

NEW JERSEY DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES



FACILITIES FACETS

c.1



Volume III ; Number 02

DIRECTOR'S DIRECTIONS
BY: GEORGE R. CHIZMADIA

Rehabilitation Facilities. The
breakdown is as follows:

After a slow start on both our parts the Placement Incentive Program is beginning to hit its stride. To date we have authorized over \$25,000 in incentive payments.

One of the big problems that has kept a lot of facilities from being paid, or has delayed their payment, has been poor reporting practices. Many times when the cases are checked on the computer system that we use to monitor the Extended Employment program, the clients for whom the stipend is being requested are reported as continuing or terminated. If this is the case we cannot process the request for payment.

Each month when you submit your update form you should list the program activity accurately. It will make things a lot easier for both of us.

A second issue that arose is in regard to those instances where an initial work trial or OJT is utilized to start the person in the job. This will not prevent payment of the stipend--but the sixty day period of employment for follow-up purposes does not start until the OJT or supported period ends.

I am pleased to see the positive results that this program is producing. Keep up the good work.

CASE SERVICE EXPENDITURES

During the first half of FFY 1985 the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services spent 22.3% of its case service funds in Vocational

VOCATIONAL EVALUATION:

1st Quarter	165,607.55
2nd Quarter	202,033.47
TOTAL	367,641.02

WAT:

1st Quarter	131,223.40
2nd Quarter	187,770.55
TOTAL	318,993.95

SKILL:

1st Quarter	13,476.50
2nd Quarter	20,477.58
TOTAL	33,954.08

STATE TOTAL ALL SERVICES:

1st Quarter	1,617,620.31
2nd Quarter	1,607,394.42
TOTAL	3,225,014.73

This represents funds actually paid (not authorized) to Vocational Rehabilitation Facilities for Vocational Evaluation, Work Adjustment Training and Skill Training. It does not include maintenance, transportation or physical restoration services.

WHICH ARE APPLES AND WHICH ARE
ORANGES

BY: JOHN D. KELLIHER

When we look at data it is important to know where it came from. If you ask me a question about

WHICH ARE APPLES AND WHICH ARE
ORANGES (con't)
BY: JOHN D. KELLIHER

placements or referrals or whatever I may have. I may have a couple of different answers for you based on where I go for the information.

There are two basic sources: you the facilities and the DVRS case reporting system. For instance, last year you reported 401 clients placed in competitive employment at the end of WAT. The DVRS data base reported 698 clients who received some facility service last year and were placed in competitive employment.

So who is right? In their own context each is right. There are good reasons for this which I will attempt to explain.

- You do not both use the same criteria. A facility which places a client the day the report is sent in can report the placement. The DVRS counselor must wait a minimum of 60 days (many facilities vary on when the placement is reported also).
- The DVRS system counts clients who may receive only one specific facility service, such as evaluation and then goes on for placement or training through some other resource besides the facility.
- A facility dropout may be recycled through some other service offered by DVR.

When we report financial data we report it in terms of expenditures. This is the only form the information is recoverable in at the moment. We are looking forward to next year when DVRS' new Client Payment System (CPS) will be fully operational. CPS will make it possible for us to identify authorization. This will cut down the log time that presently exists and move us into the realm of current events rather than history.

ANNUAL UPDATE OF EE LIST
BY: JOHN D. KELLIHER

Once a year we send you a copy of your Extended Employee list for updating. There are two purposes we hope to serve by doing this.

- It gives you the opportunity to see what we have on record and to make corrections.
- We would like you to update all client wages and fill in any blanks such as date of birth or disability.

To update the wage or supply the missing information you can write directly on the printout (please print neatly). When adding names the best practice is to send them in attached to the updated printout on an MSEPU form.

EASTER SEAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION
GRANT PROPOSALS

Proposals for Easter Seal Research Foundation grants are accepted twice annually: March 1 and August 1. Grants of \$25,000 a year are provided for up to three years for research projects focusing on the treatment and management of disabilities.

