges?



Employment First Conversation 3

If we could only focus on one thing over the next year to improve employment outcomes, what should it be and why?



How can you stay engaged?

 Visit the Sonoran Center Employment First page – https://sonorancenter.arizona.edu/azemploymentfirst

 Join monthly Employment First Topics & Tactics – https://sonorancenter.arizona.edu/events/employmentfirst-topics-tactics

Join Arizona APSE – https://www.azapse.org/



The Sonoran Center Employment First Team

- Jessica Winchester, MBA, ACRE Employment First Project Manager winchesterj@arizona.edu
- Gina Griffiths, MSW
 Employment First Coordinator
 griffiths@arizona.edu
- EmploymentFirst@Arizona.edu

