

Employment First Florida Presents:  
*College Matters Florida*

February 8, 2022



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## Welcome



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- Write comments and ask questions in chat
- Real time **captioning** is provided during this presentation. Captions can be found in Captioning pod which appears below the slides.
- Recording will be available on our website
- Complete our survey for an attendance acknowledgment letter
- If you have confidential questions for the presenter please send them via e-mail at [llopez@cilofthekeys.org](mailto:llopez@cilofthekeys.org)

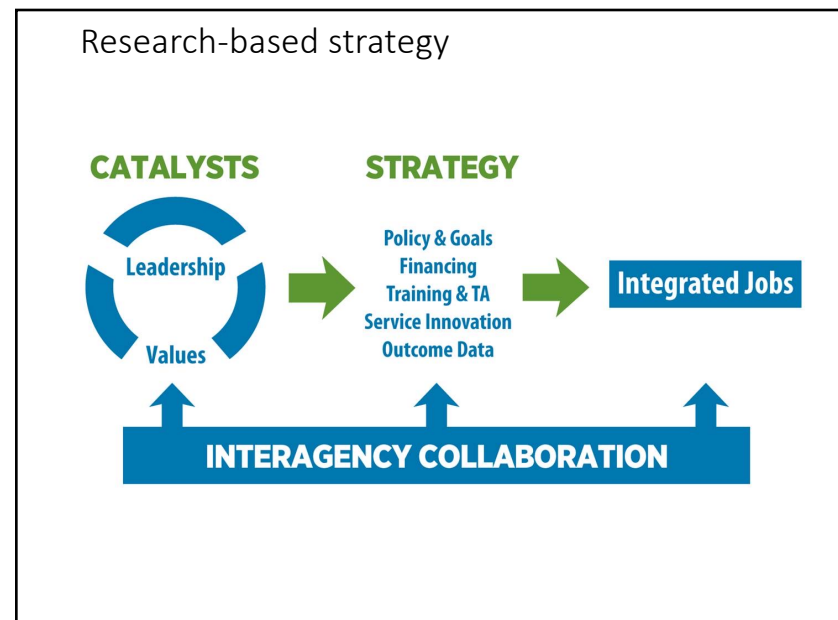
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### What makes Employment First Florida unique?

- Executive and Legislative Support
- Focus on supporting individuals to become **“fully integrated in the community workforce with a goal of maximum self-sufficiency...”**
- Research based strategies
- Interagency collaboration

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## Agenda

- Review the research:
  - Why is work important
  - How people learn about work
  - High quality employment supports
- Getting a job can be complicated:
  - Stories of success
  - Lessons learned

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## WORK



## POVERTY



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Why is work important to people with disabilities: For the same reasons it is important to you!

- Better health outcomes
- Self-confidence
- Contribution to the community
- Independence and control over our lives

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Who helps people to get a job

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- Employment specialists
- Friends
- Family
- Teachers and other school staff

**Who has helped you to get a job?**

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## Our Guest Speakers

*Jamie Timmons, MSW  
Research Associate  
Institute for Community Inclusion  
U-Mass Boston*



*Sheila N. Johnson, M.A  
Knowledge Translation Associate  
Institute for Community Inclusion  
U-Mass Boston*



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Join us for our next event!

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April 12, 2022

Employment Enhancement: Strengthening the System  
of Support

Featuring Self Advocates: Natalie Jean and Arizona Jenkins

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The EmployMe1st project is a joint project of the [Florida Developmental Disabilities Council](#), the [Institute for Community Inclusion](#), and [National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services](#).  
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