

**Louisiana Rehabilitation Services (LRS)
Quarterly Report to the DD Council
December, 2012**

Update/progress on agency initiatives

Partnership with Second Injury Fund (SIF):

In 2011 the 2nd Injury Board allocated 1 percent of the board's annual budget to Louisiana Rehabilitation Services to be used to help people with disabilities obtain or retain employment. The board's allocation was matched at nearly 4-to-1 with federal funds from the Rehabilitation Services Administration. Last year, \$2.19 million were spent to provide 888 consumers with over 1,600 services resulting in over 600 successfully-employed. In the current year, (7/1/2012-12/14/2012), \$760,000 has been spent on over 500 new cases with over 270 closures.

Supported Employment:

The recommended changes to LRS' supported employment procedures were approved. These changes went into effect October 1, 2012.

LRS continues to work toward transitioning the vocational rehabilitation program from a "services model" to an "employment model." The employment model initiative work group and sub-groups continue to meet and develop ideas to improve employment services.

The Louisiana Workforce Commission / Louisiana Rehabilitation Services '12 statewide job fairs have concluded. They were well received and considered to be successful.

Program Coordinator has recently attended the Annual Consortia of Administrators for Native American Rehabilitation Conference and National Employment Conference.

Status of agency's activities/participation on DDC plan initiatives and impact (if applicable)

Assistive Technology:

In November, 2012, Curt Eysink, Director of LWC met with DOTD, Assistant Secretary, Col. Phil Jones and provided the Human Transit Group with leadership from the Office of Workforce Development to help develop a database of existing human services transit vehicles, providers, and passenger guidelines. This data base will be used as a state-wide model in the coming year. The goal will be to link Business and Career Solutions Centers with reliable, affordable transportation in both rural and urban areas, without limitations of crossing

political boundaries.

Randolph-Sheppard:

The Randolph Sheppard Program had two individuals complete training to become Licensed Managers. One of these individuals has been placed in a Vending Stand and the other is currently applying for vacant locations.

The program is currently looking for new locations for vending stands and also opportunities to service vending machines in other locations.

Transition:

Program Coordinator and Bureau Administrator met with Bossier Public School and Bossier Parish Community College staff to discuss a proposed Third Party agreement for "Program for Successful Employment". The program includes Work Readiness and Career Specific Courses for transition aged youth.

Community Rehabilitation Program:

LRS is examining implementing a consumer placement rate system whereby vendors will be evaluated on a quarterly basis relative to the placement rate of LRS referrals. LRS offices statewide would keep track of referrals to vendors. Vendors would be charged with submitting quarterly reports of their placements or lack thereof. LRS expects to have this vendor accountability system up and running by Spring 2013.

Status of Council recommendations to agency (if applicable)