



OPEN DOORS
for multicultural families
disability | community | opportunity

Introduction to Open Doors

Presenter: Faataualofa Apelu
ADS Lead



ODMF was funded in 2009 in Ginger's basement because culturally and linguistically diverse families did not have equitable access to disability-related resources and services

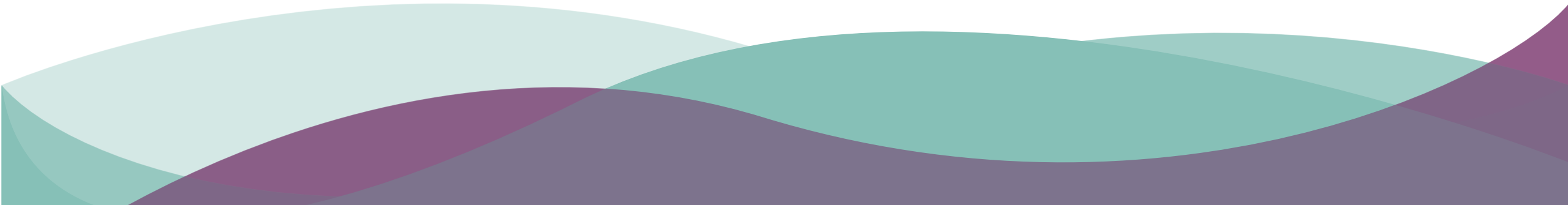
Photo of second ODMF Office in 2013

Our Vision:

What we hope to see with the work outlined in our Mission

All culturally and linguistically diverse individuals with developmental/intellectual disabilities and their families thrive in an inclusive society of their design.

What is the significance of each word/phrase?



Our Mission: What We Do

We engage and partner with culturally and linguistically diverse individuals with developmental and/or intellectual disabilities and their families.

We use a cultural brokerage model to:

Navigate services



Provide specialized programming



Advocate for Systems Change



Family Support Team: How do we do it: What is “Cultural Brokerage”?

- Direct Support Staff serve as a bridge between families and systems, and help families navigate systems.
- Staff are bilingual and bicultural
- FSS speak Arabic, Amharic, Cantonese, Korean, Kurdish, Mandarin, Vietnamese, Tigrinya, Somali, Spanish, and English
- Use Language Line for additional languages



Who We Serve



Who We Are: Our Team



63 staff members

19 languages

93% People of Color

61% immigrants/refugees

38% parents/family members of a person with DD/ID

ODMF Programs and Services

Early Learning

Birth-5

- ❖ Case Management/Home Visits
- ❖ Collaboration with Early Intervention
- ❖ Developmental Screening
- ❖ Inclusive Playgroup
- ❖ Parent Education

Youth

5-26

- ❖ Case Management
- ❖ Peer engagement, social connection and mentorship programming
- ❖ Summer Job Readiness
- ❖ Assistive Technology Lending Library
- ❖ Rehabilitation Services Technical Assistance Center
- ❖ Transition Fairs

Family Support

Birth-26

- ❖ One-on-one system navigation, including Special Education
- ❖ Parent Support Groups (offered in 12 languages)
 - ❖ Parent Support Groups, Parent Education Workshops, Clinics
- ❖ Inclusion Celebration

Adults and Caregiver Support

18+; 55+

- ❖ Case Management
- ❖ Respite Care for Caregivers
- ❖ Programming:
 - Adults with Disabilities, Respite for caregivers

Advocacy and Civic Engagement

All ages

- ❖ Systems and policy change
- ❖ Legislative Priorities: Language Access, Special Education, Mental Health
- ❖ Family Leadership Training
- ❖ Self-Advocate Leadership Training

MIDST Team

Multicultural Integrated Intellectual/Developmental Disability Support

All ages

- ❖ Remove barriers for participants to identify/enroll in relevant & eligible supports
- ❖ Community outreach
- ❖ Long term stability planning with the support of the Financial Literacy Specialist
- ❖ ODMF resource library and interface

One-On-One Family Support

Purpose

- Provide information & referrals to additional resources
- Offer assistance applying for benefits
- Assist with systems navigation and advocacy
- Prep parents and participate in IEP meetings as family support
- Offer support for all issues related to developmental disabilities.
- Offer Spec Ed. Workshops and parent support groups

One-On-One Support to non- paid caregivers & care receivers

Purpose

- Provide information & referrals to additional resources
- Offer assistance applying for benefits
- Provide respite care support, resources to our non-paid caregivers
- Internal programming for young adults with disability
- Caregivers' trainings, workshops, support groups
- Offer support for all issues related to developmental disabilities.

