

Louisiana Rehabilitation Services (LRS) LRS Director's Quarterly Report June 2019

PROGRAM SERVICES

Pre-Employment Transition Services:

The following information is an update of the number of students LRS has participating in Pre-ETS services including authorizations and payments for this current quarter.

- Total # of Pre-ETS cases – 2,211

Customized Employment:

The Customized Employment Training and Certification is still ongoing. To date two individuals from two different CRPs that started the pilot from the very beginning are working toward certification in Systematic Instruction. If certified these two individuals will have obtained certification in all three areas of the Marc Gold Training which includes Discovery, Job Development and Systematic Instruction. Meanwhile two other individuals are working on certification in Job Development. In addition, the second cohort beginning with mentoring and certification in Discovery is also underway in which three participants are working toward certification. To date there are a total of seven individuals certified in Discovery and 5 Certified in Job Development so far. The council and LRS are working on efforts to reach more vendors across the state in an effort to make customized employment available throughout Louisiana while also ensuring the sustainability of the program. This effort involves finding other ways to make the training affordable to the vendors and increasing vendor capacity to provide the service.

Rehabilitation Employment Development Specialist (REDS):

- Lafayette placements from July 2018 to present –28
- Lafayette closures from July 2018 to present – 9

- Lake Charles placements from July 2018 to present –26
- Lake Charles closures from July 2018 to present - 18

- Shreveport placements from July 2018 to present –92
- Shreveport closures from July 2018-to present – 52

Consumer Statistics (for current quarter):

Number of Applications	183
Number of Eligibility/Delayed	204
Number of New IPEs	113
Number of Closed Rehab (Successful Closures)	57
Total Open VR cases as of June	8,672
Total Open Pre-ETS cases as of June	2,346

There are no cases in Delayed Status as of June 25, 2019.

DD Open Cases:

Case Status	Case Type	Disability Cause	
Open	VR	Autism	504
		Cerebral Palsy	167
		Intellectual Disabilities	524
		Specific Learning Disabilities	823

DD Closed Cases:

Case Status	Case Type	Disability Cause	
Closed	VR	Autism	186
		Cerebral Palsy	48
		Intellectual Disabilities	259
		Specific Learning Disabilities	413

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Employment Initiative:

In March 2018, Louisiana set a goal to serve as a Model Employer for business by a commitment to improve hiring, recruitment, and retention of people with disabilities through an Executive order signed by Governor John Bel Edwards. The National Conference of State Legislatures stresses that “Individuals with disabilities represent an underrepresented and largely untapped segment of the labor pool for consideration in state government employment”. Subsequently, the SAME (State as a Model Employer) Task Force convened and sought ways to improve employment among those with disabilities in state civil service. LRS’s Employment Coordinator is the point of contact that most state department HR Directors correspond with. Brenda Bohrer, as the point of contact, also worked with Civil Service in providing names and contact information for those state workers with disabilities that were wanting to participate in the training video that will be produced by Louisiana Civil Service that will be bringing awareness of how to better interact with your colleagues in the workplace that have a disability. **Since the beginning of this SFY, we have had 28 of LRS consumers become employed by the State of Louisiana.**

Louisiana Rehabilitation Council (LRC):

The July LRC meeting has been coordinated with the Governor’s Office of Disability Affairs Annual Conference on Friday, July 26, 2019, from 9:00 until 12:00 pm, at the Claiborne Building [North Dakota Room (Room 1-155)], 1201 N.3rd Street, Baton Rouge, LA. The October LRC meeting is scheduled for October 24, 2019 at a location TBD.

Training:

The summer of 2019 will be a summer of training. The Rehabilitation Counselors began training in June and will complete training in July. Emphasis was placed on training staff on changes to procedures as a result of WIOA and 911 reporting. Topics covered during the summer training are: Subminimum Wage, Measurable Skill Gains, Credentials, Supported Employment with extended follow along, Pre-Employment Transition Services, working with other agencies and various other topics. Staff are encouraged to provide individualized services to meet each individual’s specific needs and look for ways to improve services to consumers.

A Rehabilitation Counselor Associate training is scheduled for the end of July and a District Supervisor training will be held in September covering many of the same topics. We will also address Leadership roles, case reviews, and quality assurance.