

2010 PR Workgroup Meeting 11-30-07 – Minutes

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, January 24, 2008, 10am–12noon at MRS, Room 192

Attendees: Jamie Kelly, JEVS; Tamara Nelson, MRS; Karen Kenny, MRS; Ann Marie Campbell MRS; Rosa McAllister, Networks; Renee Ash, Interac; Jeff Orlin, MRS.
Additional Members: Phil Migliarese, Mayor's Commission; Clara Thompson, JEVS; Denise Haynes, Interac; Suzanne Erb; Brian Holder, MRS; Judy Kresloff, MRS; Pam Nabried, Horizon House; John Woodruff; Wayne Hobson, SPIN; Dennis Oswald, CATCH; Norman Baker, MRS PAC; Topia Tessman, Quality Progressions; Stephanie Desenclos, Partnership for Community Supports.

Meeting joined in progress...

Rosa shared employment data from FY06 and FY07, about the types of jobs people have, the range of CIE provider rates for services; ranging from a high of \$103.04 to a low of \$17 per unit of service; there doesn't appear to be a correlation between the amount of rate and the success of the services. SCOs are reporting more referrals for CIE services, and more people are working, but proportionately there have been less employment outcomes, from FY07 to FY06. The assessment process and job development issues remain areas of focus.

Tamara noted that since the experience of job candidates is sometimes an issue, perhaps providing vocational training for some of the non-traditional, but potentially suitable jobs could lead to an expanded number of job types for individuals we serve. Rosa noted that adaptive equipment and other tools also could help in this regard. Renee added that Interac uses individuals receiving CIE services to "temp" for vacationing staff or for other needs, which not only increases their earnings but also helps build their resumes by gaining clerical and administrative experience.

Karen added that a review of providers' quality management plans will yield 'best practices' and other important information, so that, as a service system, we can gather and share the information we need to increase the number of positive employment outcomes. Ann Marie noted that through the Quality Management Council we've already begun to share important information, including narratives and stories, revealing more information than data alone.

There was some discussion about ways to support the other Workgroups. Rosa shared that the Who Wants To Work workgroup helped prepare a questionnaire for individuals in workshops. 142 people responded; the workgroup is discussing the best ways to follow up. Sharing information revealed in the surveys with SCOs, and initiating conversations with Supports Coordinators will help to examine how the information in the surveys relates to their communication with the individuals and families they serve. Certainly, responses in the survey of "Who Wants To Work" range from "of course" to "no way." The Supports Coordination Workgroup also is interested in the survey data, both for training purposes and to re-examine issues related to capacity.

Mini career planning sessions are being planned, not just for those in transition, but also for those survey respondents who want to work. Also, an Employment Mentors course will be offered, helping people learn and train to support individuals to become employed; a requirement will be to “get active” with at least one person and help them get a job; Mentors will be matched up with individuals who want to work. There also was discussion of asking Mentors to use audio/video, photographs, and the mighty pen to get the success story as it unfolds!

A longitudinal study is underway, to look back at the ‘Transition 44’ from last year; to learn from the process and refine supports. This also presents an excellent opportunity to focus on each individual’s story, and the PR Workgroup is committed to getting those stories. Karen has the list of the 44; those present selected individuals for follow-up; each Workgroup member will have an opportunity to sign-up to get a story or two!

Employment Ambassadors – the ranks are growing! It’s the cover story of the January/February issue of Family Forum, and soon the list of 2010 Ways will be on the www.philaonthejob.org website. Keep growing the list! Don’t forget to send your ideas to Jeff Orlin.

Suzanne Erb says, “An Employment Ambassador is someone who sings it from the rooftops!” – well sung, Suzanne!

We’ll have news of the Workgroup Story Challenge at our next meeting, 1-24-08 at 10am (see above for details).

HOMEWORK:

1. Add to the list of 2010 Ways. Send at least two ways to jeffrey.orlin@phila.gov
2. Be ready to get a personal success story. See you on 1-24-08.