Services Provided by FSS staff

Special Education Support

Internal & External Referrals

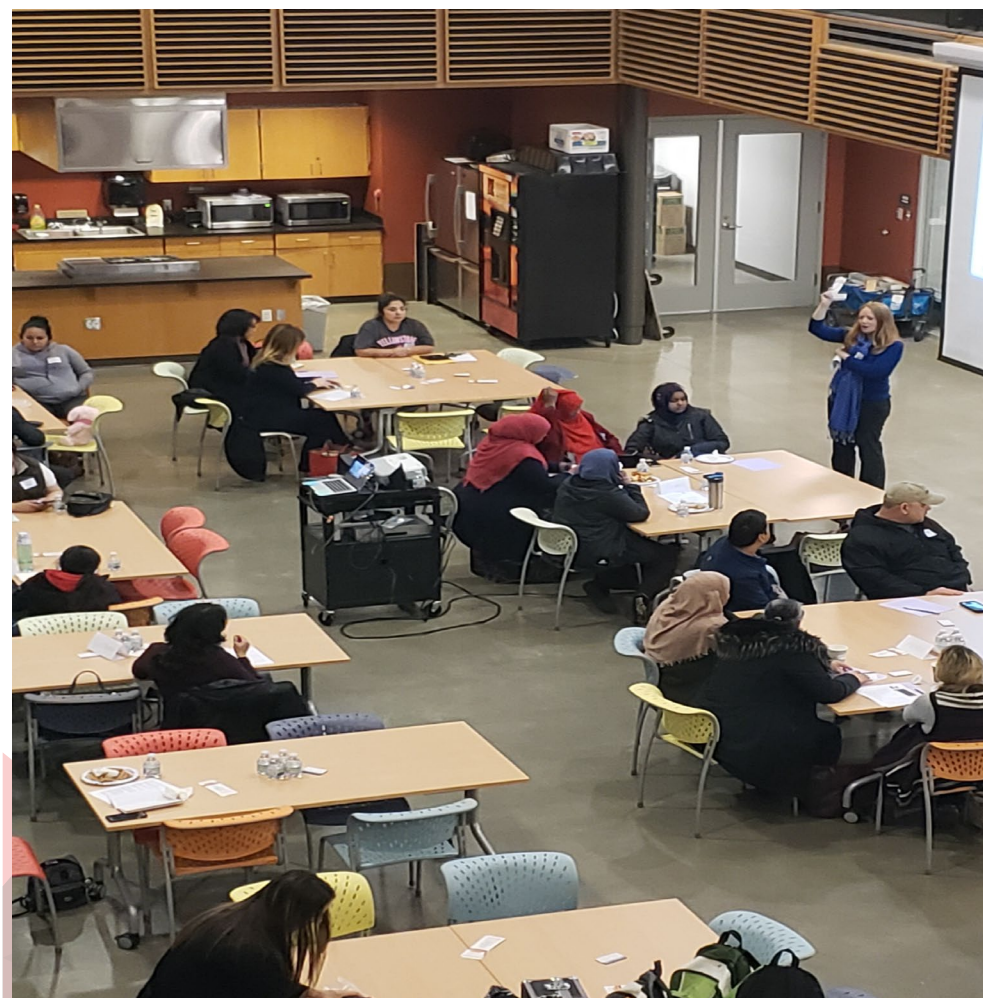
Apply for DDA services
Apply for SSI
Apply for Bends Funds

Provide Community Resources

Parent Support Groups & Workshops

Purpose

- Provide information on disability topics
- Increased access to services: Parents utilize services to better help their loved ones with disabilities.
- Reduce Isolation; parents/caregivers feel supported by other parents & caregivers
- Better education services, parents/caregivers learn to advocate for their loved ones Special Ed. Services



Q&A





Contact us

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Our Partners and Funders

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