

**Louisiana Rehabilitation Services (LRS)
Quarterly Report to the DD Council
June, 2016**

Update/progress on agency initiatives

PROGRAM SERVICES:

Assistive Technology Program:

Currently, the AT Program Coordinator is working diligently with Fiscal and Planning, and the CRP Bureau Administrator to identify and enhance access to fee-for-services assessments and evaluations state-wide. This transition process is on-going and new Technical Guidance and Assistance Manual (TG&AM) guidelines are being written and distributed at this time. A plan is underway to conduct a briefing for the Regional Managers this fall, followed by training(s) for the Counselors and staff on the new procedures to acquire AT/RT assessments, evaluations, and other services.

Second Injury Fund:

The annual allocation from the SIF Board this year was capped at \$500,000. This plus the RSA match totaled \$2,347,000. These funds have been spent to date. In 2016, (7/1/2015-6/31/2016) six hundred forty-five (645) consumers have successfully been employed, with one-hundred-sixty-four (164) cases in service status.

Job Placement:

Below are the number of placements and successful placements (employed status for 90 days) for the TEEM REDS for SFY 2015-2016. (TEEM operates under a SFY) After three years of having the TEEM REDS contract, we will no longer have the TEEM REDS working with LRS consumers.

TEEM Totals	Number of referrals	Number of Placements for FY 2014-2015	Successful Placements for FY 2014-2015	Percentage Of Placements That Turned Into Successful Placements
Totals	259	149	114	77% (goal is 55.8%)

Below are the number of placements and successful placements for LRS REDS from Oct 2015-July 2016. (REDS operates under a FFY)

REDS Totals	Number of Placements for FY 2015-2016	Successful Placements for FY 2014-2015	Percentage Of Placements That Turned Into Successful Placements
Totals	152	125	82% (goal is 55.8%)

REDS are still participating in monthly training where the REDS have an opportunity to present challenging cases to the other REDS whose background comes from various disciplines, (HR management, teacher, counselor, employer representative) for feedback and review.

The REDS and SO Employment Liaison continues to participate in community events in an effort to build relationships with HR professionals and other key professionals in the business community.

PERFORMANCE PLANNING

Operational Plan:

Highlights from the 4th qtr. Operational Plan reporting:

- 68% consumers were successfully employed in one of the top demand occupations
- 21,732 individuals were served statewide
- 2,346 individuals were successfully employed

Contracts in the process of being approved:

- New 3 year Independent Living Part B contracts with New Horizons and @Southwest Independence Center
- New Assistive Technology contract with LSU HDC
- New 3 year Third Party Cooperative Arrangement (TPCA) with LSU HDC for Pre-ETS
- Continuing a TPCA with Grant Parish School Board for Pre-ETS for another 3 years
- Continuing a TPCA with Bossier Parish Community College for Pre-ETS for another 3 years

COMMUNITY REHABILITATION PROGRAM

CRP's and Supported Employment:

- Six (6) site visits were conducted. Two of which had several deficiencies in relation their Administrative Filing. Both reported that it was their first LRS site-review. Program Coordinator

was able to review CRP standards with the vendors and provide them with suggestions to resolve their deficiencies. Each vendor has since provided documentation to verify that they are now compliant with the CRP Standards.

- Only one CRP reported significant damages to their facility
- There is no significant change in Supported Employment

PROGRAM PLANNING/RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

State Plan Updates:

- The VR portion of the Combined State Plan was approved by RSA and is in effect for the upcoming federal fiscal year (Oct 2016 – Sept 2017). LRS worked with mandated partners to submit the first ever Combined State Plan this past March and will continue to collaborate in the future to insure successful outcomes for individuals with disabilities seeking employment.

In-Service & CSPD Initiatives

- We currently have one employee enrolled in Master's Program.
- Training is conducted statewide as upgrades in AWARE are realized. Additional programs are being introduced and

Upcoming Training or Conferences

- LRS Director and Assistant Director participated in the RSA training on the revised federal regulations issued on August 19th of this year. These revisions include the changes resulting from the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

Strategic Planning

- LRS completed strategic plan updates in October of 2015. In addition, the LWC Strategic Plan includes the high level goals of LRS in the department's Strategic Plan updated this summer. The current LWC Strategic Plan is available on LWCs LaWorks website at <http://www.laworks.net/Downloads/PR/LWCStrategicPlan.pdf>

BLIND SERVICES

We are currently hiring for two RSMA's for Randolph-Sheppard. Both positions have been posted and interviews will begin shortly.