For further information, write Rita McGaughey, Associate Director, The Easter Seal Research Foundation, 2023 W. Ogden Ave., Chicago, Illinois 60612.

NEW WORKSHOP
BY: ALLEN WATERS

The Facilities Unit welcomes The Occupational Training Center of Somerset County to the family of approved vendors for NJ DVRS. Under the capable leadership of Workshop Director Bruce Logan and Director of Professional Services Mary Ann Stevenson, the facility will be providing WAT and Extended Employment services for Somerset

NEW WORKSHOP (con't)
BY: ALLEN WATERS

County and surrounding areas. Bruce hopes that OTC Somerset will offer a variety of contract work as opposed to accepting only traditional production work. To put his words into action he has already started informal negotiations with the county for a recycling program to be operated by the facility. The Facilities Unit is encouraged by such enthusiasm since the ultimate benefit is to increase training and employment opportunities for our handicapped citizens!

The OTC of Somerset is conveniently located at 10 E. East Street, Bridgewater Township; but mail must go through the Bound Brook Post Office, zip - 08805. Phone: (201) 469-7660.

You are encouraged to become familiar with OTC of Somerset services by calling Ms. Stevenson or arranging for a visit!

FOCUS ON ADVOCACY

A conference sponsored by the New Jersey Epilepsy Foundation entitled "Focus on Advocacy" for consumers and providers will be held at the Center of Health Affairs, US Route #1 & Alexander Road, Princeton, New Jersey on Wednesday, June 5, 1985, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. For further information call (609) 392-4900.

Conference Goal: The primary goal of the conference is to assist individuals with epilepsy and their families in becoming effective spokesmen for their own rights, and to provide training and education in advocacy techniques for service providers.

"ANOTHER" FRIENDLY REMINDER FROM
 YOUR "FRIENDLY" GRANTS MANAGER
BY: DAVID P. SELBY

Days billable under our regular VR Program on the new forms DVRS & I - 1 (formerly DVR-7) for client

attendance purposes includes only those days on which a client attends a facility for part or all of an authorized schedule full training service day, or any official holiday which occurs between those days, not exceeding a maximum of 13 holidays per year.

In the Extended Employment program, the same rule applies with the exception that you may not report or include any holidays in reporting your client attendance for meeting contract LOS requirements, since they have already been allowed for in the annual LOS requirement of 220 days per year per client position authorized.

OTC BURLINGTON COUNTY

The Trentonian newspaper recently reported that 10 to 12 clients of OTC Burlington County are currently engaged in planting 60,000 seedlings in two state forests, the Wharton tract and Lebanon State Forest. The employment of these clients is a result of winning the contract through competitive bidding. The Trentonian reported that New Jersey foresters say the work was never done better.

The clients are bused into the woods daily and as many as 3,000 to 4,000 seedlings are planted each day. Clients' earnings are \$2.50 an hour.

FRIENDS OF THE HANDICAPPED

The following poem is being reprinted from an Ann Lander's column. The author wishes to remain anonymous.

For Friends of the Handicapped
 Blessed are you who take the time
 To listen to difficult speech,
 for you help me to know that
 If I persevere,
 I can be understood.

FRIENDS OF THE HANDICAPPED (con't)

Blessed are you who never bid me
to "hurry up"
Or take my tasks from me
And do them for me,
For I often need time rather than
help.
Blessed are you who stand beside
me
As I enter new and untried
ventures,
For my failures will be out-
weighed
By the times I surprise myself
and you.
Blessed are you who asked for my
help,
For my greatest need is to be
needed.
Blessed are you who understand
that
It is difficult for me
To put my thoughts into words.
Blessed are you who with a smile,
Encourage me to try once more.
Blessed are you who never remind
me
That today I asked the same ques-
tion twice.
Blessed are you who respect me
And love me just as I am.

F.Y.I.

