Wisconsin Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Intervention Strategies for Individuals Receiving Disability Cash Benefits

Michael A. Greco
Administrator

Lea Collins-Worachek
DVR Program Manager
Rehabilitation Act Purpose

To empower individuals with disabilities to maximize employment, economic self-sufficiency, independence, and inclusion and integration into society.
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation-FFY 12

- DVR works with 17,000 job seekers with disabilities
- 3,250 successful job placements
- $12.27 average hourly wage
- Return on investment:
  - $26,803,459 expenditures on outcomes
  - $56,393,506 wages produced
  - 210% return on investment
Cost Reimbursement

- Revenue-generating for VR agencies
- VR agency reimbursed by the Social Security Administration
- All VR service costs for consumer who receives SSI/DI
- Working above SGA for 9 out of 12 consecutive months
- SGA is $1040 non-blind; $1740 blind
Cost Reimbursement

- 45.5% of WI DVR consumer received SSI/DI in FFY 2013.
- FFY 2013 to date
  - 18,802 DVR consumers received SSI/DI
  - 1,399 DVR consumers received SSI/DI closed successfully
  - 150 reported making wages at or above SGA after working with DVR
  - $5.13 million received in reimbursements
DVR Business Services Innovations

• Business Services Consultants
  • 20 hired in 2013
  • Develop relationships with businesses to help them recruit, hire and retain job seekers with disabilities
  • Work with businesses around the state

• Retail Employees with Disabilities Initiative (REDI)–Walgreens
  • DVR refers job seekers with significant disabilities
  • Walgreens-designed training prepares them for customer service jobs in a retail setting
  • Milwaukee pilot in 2012; expanding statewide in 2013
  • Called a “place and train” model

• Replicating Place and Train
  • Froedert Health Systems
  • Wisconsin Tribal Entities
DVR Business Services Innovations

• Youth On the Job Training
  • DVR will reimburse a business for 100% of wages for up to 500 hours
  • Students with disabilities can work those hours during the school year or on summer breaks
  • Work experience while in school leads to self-sufficiency

• Project Search
  • For students in their last year of high school
  • 9-12 month training program at a high status community business
  • Seven active sites in Wisconsin
Results

• Allow any student, in any community, to connect to paid, integrated employment

• Over 30% of Wisconsin DVR’s successful employment outcomes in FFY 2012 were transition age youth – 1,090
Thank You!

www.dwd.wisconsin.gov/dvr