As of December 31, 2013 IVRS’ financial position and projections continue to be relatively stable. Our active caseload was 12,565 which is 2% higher than a year ago. The total waiting list number was 1,294. As of Monday, January 13th, there were no individuals on the Most Significantly Disabled waiting list. All individuals on the Significantly Disabled waiting list whose application date fell on or before August 30, 2013 were released.

IVRS is the lead agency for Iowa Employment First. This was a one year grant beginning in 2012. We subsequently received additional technical assistance hours for 2013 and 2014. The Employment First efforts have been in close collaboration and coordination with the Iowa Coalition of Integrated Employment (a grant through AIDD-Association of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities) and the Disability Employment Initiative. There has been a cross systems team of approximately ten individuals who have provided leadership and decision making for the Employment First project. For 2014 there are ten community rehabilitation partners who have volunteered to participate in transformation efforts with a goal of increasing the number of individuals participating in community employment, community activities and decreasing non-integrated services.

Additional programs and initiatives that IVRS is involved in includes the Project Search program which is assisting in yearlong training programs in medical and settings for young people and the Walgreens REDI (Retail Employees with Disabilities Initiative) program. These are both state-wide activities.