The 3rd Quarter of Federal Fiscal Year 1985 ends June 30th. You are reminded Quarterly Facility reports are due in Central DVRS Office on Monday, July 22nd.

The deadline for submission of articles for the next issue of Facilities Facets will be Monday, July 15, 1985.

DON'T FORGET

The Northeast Regional N.R.A. Conference will be occurring May 28-31, 1985 in Atlantic City at Resorts International Casino. The theme this year is "Rehabilitation the Best Odds in Town." So--come on down for a winner.

Many programs are facility oriented, but if additional information is needed, call (609) 292-5987.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Ms. Walsh:

We read the Winter 1985 edition of Facilities Facets, and would like to respond to several items included on page 3 concerning Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Medicaid. The article states the "SSI payments stop when a person earns above \$314 a month." Payments actually stop when a person has \$314 (1984 figure) in countable earned income. However, the first \$65 of earned income is not countable, an additional \$20 may be disregarded if the person has no earned income, and only half of the remaining income counts against the SSI payment. Therefore, a person can earn as much as \$713 and still remain eligible for SSI. Please note that the \$314 is a national figure which does not include state supplementation. Since New Jersey pays a state supplement the earnings limit is higher than \$713.

The article also states that SSI and Medicaid are "cut off" due to earnings, but not replaced by shelter earnings. The 1980 Social Security Disability Amendments set up a demonstration project to deal with this situation, and the 1984 Amendments extended this project through June 1987. Under the 1619(a) and (b) provisions cash benefits can be paid beyond the trial work period and through June 1987 as long as the SSI recipient meets all the other SSI requirements besides ability to work. If the person's earnings are too high to allow payment, but not sufficient to replace both the SSI and Medicaid benefits then Medicaid coverage can be continued through the end of the project as long as

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (con't)

all other eligibility requirements are met. The threshold amount of earnings for this test was \$12,232 a year when the program began, and is currently \$12,907.54. This figure represents the federal SSI payment, state supplement and average Medicaid expenses. A recipient can still be eligible if his earnings are over this amount and his Medicaid expenses are greater than the average.

As you can see the Social Security Administration is moving toward overcoming the "inflexibility" your article addresses. We hope you will share this information with your audience to ensure that they are aware of these provisions.

If you require any additional information, you can contact your local Social Security Office or call Frank Menadier of my staff at the Department of Health and Human Services, Social Security Administration, Region II, Federal Building, 26 Federal Plaza, New York, New York 10278, (212) 264-4010.

Sincerely,

Gregory Machler, Director
Assistance Programs Branch

STATISTICS

I hope that you are finding the statistics that we have begun to include in the newsletter interesting. We have refined this material to the point where we felt reasonably confident in publishing it.

We felt we were close enough. Several executive directors have called, usually with positive comments and a few questions. I would like to encourage you to call if you have any questions. Most of the questions we feel resulted in our being able to improve our data. Sometimes we have to clarify a

label and sometimes a facility finds out that they have not been submitting the right data.

This information is used in the decision-making process and its accuracy is important to all of us. We receive a great many requests for information from legislators, legislative committees, state officials, agencies and the federal government. The quality of their decision depends on the accuracy of the data.

FORUMS ANNOUNCED FOR JUNE 7 AND 21

Disabled New Jersey residents, their families and other interested persons are invited to give their testimony and input to the New Jersey Department of Labor's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS) at a forum on Friday, June 7 at Gloucester County Community College and Friday, June 21 at Mutual Benefit Life Auditorium on Broad Street in Newark.

The meetings will be from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and lunch will be served.

DVRS is the agency that provides services to disabled persons to enable them to become employed.

The agency is seeking guidance from its consumers as to what direction and what emphasis should be given in the next five to ten years.

For verification or further information contact:

Mr. Steve Janick or Ms. Alice Bornheine at: (201) 932-9888.

