

Work Incentives Network Sustainability

Work Group

July 9th 1 – 3 PM
Meeting Notes

OUTREACH

- We need new ideas for outreach groups other than “the usual”. We have outreached the WIN program to consumers and professional staff. Doug Zeh of Disability Rights Oregon (DRO) cautions that with our service #s increasing we need to make sure that we have staff to handle services to the consumer in a timely manor.
- *Other ideas:*
 - EPD should be presented to Hospitals to help decrease the number of people who use ER for regular medical care. With the connections that Sherry Stock has with hospitals across the state from her work with them, she should be able to make those connections for us.
 - Public Libraries-Resource librarians can use the computer & bookmark benefits calculators on websites.
 - Employers:
 - Sherry Stock reported that Progressive Rehab Associates has a person who gives 20% of their time to Brain Injury Association of Oregon to do statewide training and might write WIN into their training and/or at least hand out WIN brochures.

FUNDING

- We need to come up with ideas for short and long term funding with legislative support.
- Policy Options Package (POP) in DHS now and has support from Addiction & Mental Health Division (AMHD) and Seniors & People with Disabilities (SPD). Wayne Moak (Work Incentives Network Operations and Policy Analyst), will get info on how to submit letter of support to DHS and time lines. Tina Treasure reminds us that it is important to get support at this stage. Policy Options Package (POP) is in draft consideration at DHS but that does not mean it will stay in there.

- We will need ideas to get support if the POP gets introduced to the legislature: WIN could put together Town Hall meetings held at CILs and Senior Centers and have legislators attend.
- We should run articles in newsletters-BIAOr has offered space in their Headliner
- Tracy Callaghan handed out Employment Network (EN) Capitalization grant opportunities. Wayne will send out electronically to all members and assign 2 grants for each member to review.
- Pattie Johnson suggested getting a list of links to all the grant opportunities so we can do this on a regular basis. Wayne will send links out before next meeting. Tony Zarate recommends getting links to Department Of Labor, Veterans Administration, Social Security Administration and the Federal Register.
- Doug Zeh – DRO suggests looking at grants for research on staff retention/sustainability in WIPA and other benefits and work incentives planning programs.
- Scott Lay suggests investigating ADRC Real Choice System Change Grant to see if we can make connection and get a benefits planner embedded.
- When a WIN consumer gets a job he/she should send a thank you letter to their legislator. WIN/MIG staff could make up the cards and pre-address and stamp them so the consumer could just sign their name and/or add a handwritten note. Tamara Sale said this is how Commission for the Blind has gotten so much money - they have been doing this from the start (nationally, not just Oregon).
- Send birthday cards to each legislator on their birthdays. Sherry Stock will send us list of all current legislators and DOBs.
- Have employers who hire consumer send legislator a thank you card.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

- This work group is going to be the oversight committee for long term WIN QA/QM - look at data and make recommendations for improvements to program. Wayne, will send QA/QM plan to all

committee members prior to the next meeting. Use crystal report data to determine what data committee would want to see (examples:
One area has fewer WIAs being done, why?
One area has good portion of WIAs being done but low percentage of people getting jobs, why?)

WEBSITE

- Scott Lay brings up DB 101-Wayne will arrange for presentation at next meeting. Cost currently is between 400k and 1 million to get up and running-need to find funding for it. Sara Kendall mentions Oregon Helps is now being funded privately spearheaded by a woman in Portland. Wayne will get her name and ask her to come to our group meeting to talk to us or a few of us can go to Portland and talk with her.

Other

- Sherry Stock suggests having “WIN” specialists-staff trained in one particular disability population much like VR specialists. Doesn't mean they don't do other cases, but they would specialize in assisting people with a particular disability.
- Scott Lay, Tina Treasure and Sara Kendall all agree EPD workgroup needs to be reactivated. Sara will call Jeff Stell.
- Wayne will send all documents from today electronically to everyone in group.

NEXT MEETING

Will be first 2 hours of September 11, 2008 Leadership Council meeting. (1-3). Last hour group will give summary report of progress to date.