

Philadelphia 2010 Vision for Employment

Steering Committee Retreat, Pt. 1

Friday July 17, 2009

Steering Committee & Personal Accomplishments FY'09

We were each asked to briefly look at the Phila. Vision for Employment PATH on the wall & table in front of us & specifically focus on the vision / goal stated for 2010 (in the circle). Next, we were to think of the past year & list 3 things we were personally involved in, accomplished, or helped be accomplished that helped us move closer to the lofty goals & visions of 2010. We wrote each one of our 3 items on a separate post-it & then secured them all to a chart in the front of the room. Each item was read off, we tried to id who was the author, & then brief discussions occurred around each accomplishment.

- All of us are cheerleaders -> all can work!
- Keep focus on our goals!
- Address bureaucratic "stuff" ... let the strings play out!
- Awarding, celebrating....dream jobs!!
- Clarifying & making easier SS information!
- Pushing / helping SC's re: employment!
- Direct help in individual situations... especially when stuck &/or really hard -> enlist others -> systems issues? -> Stop! Intervene!
- Still those that don't believe -> Work on this!!!
- Brag re: Philadelphia -> Video -> Data
- Expanding working with other disability groups -> new spheres!
- Chamber of Commerce -> business world!
- Transition ->more training...work with schools -> capturing stories of change -> Transition Planning Project!
- Stories -> more in depth stories especially re: common issues -> Family Forum -> other venues?
- Video -> connecting with more businesses -> develop companion piece (CIE & Employers & families) -> shortened version -> outtakes used for training!
- Empowering others!
- Data -> Phila is best and/or only in PA -> doing it 4+ years -> providers are doing it and correctly! -> tie to funding? -> take it statewide?
- Provider Practice Survey -> follow up -> training...-> show/compare practice with data!
- Support "good" employers!
- Mini Grants!
- Personal commitment!!

Our Personal Passions

Next, we were asked to think a bit about our own personal passions & how these might connect with this work in terms of new ideas, projects, areas to focus on, etc.

- "What do you want to be when you grow up" video -> help see that all children should be asked this question, help all to believe early on that everyone can work -> connect with Octavia and her awardees -> connect with arts contest curriculum

- No more workshops -> State supported change... use our influence -> close the doors -> by ?/?/? , no more... -> w/o making any casualties.. -> keep up our work->how will/can we personally push this... -> "certain waiver services are not available in Philadelphia"?
- Employment for all! -> connections -> collaborations -> blogs -> "infecting others" -> taking up the cause with all of our colleagues
- Use of other media, arts, etc. -> connecting with interested arts groups (arts alliance)
- ...being Marianne... (the "mini Marianne project") -> mentoring / training spunky young SC's -> each of us 'bring up a young one'
- SWAT team!
- We all have, focus on, & report on work & our passion!
- Data -> real! ->informative! -> stuff we use...
- Policy
- Social Security

Ideas for the Steering Committee Retreat, Pt. 2 (July 31, 2009)

1. Revisit our passions -- What does this mean for the Steering Committee? Specific actions / activities for this new year?
2. Swat Team -- develop this idea further... Who is involved? How are we mobilized?
3. Octavia's "bringing up a young one" or the "mini-Marianne project" (mentoring project) – Each of us try to identify someone we will mentor... How to involve them? How to report on progress?
4. Data – Further develop ideas re: how to use this to push providers for more, influence the State, use in training / stories / etc.
5. How do we take our PATH / this work statewide to influence others & gain support for our work??
6. What else? What's next??