QUARTERLY REPORT INFORMATION

The following two pages of statistics and narratives represent figures accumulated from the facilities for the first two quarters of Federal Fiscal Year 1985. Please refer to the computer-generated statistics.

This report represents the figures for the first two quarters of the Federal Fiscal Year 1985.

Facility Quarterly Report YTD 2-85 Year To Date - Second Quarter FFY-85											
Traditional											
Facility Name	DVRS	Start	Start	Start	Other	Avg D	Drop	Drop	Drop	Comp	Shelt
	Refer	Eval	WAT	Skill	Spon	Attnd	Eval	WAT	Skill	Place	Place
Abilities NW	12	3	5	0	14	15	3	3	0	0	6
Abilities So.	100	79	39	0	70	212	29	12	0	13	8
Assoc Craft	59	34	15	1	34	110	24	2	3	16	10
A C D C	27	29	17	0	0	66	5	4	0	3	30
August Hoehe	32	24	20	0	63	96	3	4	0	0	10
Boland Rehab	75	64	23	21	76	110	44	7	10	16	22
Camden OTC	27	16	11	0	20	23	1	1	0	2	2
Cumberland	62	51	42	0	71	160	15	9	0	6	33
Edison SW	0	0	0	0	1	10	0	0	0	0	1
Friendship F	52	73	36	6	351	230	20	10	0	32	23
Goodwill NJ	198	142	61	24	29	166	51	11	3	37	5
Goodwill So.	37	35	6	0	1	33	11	6	0	7	11
Highlands	20	22	16	0	66	96	6	2	0	3	6
H O T C	50	27	17	12	179	165	17	7	0	10	1
Jersey Cape	30	24	10	0	1	20	1	1	0	9	1
Jewish Voc S	75	50	24	0	0	101	17	10	0	11	11
Joseph Fineman	See Auguste Hoehe										
Monmouth CVR	66	58	27	1	86	134	33	7	0	5	6
OC Essex	53	38	29	0	134	163	12	5	0	5	26
OC Hudson	45	19	13	0	21	73	6	5	0	2	9
OC Union	34	24	19	0	97	162	13	2	0	11	12
OTC Handl. CK	28	18	9	5	66	57	7	1	6	9	7
OTC Burlington	69	60	48	0	7	128	23	11	0	10	15
OTC Mercer	21	21	15	6	10	44	3	3	1	4	7
Ocean Co. OC	34	21	24	0	83	33	7	6	0	4	18
Raritan Valley	50	45	39	0	95	177	15	17	0	5	28
St. John of God	25	17	16	4	4	35	2	1	0	3	4
Salem Co. OC	5	17	14	0	1	51	2	6	0	0	8
Thrift Shop Hn	10	7	4	11	1	13	2	1	2	0	4
UTC Somerset	1	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0
West Essex	100	48	33	0	17	45	12	6	0	7	20
West Hudson	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Wrk Opp Ctr	17	17	11	0	84	95	3	1	0	2	
State TOTALS	1415	1084	644	91	1693	2823	387	163	25	232	344
Year Ago	1473	1103	615	85	1366	2566	373	175	26	229	309
Two Year Ago	1663	1169	666	107	1149	2631	329	136	34	171	275

These statistics represent the activities that are carried on as services to the Basic DVRS program. The outcome, competitive placement or sheltered placement, represents what happened at the end of WAT in most cases.

If there is specific information that you want to know and don't see here contact us and we will be glad to see if we can give it to you.

Most management theorists feel that any organization should have no more than seven critical indicators for their operation. We are still in the process of trying to decide exactly which pieces of information are critical, which are interesting, and which are just numbers.

We would be happy to exchange views with you if you want to express an opinion on this subject.

You might notice that OTC Somerset is not in proper alphabetical order. This was done to ease the process by which the data is kept. If we start moving things around it makes it difficult when we try to combine reports to create Year To Date reports.

We hope that these little problems will work themselves out as we become more sophisticated in using the new tools that are becoming available to us.

