2007 Client Participation

THE DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION (DVR) serves individuals who want to work but have difficulty with employment due to a physical, sensory, cognitive, or mental disability. DVR provides vocational assistance and support to eligible individuals to get and keep employment. Eligibility is based on the presence of one or more disabilities that represent a substantial barrier to employment for which the individual requires VR services to enter employment or keep a job. DVR employees provide services that help individuals quickly engage in identifying their vocational strengths and understand the steps that lead to employment.

Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors throughout the state provide one-on-one counseling to assist each person to decide on a job goal and develop an individualized plan for employment. As part of the planning process, DVR helps the individual identify resources for obtaining the services needed to reach his or her job goal.

DVR explores funding available from a variety of public programs before committing DVR funds. If not available from other sources, DVR purchases vocational rehabilitation services that directly contribute to achieving the employment goal.

DVR is administered under the Rehabilitation Act, which appears as Title IV of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA). As a mandatory partner in WIA, DVR is heavily involved with its workforce partners at the state and local level in delivering services to eligible clients. DVR staff assigned to WorkSource Centers share expertise with partner programs and assist DVR clients to access the services, resources, and job opportunities available at no cost to them. In addition, DVR works collaboratively with other state, local and private organizations that deliver services to individuals with disabilities. These partnerships leverage resources more efficiently and improve coordination of services for individuals eligible for multiple programs.

In State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2007, 28,028 clients received the services described below from the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. The average cost per client was $1,250. It is of note that DVR has the highest federal match of any program within DSHS. Every state dollar leverages four federal. Thus, every state dollar cut results in a five dollar reduction for DVR programs and services.

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<tr>
<th>Number of Clients Receiving a DVR Service</th>
<th>Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling and Case Management</th>
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<tr>
<td>SFY 2007 Total Clients = 28,028</td>
<td>27,905</td>
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VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION COUNSELING (Job Skills): 5,158
SUPPORT SERVICES: 2,851
TRAINING, EDUCATION AND SUPPLIES: 1,615
PLACEMENT SUPPORT: 1,552
MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES: 751

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NOTE: CSDB identifies service use information and expenditures specific to each DSHS client. Costs that cannot be assigned to individual clients are not included—such as facilities, licensing, admin, outreach, prevention, fraud investigation, community block grants, and cost recoveries.
VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION COUNSELING AND CASE MANAGEMENT

Vocational rehabilitation services help participants assess job skills and find suitable employment. Vocational rehabilitation counselors provide case management, counseling and guidance to assist eligible individuals with significant disabilities prepare for and achieve employment. To maintain employment, clients require ongoing follow-up and post-employment services. Other agencies provide long-term follow-up and employment services for individuals with the most significant disabilities who require supported employment. 27,905 clients, average client cost = $781

MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

Agencies contracted by DVR identify clients' interests, readiness for employment, and work skills. 5,158 clients, average client cost = $297

TRAINING, EDUCATION AND SUPPLIES

DVR supports post-secondary training and education programs. DVR also assists clients with books and supplies, equipment, assistive technology services and devices, and lab fees. 1,615 clients, average client cost = $1,966

PLACEMENT SUPPORT

DVR provides or funds services associated with job placement. Placement Support includes assistance with resumes, job applications, interviewing skills; on-the-job training assistance; job search and job placement assistance. 1,552 clients, average client cost = $3,917

SUPPORT SERVICES

DVR funds services associated with the completion of a rehabilitation plan and with finding and keeping employment. Support Services include payments for transportation, child care or interpreter services. 2,851 clients, average client cost = $522