

**Louisiana Rehabilitation Services (LRS)
Quarterly Report to the DD Council
March, 2014**

Update/progress on agency initiatives

Training or Conferences:

- The Training Unit conducted “New Counselor Academy Training” Part 1 January 13th-17th, 2014 and Part 2 February 18th -19th, 2014.

Employment Initiative:

- LRS continues to work toward improving employment services to consumers. Resulting from the employment model initiative steering committee, the agency has two workgroups addressing Eligibility and Economic Need.
- State Office has hired an Employment Development Coordinator aimed at enhancing the efforts of Employment Specialist statewide.

LRS Second Injury Program Partnership Results:

- From July 1st through March 1, 2014 over 500 LRS customers were successfully employed; 247 are in active service programs with the expectation of success in the coming year; and 750 customers have been served to date. This partnership between LRS and Second Injury Fund has spent \$2,196,779 (SIF+LRS match). This is 100% of the SIF allocation for 2014

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

Transition:

- LRS has three approved Third Party Agreements focusing on services to Transition students. Agreements with Grant Parish School System and Franklin Parish School Board for Transition Specialists to work with the

students. There is an agreement with Bossier Parish Community College Bossier Parish Community College for a program called Program for Successful Employment (PSE). The Transition Coordinator continues outreach efforts and has met with other potential school districts interested in partnering.

- LRS coordinated with the Department of Education to participate in their Super Conference held January 27, 2014 presenting on Transition Service and Third Party Agreement efforts.
- Transition Coordinator was the guest of The Advocacy Center in New Orleans at their statewide In-Service Training, providing an overview of LRS Transition Services on February 21, 2014.
- Transition Coordinator has organized a Transition Initiative Workgroup Committee to focus on developing more effective ways to deliver services to Transition students. First meeting was held in Lafayette on March 6, 2014 and will meet quarterly to analysis what works well regionally and how to duplicate for more effectiveness in others areas.
- Training Unit Program Manager and Transition Coordinator presented at Southern University's Department of Rehabilitation and Disability Services Annual Symposium entitled "Addressing the Needs of Transition Age Youth with Disabilities: Ethical Consideration held March 7, 2014. The title of the presentation, "Ethical Issues to Consider in Transition Services" provided and overview of LRS Transition Services.

Status of Council recommendations to agency (if applicable)