

2017 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT WORKGROUP APPLICATION



The Vision of the Olmstead Plan:

People with disabilities are living, learning, working and enjoying life in the most integrated setting.

Minnesota's Olmstead Plan places a high priority on community engagement. Community engagement and inclusive participation are key ways to advance community integration for people with disabilities. All Minnesotans have the right to engage in activities of their choice: to be able to connect with other people, have greater control over their lives, and contribute in meaningful ways to their communities.

The Olmstead Subcabinet and the Olmstead Implementation Office (OIO) are currently looking for individuals to participate in the Olmstead Community Engagement Workgroup. Individuals with a disability, people who have a family member with a disability, and advocates or allies who support the disability community are encouraged to apply.

The Olmstead Community Engagement Workgroup will provide support and guidance to the Olmstead Subcabinet and the OIO regarding the Olmstead Plan, utilizing person-centered values and authentic community engagement.

What knowledge, skills or life experiences are desired for Olmstead Community Engagement Workgroup members?

- Individuals with a lived experience of disability, or allies or advocates who have experience with the disability community.
- Passion for ensuring that services and supports are responsive to the unique needs of people with disabilities.
- Knowledge of the Minnesota Olmstead Plan.
- Experience with principles of person-centered planning and informed choice.
- Experience with public councils, committees, or boards.
- Passion for advancing inclusion for people with disabilities, so that they can live, work, learn, and enjoy life in the most integrated setting of their choice.

Who is the Olmstead Community Engagement Workgroup?

- The majority of workgroup members are expected to be people with disabilities, with family members, advocates, and allies comprising the remaining members.
- The Community Engagement Workgroup application is an equal opportunity. The Subcabinet places a high priority on recruiting diverse representatives from within Minnesota's disability community. Individuals from the following populations are encouraged to apply:
 - People of color, American Indians, women, immigrants and refugees, and individuals who identify as LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer).
 - People who reside both within the metro area and greater Minnesota.
 - People with disabilities who receive a various types of services or supports.

What are the strategic goals of the Olmstead Community Engagement Workgroup?

1. To strengthen community engagement between members of the disability communities, the OIO, and state agencies on matters impacting the implementation of the Olmstead Plan.
2. To support the creation of a communications plan for the Olmstead Plan.
3. To ensure that Olmstead communication materials and public meetings are as inclusive and accessible as possible.

When and where will the Olmstead Community Engagement Workgroup meet?

- The workgroup will meet every other month for two hours, between April and December 2017, both in the metro area and greater Minnesota. Meetings are intended to be accessible and remote participation through phone or video conferencing will be available.
- Workgroup members will be provided with the agenda and materials to review at least one week prior to the meeting, and will have tasks to complete in between monthly meetings.
- Participation in the Olmstead Community Engagement Workgroup is voluntary (with potential reimbursement for travel costs).

I'm interested in participating. How can I apply?

- Please fill out the application below and send it back through one of the following ways:
 - By mail- Olmstead Implementation Office, 400 Sibley Street, Suite 300, St Paul, MN 55101.
 - By fax- 651-296-8139.
 - By email- MNOLmsteadPlan@state.mn.us.
- **Applications received by Friday, February 17th will be given priority consideration.**
- If you have any questions or if you need this application form in another format, please contact Melody Johnson at the Olmstead Implementation Office: melody.johnson@state.mn.us or 651-296-8177.

APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT WORKGROUP

APPLICANT INFORMATION

| | | |
|---------------------|--------|------------|
| Name (first, last): | | |
| Current address: | | Phone: |
| City: | State: | Apartment: |
| Email address: | | ZIP Code: |

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION¹ (THIS INFORMATION IS OPTIONAL)

| | |
|---|------|
| Race/Ethnicity: | |
| Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Gender Non-Conforming <input type="checkbox"/> Other | Age: |
| Do you identify as having a disability? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | |

Tell us a little about yourself and your connection to the disability community in Minnesota.

¹ Demographic information is optional and applicants need not complete this section. This data is sought for informational purposes only and there are no consequences for not answering the demographic questions. As discussed in the Tennessen Warning below, this form and the data collected herein may be shared with the governmental agencies and entities that make up the Olmstead Subcabinet.

Why are you interested in participating in the Community Engagement Workgroup?

What experience do you have (professional, volunteer, or in your personal life) that you believe could be relevant to the goals of the Community Engagement Workgroup?

Provide an example of barriers or challenges for people with disabilities when trying to become more actively engaged in their communities. Then provide an example of what you believe authentic engagement with people with disabilities should look like.

Do you require any reasonable accommodations (for either the application process or during the workgroup meetings)?

Signature of applicant:

Date:

Tennessee Warning: By signing this application, you indicate that you understand and agree to the following. Information on this form, with the exception of the demographic information, is sought for purposes of evaluating your application to be a member of the workgroup. While it is not required that you answer all of the questions on this form, failure to do so (with the exception of the demographic information) may make it difficult to evaluate your application and may result in not being selected to participate. As this is a workgroup related to the Olmstead Subcabinet, you understand and agree that this application form and the data on the form may be shared with the other state entities and agencies that comprise the Olmstead Subcabinet.