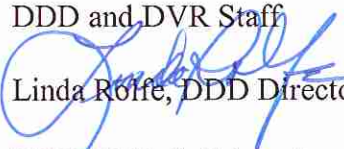





STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
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April 6, 2012

TO: DDD and DVR Staff
FROM:  Linda Rolfe, DDD Director and  Andres Aguirre, DVR Interim Director
RE: DDD/DVR Collaboration

The current legislative session is coming to an end and different budget proposals have been submitted. Regardless of what transpires, the past few years have seen a profound impact on the State's budget and the provision of services.

The impact has greatly reduced DSHS services to many of citizens of this state, including people eligible for DDD services. As such, the county DD program may not be able to provide assurance of long term support funding. This is not a new situation. The county DD programs have been in this situation for the past three years and consequently, DVR has adjusted to this change.

DVR will continue to accept applications, determine eligibility and begin the comprehensive vocational assessment to identify needed services. The DVR Counselor will continue working collaboratively with the DD county coordinator and/or case manager to determine if long term support service funding is available. DVR will not require a written statement indicating long term funds are available, instead DVR will accept a verbal confirmation that funds will be available when the customer obtains employment and achieves stabilization.

DVR and DDD will search for other possible resources, including but not limited to: natural supports, Regional Support Networks for mental health customers, self-pay, PASS, IRWE or a combination of such resources. If no resources are found after conducting a comprehensive search, the DVR Counselor will have a conversation with the customer about case closure due to lack of support services.

This memo is to assist local staff with sustaining and improving upon the local partnership. We appreciate all of the work you do on behalf of the people we serve.