***Session One:***

**Introduction to the Evidence Based Transition Practices**

**Overview**

The emphasis on this introductory session is on the research basis of the practices. The document from Ohio Employment First is introduced in this session and will be used throughout most session. This document condenses the original material from National Technical Assistance Center on Transition (NTACT) and the link between use of the practices and community outcomes including competitive integrated employment (CIE). Employment outcomes are becoming more important for schools because of the shift in Medicaid funding away from segregated employment (sheltered workshops) to community based, integrated environments.

Facilitators, if the audience includes staff from employment or adult day services programs that are funded by Medicaid, consider asking these participants to comment about the current situation in their county regarding employment and transition youth exiting high school. Use this brief discussion to further support the need for more strategies that prepare youth for community employment and effective supports when on the job.

**Materials to Enhance Learning and Activities**

1. Ohio Employment First Evidence Based Practices for Transition Youth. Available for download from the session one webpage or on the OCALI website at <https://www.ocali.org/project/evp-adult-success>

**Activities Overview**

1. Participants will view the Introduction to Evidence Based Transition Practices PowerPoint.
2. Participants will use the Ohio Employment First Evidence Based Practices for Transition Youth (Handout 1, see below) to become familiar with the group of Evidence Based Practices that are covered in the “What Works for Work” sessions.
3. Participants will explore various websites listed for each practice in the Ohio Employment First Evidence Based Practices for Transition Youth and gather specific information to learn more about the practices. More details on this activity in the notes section of the PowerPoint slides.