

**Commission on the Status of Persons with Disabilities
Workforce Supports Subcommittee Meeting
Meeting Minutes**

Date of Meeting: Thursday, May 15, 2025

Time: 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Virtual

This is a meeting of the **Workforce Supports Subcommittee** of the permanent Commission on the Status of Persons with Disabilities. This subcommittee will collect data and analyze initiatives that address the workforce crisis for people who provide services to individuals with disabilities.

Members Participating Remotely	
1	Andrew Levrault (Chair) – Deputy General Counsel, Disabled Persons Protection Commission
Members Not Present	
2	Angela Ortiz – Executive Director, MA Health Council
3	Chris White – CEO & President, Road to Responsibility, Inc
Additional Commissioners Participating Remotely	
4	Honorable Representative Denise Garlick – Former Massachusetts House of Representatives
5	Oz Mondejar – President, Mucho Gusto
6	Carl Richardson – ADA Coordinator, Massachusetts State House

Action items		Person responsible
1	Collaborate with Disability Employment members on Employment and Providers supports panel (ongoing)	Co-Chairs, Imene
2	Reach out to MassAbility for June event	Andrew
3	Reengage with Human Services Research Institute Valerie Bradley	Imene

1. Welcome and Roll Call
 - Postponed to May meeting, no quorum.
2. Attorney General Guidance: Information for Massachusetts Healthcare Providers Regarding Immigration Enforcement and Access to Care and Assistance Programs
Presentation by Ethan Marks, Deputy Division Chief of Healthcare Division, MA Office of the Attorney General on [Attorney General Guidance: Information for Massachusetts Healthcare Providers Regarding Immigration Enforcement and Access to Care and Assistance Programs](#)

- Shared guidance on how healthcare providers should respond to immigration enforcement activities.
- Covered protections in place for immigrant patients and clarified that access to care should not be restricted based on immigration status.
- Discussed how MassHealth eligibility and services may be affected.
- AGO will continue monitoring developments and offers support through its Civil Rights Division hotline.
- Shared link to official resources: mass.gov/info-details/resources-for-immigrants-in-massachusetts

Q&A Highlights:

- Clarified that “healthcare facility” is intentionally defined broadly to include settings like group homes.
- Confirmed that immigration enforcement procedures are consistent across settings.
- Questions raised about how services from agencies like DDS, DMH, and MassAbility are affected by immigration status.
- Encouraged broader dissemination to hospitals, academic institutions, and medical residency programs.
- Requests made to be added to the AGO’s listserv.
- Inquiry raised regarding any known ICE activity in the state.

3. Event Planning Update: “Strength in Support”

- Finalized event name: *Strength in Support: A Networking and Resource-Sharing Event for Youth & Young Adults with Disabilities, Personal Care Assistants, Job Coaches, and Inclusive Workplaces.*
- Event will highlight success stories, challenges, and potential solutions for improving employment outcomes.
- Includes resource tables from organizations hiring PCAs and Direct Support Professionals.
- Outreach is ongoing to secure speakers and employer participants.
- Organizations currently in contact include:
 - Partners for Youth with Disabilities
 - MassAbility
 - JVS
 - The Federation for Children with Special Needs / NextGen
 - PCA Council
 - The Arc of Massachusetts
 - Additional leads include representatives from healthcare, banking, and hospitality sectors.
 - Plans to invite a representative to speak about the newly extended apprenticeship program.

4. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn.
- Motion approved.

Next meeting dates:

- August 28
- November 13