

**DEPARTMENT  
OF  
REHABILITATION**

Cooperative Programs

**Department of Rehabilitation Mission:**

To work in partnership with consumers and other stakeholders to provide services and advocacy resulting in employment, independence and equality for individuals with disabilities

## Why Collaborate?

- Combines and maximizes existing community resources
- Creates a network of resources easily accessible to clients
- Creates new vocational services
- Builds community partnerships
- Prevents duplication of services

## PARTNER AGENCIES

Federal level

*Rehabilitation Services Administration*

State level

*Department of General Services*

## **Collaboration With Partner Agencies**

Memorandum of Understanding

Interagency Agreement

Third Party Agreement

## **California DOR Cooperative Program (Third-party) History**

- 1985- Workability II with Adult Schools and ROP's
- 1985- Workability III with Community Colleges
- 1987- Transition Partnership Project (TPP) with Local Education Agencies
- 1992- Workability IV with State Colleges and Universities
- 1992- Mental Health Cooperatives with County Mental Health Agencies

## DOR Funding Mechanism

- 21.3% Cash Match
- 25% Certified Time Match
  - Ability to Maximize Federal Funding
  - 78.7% for Cash Match
  - 75% for Certified Time Match

Funding provides for SVRC positions, case service funds for consumers, payment to contract agencies

## DOR Third-party Agreements CFR 361.28

- Services must constitute a new, expanded reconfigured service
- Vocational rehabilitation focused
- Limited to DOR applicants/clients only

## **DOR Third-party Agreements CFR 361.28**

- Programs must be administered and monitored by DOR
- DOR State Plan requirements will apply to all services provided under the cooperative agreement

## **Third Party Agreement Program Elements**

Coordinated Referral Process

Resource Sharing

Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Cross Training

Shared Assessment

Community Linkages

## Cooperative Services

- Assessment Services
  - Vocational Assessment
  - Situational Assessment
- Training Services
  - Work Adjustment
  - Personal, Vocational, Social Adjustment
  - Educational Training

## Cooperative Services

- Work Experience
- Employment Services
  - Employment Preparation
  - Job Development, Placement and Retention
  - Job Coaching

## **VRSD TEAM**

### **Vocational Rehabilitation Service Delivery**

- SVRC-QRP (Counselors) are responsible for:
  - ✓ Facilitating the Application Process
  - ✓ Establishing the Severity of Disability
  - ✓ Developing a Vocational Plan with the Consumer
  - ✓ Provide services and case management support
  - ✓ Closing the case

## **DOR and SBC-DBH Collaboration**

- DOR and DBH staff work together as a multi-disciplinary team to assist mutual consumers to achieve gainful employment.
- DOR counselors are qualified to :
  - ❖ Provide comprehensive assessment
  - ❖ Assess functional capacities

## **DOR and SBC-DBH Collaboration**

- ❖ Identify needed accommodations for work
- ❖ Conduct job analyses
- ❖ Arrange On-The-Job Training opportunities with employers
- ❖ Arrange for job coaching when needed

## **DOR and SBC-DBH Collaboration**

- DBH staff :
- Coordinate quality referrals
- Complete preliminary needs assessments
- Meet with DOR counselors for case staffing
- Provide long term follow-up services
- Provide information on housing

## Case Service Funds

- Each Cooperative Agreement identifies a dedicated account of “Case Service Funds” available for Project participants
- Case Service Funds can purchase:
  - ✓ Assessments
  - ✓ Tuition, books and school supplies
  - ✓ Tools, equipment and work clothing
  - ✓ Transportation
  - ✓ Other necessary services that facilitate a successful vocational closure

## Role of the Local Contract Administrators

- Local development of the annual/tri-annual contract
- Monitor budget, match and invoices
- Coordinate in-service training
- Monitor outcome goals
- Hold regular meetings to discuss policy, outcomes and resolve issues

## **DOR Cooperative Programs Outcomes**

- Over 170 cooperative agreements with partner agencies
- Over 36,000 clients served annually

## **DOR Cooperative Programs Outcomes and Benefits**

- Over 5,000 cases coded to cooperative programs resulted in successful employment closures annually.
- Coops account for 33% of all DOR successful closures.
- Coop cost per placement is 35% less than base.

## Training Opportunities

- Training can be provided to local communities at no cost:
  - ✓ Benefits Planning
  - ✓ Job Development Strategies
  - ✓ Developing Consumer Capacities
  - ✓ System/Program Development
  - ✓ Others (e.g., medical aspects, reasonable accommodations)

## Questions and Comments