Our initial work was done on an IBM PC using Lotus 1-2-3. We now have an IBM PC in our offices in Trenton but we have switched over to Symphony. This is supposed to be an improvement on Lotus 1-2-3 but many users feel that it is not an improvement because it is somewhat more cumbersome to work with if you are not a full time computer person. We are only scratching the surface of the software's potential with what we are doing here which is a simple spreadsheet application.

Facilities Quarterly Report 2-85

Sheltered	No. Cl	A D A Wait	Hour	Clnt	Wage	Time in E.E.	in Years		
	E.E.	E.E.	List	Wage	Plcd	After one	one-3	Thr-5	Over 5
Abilities NW	42	34	0	\$0.91	1	\$3.35	0	0	1
Abilities So.	115	111	0	\$0.83	5	\$3.46	1	4	0
Assoc Craft	45	33	0	\$1.29	3	\$4.65	2	1	0
A D O C	164	111	0	\$1.01	2	\$3.35	0	2	0
August Hoehe	75	64	0	\$0.87	0	\$0.00	0	0	0
Buland Rehab	85	75	0	\$0.80	2	\$3.35	1	1	0
Camden DTC	60	0	0	\$1.03	3	\$4.80	0	3	0
Cumberland	74	61	0	\$1.10	4	\$5.07	3	1	0
Edison SW	No Report Received								
Friendship H	68	53	0	\$1.51	8	\$3.35	5	3	0
Goodwill NJ	34	28	0	\$1.81	0	\$0.00	0	0	0
Goodwill So.	55	50	0	\$2.01	3	\$4.03	0	3	0
Highlands	37	30	0	\$1.10	2	\$3.35	0	2	0
H O T C	45	40	0	\$2.29	0	\$0.00	0	0	0
Jersey Cape	56	53	0	\$1.40	4	\$3.35	0	2	1
Jewish Voc S	83	46	1	\$1.76	5	\$4.23	4	0	1
Joseph Fineman	SEE AUGUST H. HOEHNE FIGURES								
Monmouth CVR	59	45	0	\$1.10	0	\$0.00	0	0	0
DC Essex	255	213	0	\$0.98	1	\$4.38	0	1	0
DC Hudson	67	54	0	\$1.24	0	\$0.00	0	0	0
DC Union	208	175	0	\$1.32	5	\$3.50	1	4	0
DTC Handl. CR	107	66	0	\$0.96	3	\$4.33	1	2	0
DTC Burlington	84	66	0	\$1.20	2	\$4.00	2	0	0
DTC Mercer	94	87	0	\$0.86	1	\$3.75	0	0	1
Ocean Co. DC	95	73	0	\$1.04	3	\$3.60	0	1	1
Raritan Valley	151	132	0	\$0.98	0	\$0.00	0	0	0
St. John of God	53	53	0	\$1.05	0	\$0.00	0	0	0
Salem Co. DC	72	58	0	\$1.38	1	\$5.00	1	0	0
Thrift Shop Un	33	30	0	\$1.79	7	\$3.35	1	2	2
DTC SOMERSET	35	33	0	\$0.61	0	\$0.00	0	0	0
West Essex	93	85	0	\$1.28	4	\$3.75	2	2	0
West Hudson	30	17	0	\$0.76	0	\$0.00	0	0	0
Wmk Ops Ctr	115	115	0	\$0.83	0	\$0.00	0	0	0
TOTALS	2589	2091	1	\$1.14	69	\$3.82	24	34	5

This report represents the figures for the second quarter of the Federal Fiscal Year only. It represents activity that has taken place in the Extended Employment program.

The client placed figure tells us how many sheltered employees have been placed into competitive employment in the last quarter.

This figure has been on the rise for a couple of quarters now. It is good to see that we are making an effort to achieve the program goals.

Rather than my babbling on like this why don't you use the rest of the space on this page to write down any questions that you might have about the statistics we're presenting. We'll be happy to answer any questions that we can.

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