Welcome

The State Rehabilitation Council (SRC) is pleased to host an annual Legislative Breakfast and recognize the ongoing efforts of Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services in making a positive difference in the lives of Iowans with disabilities.

The SRC, with members appointed to three year terms by the Governor, has been in operation since January 1993.

Our focus is to provide advice and direction to the Department of Education's Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services on the quality and effectiveness of their programs and services.

The SRC is a vital link to the constituency group which IVRS serves or through which it procures its goods and services.

The goal of the SRC is to seek and improve the quality of employment outcomes and community participation for individuals with disabilities.

Service Numbers

Over 14,000 individuals with disabilities are being served by IVRS.

1,800 individuals remain on a waiting list for services from IVRS.

Each month, 500 to 600 or more individuals begin rehabilitation services.

Individuals with the most significant disabilities (MSD) move directly into services upon determination of eligibility. About 190 individuals who are MSD move into services each month.

Due to budgetary constraints, individuals with significant disabilities (SD) are on a 6 to 8 month waiting list upon determination of eligibility. About 400 individuals who are SD apply for services each month.

Individuals receive services an average of 3.5 years to achieve successful employment.

The average cost per employment outcome in 2012 was $4,024 for case services.

Economic Impact

For every state dollar appropriated to IVRS, $3.2 are returned to the state economy.

Iowans with disabilities served by IVRS in FFY 2012 earned $15 million more than was spent on the entire program.

$5 million was spent on post-secondary education training to assist IVRS job candidates in meeting the Iowa business mid-skill gap.

$1.3 million was spent by IVRS in 2012 to community providers in local Iowa economies in efforts to provide additional employment-related services.

2,162 individuals with disabilities achieved their employment goal in 2012 and together earned $45 million in their first year of employment. These numbers include 40 individuals who were involved in the Iowa Self-Employment Program and are successfully operating their own businesses.

Funding/Budget

The Governor recommended an increase of $150,000 in state funding for SFY14 and an additional $150,000 for SFY15.

For 2015, IVRS needs $496,918 in addition to what the Governor recommended in order to maintain service delivery. Without additional dollars, the IVRS waiting list will grow to approximately 3000 persons, we will not serve 1,070 job candidates and the first year wages lost due to decreased employment outcomes will be $8 million.

For 2015, $1.27 million additional state dollars would draw down all federal funds available to Iowa.

IVRS would use those funds to eliminate the waiting list and expand innovative services involving post-secondary training, community provider services and business partnerships.

"Sequestration" should not immediately hurt the IVRS VR program since we do not match all available funds.

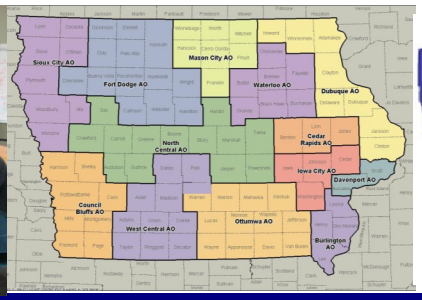
Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Finding solutions. Generating success.

www.ivrs.iowa.gov

Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Finding solutions. Generating success.



Business Initiatives

IVRS and/or community rehabilitation programs are piloting services through Walgreens. Individuals with disabilities are being trained on-site at five stores in Iowa to meet retail hiring needs.

IVRS partners with specific businesses to develop customized On-the-Job training that provides an IVRS job candidate with specific skills at the site of the business. Employers utilizing this program include: Casey's, Hy-Vee, Rock Island Arsenal and various State of Iowa Departments.

Eleven occupational skills training opportunities for IVRS job candidates are available at community rehabilitation programs in Iowa.

Project Ability is a Manpower Staffing initiative that creates partnerships with state and community-based vocational rehabilitation organizations with the goal of helping businesses leverage the talents of an underutilized pool of candidates with disabilities.

Transition

IVRS has a presence in every public high school in the state to assist with a student's transition to employment.

IVRS, in partnership with the local school districts, assists students with disabilities in preparing for and succeeding in vocational, academic and independent living settings.

Services provided by IVRS focus on improvement in educational attainment and obtaining integrated, competitive community employment.

More than 2,000 students were referred for VR services in FFY12. In FFY11, Iowa had the highest transition referral rate in the country.

818 transition students were successfully employed last year. They averaged 35 hours per week and $10.83 an hour.

IVRS Area Offices

IVRS Administrator
David Mitchell

Burlington Area Office
Suzanne Frice, Supervisor

Cedar Rapids Area Office
Ray Manning, Supervisor

Council Bluffs Area Office
Sally Prange, Supervisor

Davenport Area Office
Suzanne Frice, Supervisor

Dubuque Area Office
Jeanne Helling, Supervisor

Fort Dodge Area Office
Mary Augustus, Supervisor

Iowa City Area Office
Ray Manning, Supervisor

Mason City Area Office
Steven Faulkner, Supervisor

North Central Area Office
Denise Hubert, Supervisor

Ottumwa Area Office
Leslie McCarthy, Supervisor

Sioux City Area Office
Mary Ott, Supervisor

Waterloo Area Office
Michael Howell, Supervisor

West Central Area Office
Richard Clark, Supervisor

Membership

Joan Bindel
West Des Moines

Daniel Bray
Indianola

Curtis Chong
Des Moines

Sherri Clark
Red Oak

August Cordero
Pleasant Hill

Craig Cretsinger
Spencer

Jill Crosser
Ames

Nancy Cruz-Tretina
Ames

James Flansburg
Clive

Kristine Hennings
Des Moines

John Mikelson
Columbus Junction

Jeff Mikkelsen
Marion

Renee Neppl
Adel

Jeanne Sorenson
Johnston

Venita Springman
Cedar Rapids

Christopher Townsend
Davenport

Jacqueline Wipperman
Grimes

Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services
510 East 12th Street Des Moines Iowa 50319
515-281-4211