

Report to Governor's Advisory Council on Brain Injury
January 17, 2013

The active caseload on November 30th was 12,284. The Agency's plan is to maintain the average caseload of 12,100 – 12,400 for the next several months in order to serve as many job candidates as possible within our capacity and funding constraints.

The IVRS non-federal match deficit is about \$1.7 million which would match \$6.4million available in federal dollars. We anticipate Maintenance of effort penalty of about \$150,000 for FFY 2012. This is due to a decrease in non-federal matching funds when comparing FFY2012 to FFY 2010. This will result in \$150,000 being removed from the 2013 VR federal grant. (Last year the MOE deficit and penalty was \$1,121,461).

The Federal government is still operating under a 'Continuing Resolution' to fund the operation of the Federal Government from October 1, 2012 to March 27, 2013. Funding is at FFY 2012 levels. IVRS management continues to carefully monitor the progress of the budget negotiations in Congress. It is possible that sequestration could impact the size of federal grants available to IVRS for both the Vocational Rehabilitation and Disability Determination Services programs. Across the board cuts of 8 to 10% for federal programs beginning January 2, 2013 could be triggered.

On Monday, January 14th all individuals on the Significantly Disabled Waiting list whose application date fell on or before June 22, 2012 were released into services. There is no one on the MSD waiting list.

Governor Branstad released his budget recommendations for state fiscal years 2014 and 2015 on Tuesday, January 15th. The Governor's recommendation for Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services for the VR program is an increase of \$150,000 for 2014 and another \$150,000 increase for 2015. This results in VR appropriations of \$5,113,168 for 2014 and \$5,263,168 for 2015. These \$150,000 increases are very good news. \$150,000 state dollars matches about \$550,000 federal dollars. However, they are less than the \$371,000 increase we asked for 2014 and \$895,000 we asked for 2015.