

16



FACILITIES FACETS



Volume II ; Number 02

September 1984

Rehabilitant of the Year

Nominations are now being accepted for the Rehabilitant of the Year. The award will be presented to that disabled person who has done the most in overcoming his or her handicap and attaining his or her vocational goals.

Nominations will be accepted until August 1, 1984, and will take the form of one or two paragraphs telling why the nominator thinks this person should be named Rehabilitant of the Year. The nominations should include the nominee's and nominator's name, address and phone number. All nominations should be sent to Karen Sinnreich, Room 1005, CN-398, Labor and Industry Building, Trenton, New Jersey 08625. Karen's telephone number is: 609-292-3611.

Quarterly Report/Second Quarter Federal Fiscal Year 1984

Traditional Programs: Activity in Traditional Rehabilitation Facilities remains strong and relatively unchanged for the second quarter of the Fiscal Year 1984. There was a nine percent (9%) increase in referrals, a one percent (1%) decrease in new starts in evaluation and a four percent (4%) downturn in new Work Adjustment Training (WAT) starts.

The drop in WAT starts appears a natural extension of last quarter's six percent (6%) drop in evaluation starts.

There was a slight increase in overall placements decreasing by five percent (5%).

Sheltered Employment: The average wage of sheltered employees remains at \$1.07 an hour for the second straight quarter and competitive placements rose from 42 to 54 making a total of 96 for the first half year.

The number of clients in sponsored sheltered employment reported by the facilities rose from 2,458 to 2,537 and the statewide waiting list fell by one (1) to eight (8).

Psycho-Social Programs: There were a total of 15 clients beginning evaluation during this quarter, they report 29 sponsored by "other". This seems to indicate that the trend to charge clients to Medicaid, if at all possible continues.

DVRS' Data System - The DVRS' Data System shows 27.4% of case service funds being spent in rehabilitation facilities. It also shows a seven percent (7%) increase in rehabilitation through the first two (2) quarters of the year. All other closures are down resulting in a lower utilization figure (12% decrease).

Summary: Activities in the facilities areas has progressed relatively unchanged. There do not seem to be any significant trends developing. There is a slightly lower level of an activity out there, but there is also one (1) less facility.

It is also noted the DVRS's statistics in general are lower than last year at this time.

Noteworthy News

Pennsylvania Station in New York City is scheduled for 13.2 million dollar renovation project due for completion in 1986. Plans include glass enclosed entranceways on Eighth Avenue which will lead to elevators connecting with ticket and baggage counters. This Amtrack project when completed will aid handicapped individuals access to travel by train.

DVRS Would Like Your Input

There is a great deal of interest at the national level related to effective methods for the training and placement of severely disabled persons (especially Developmentally Disabled) in competitive employment. A number of models are seen to have merit, including transitional employment, supported work, enclaves in industry and sheltered enclaves.

This has generated opportunities for the funding of special projects through Federal grants. The Rehabilitation Services Administration is expected to announce a Request For Proposals (RFP) for such projects in the near future.

DVRS would like to be able to respond to that RFP with a proposal developed in conjunction with one or more New Jersey Rehabilitation Facilities. If you are interested in working with the DVRS staff in development of a proposal please contact us by sending a brief (no more than one page) description of your proposed project including such information as type and number of clients to be served, services to be provided, staffing, cost, and other collaborating agencies. This should be sent to the attention of: Mary S. DeRiso, Department of Labor, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services, CN #398, Trenton, NJ 08625. If you need further information she can be reached at 609-292-7498.

Vocational Rehabilitation Demonstration Grants Available

It is estimated that 25 projects averaging \$117,000 will be funded in 1984. About three million dollars has been budgeted for new awards.

Application forms are available from the Office of Developmental Programs, Rehabilitative Services Administration, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20202. For more information, contact Mary West, (202) 732-1343.

Federal Register Announces Availability of Project Grant Funds

POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR HANDICAPPED PERSONS

For further information contact:

Dr. Joseph Rosenstein
Postsecondary Education Programs
Division of Innovation and Development
Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Switzer Building Room 4084
Washington, DC 20202
Telephone: 202-732-1176

SECONDARY EDUCATION AND TRANSITIONAL SERVICES FOR HANDICAPPED YOUTH

For further information contact:

Dr. William Holloran
Research Projects Branch
Office of Special Education Programs
Department of Education
Switzer Bldg. Room 3521
Washington, DC 20202
Telephone: 202-732-1064

New Equipment Provides Employment

Jersey Cape Diagnostic Training and Opportunity Center, Inc., of Cape May, New Jersey recently purchased and installed plastics stamping equipment and has gone

into production of beach tags for several communities in New Jersey. The equipment provides employment to several persons in preparing material, feeding the machinery, attaching pins to the tags, and inspecting and packing the finished product. The Center's director Mr. George Plewa, and his staff are researching other products which can be manufactured with this equipment such as laundry and luggage tags and novelty items.

Recycling in Burlington County Cited as "State's Best" Program

The Occupational Training Center of Burlington County, Inc.'s, Mr. Joseph Wallace, who is recycling coordinator, and the 18 clients of the workshop for whom this recycling has provided work opportunities are to be commended for their efforts and fine work. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection recognized Burlington County's recycling program as the "State's Best". Over 4,000,000 pounds of newspaper was collected and sold in 1983.

This effort provided a dual community service. It provided jobs and helped preserve our environment. It also saved taxpayers money.

Published Quarterly by

New Jersey Department of Labor
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services
Facilities Unit

George R. Chizmadia - Director
Adrian Marinelli - Assistant Director
John D. Kelliher - Chief, Rehabilitation Facilities Programs
James Agre - Facilities Specialist
Carroll J. Mrowicki - Facilities Specialist
Allen L. Waters - Facilities Specialist
Lawrence G. Conti - Work Activity Training Center (WATC) Project Director
Robert F. Voorhees - Facilities Auditor
Laurette M. Walsh - Technical Assistant

All Communications to:

Laurette M. Walsh, Editor
Facilities Facets
New Jersey Department of Labor
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services
C N 398
Trenton, New Jersey, 08625-0398
Phone: (609) 292-7496
TTY/TDD Phone: (609) 292-2919