Divisions of Rehabilitation Services & Service to the Blind & Visually Impaired

Vocational Rehabilitation Agencies in the Department of Human Services
Mission Statement

To assist individuals with disabilities to obtain employment, economic self-sufficiency, personal independence and full inclusion into society.
Employment & People with Disabilities

- **Labor Force Participation**
  - People with disabilities: 20.2%
  - People without disabilities: 69.7%

- **Unemployment Rate**
  - People with disabilities: 14.2%
  - People without disabilities: 7.6%
People Served In Vocational Rehabilitation

- Last year over 2,600 people applied for services
- Over 6,100 people were served
- 943 individuals were successfully employed last year
Vocational Rehab. Facts

- 1.75 years - average length of time of VR case
- $4,995 – average cost of a VR case
- 35% of individuals are on SSA benefits
- 99.7% - VR consumers with significant disabilities
- $ 74.02 - average weekly earnings at application
- $ 288.07 - average weekly earnings at successful closure
Vocational Rehabilitation Eligibility

• Disability
• Requires Services
• Can Benefit from Services
Vocational Rehabilitation Services

- Counseling and Guidance
- Job Placement
- Assistive Technology
- Post Secondary Education
- Training
- Medical Restoration
- Job Coaching & Follow along
Services for Social Security Recipients

- Ticket to Work Initiative & Cost Reimbursement
- Partnerships with providers on sustaining employment
- Benefits Specialists Assessment and Services
- Training Sessions on Work Incentives
- Medical Assistance for Workers with Disabilities
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>South Dakota</th>
<th>National</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total SSI Recipients</td>
<td>22.45%</td>
<td>18.87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total SSDI Recipients</td>
<td>28.77%</td>
<td>18.83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSI Employment Outcomes</td>
<td>17.54%</td>
<td>13.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSDI Employment Outcomes</td>
<td>28.84%</td>
<td>15.17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSI Employment Rates</td>
<td>50.84%</td>
<td>36.89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSDI Employment Rates</td>
<td>65.25%</td>
<td>42.75%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### South Dakota VR Performance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>South Dakota</th>
<th>National</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employment Outcomes with supports in integrated setting</td>
<td>23.91%</td>
<td>10.98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment Rate for Transition Age</td>
<td>61.25%</td>
<td>48.83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clients receiving training and education</td>
<td>23.27%</td>
<td>14.63%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Staff Type</th>
<th>South Dakota</th>
<th>National</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Counselor Staff</td>
<td>64.18%</td>
<td>46.77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Staff</td>
<td>8.96%</td>
<td>13.47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Staff</td>
<td>22.39%</td>
<td>38.19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Transition Services for Youth

- Catch the Wave
- Project Skills
- Youth Leadership Forum
- Project SEARCH
Project Search is a partnership between Avera Health Care Systems, South Dakota State University, local school districts, and Department of Human Services in Brookings, Sioux Falls and Aberdeen.
Project Skills

- Project skills: paid work experience for students with disabilities in secondary school.
- 50% better chance of employment after school if work experiences are provided during high school.
Employer Partnerships

- The Business Resource Network in Sioux Falls
  [http://www.sfbrn.org/index.cfm](http://www.sfbrn.org/index.cfm)

- Employment Resource Network in Aberdeen
  [http://aahra.shrm.org/diversity](http://aahra.shrm.org/diversity)

- West River Business Resource Network in Rapid City
Better Bottom Line: Employing People with Disabilities

Public and private employers who hired the most Division of Rehabilitation Services and Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired eligible consumers over the past two years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employer</th>
<th># Hired</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wal-Mart</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hy-Vee Food Stores</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Hills WORKS</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McDonalds</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State of SD</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aramark</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minerva's</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burger King</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Menards</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goodwill Industries</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kessler's Grocery Store</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holiday Inn Express</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanford Health</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Super 8</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pizza Hut</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pizza Ranch</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subway</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
National Disability Employment Awareness Month

2013 Theme: “Because We Are EQUAL to the Task”

2013 Events
• Aberdeen
• Brookings
• Eagle Butte
• Madison
• Milbank
• Mitchell
• Pierre/Fort Pierre
• Rapid City
• Sioux Falls
• Sisseton
• Watertown
• Yankton
Governor’s Awards Recognizing Employment of People with Disabilities

Each year the Governor personally recognizes citizens with disabilities and employers through an awards ceremony in the Rotunda of the State Capitol.

• Distinguished Service
• Outstanding Citizen with a Disability
• Outstanding Employee with a Disability
• Outstanding Employer of the Year (3 categories)
  • Small Private Employer
  • Large Private Employer
  • Public Employer (local, county, state or federal government entity, school district, university)
• Outstanding Award in Transition Services
National Employment Team (NET)

- A national partnership initiative that links South Dakota to national employment opportunities directly with the nation’s largest employers.

Return On Investment

Benefit-Cost Ratio - Consumer Income
For every $1 Vocational Rehabilitation spends, rehabilitated consumers will experience an increase in earnings of $8.96.

Benefit-Cost Ratio - Consumer Payback
For every $1 Vocational Rehabilitation spends, rehabilitated consumers will pay back in taxes $1.79.