
Around the Region

November 2002

Volume 2



RSA Region V CRP-RCEP

University of Illinois
at Urbana-Champaign

Practice through Research...Facilitating Integrated Employment Outcomes for Individuals with Disabilities

Greetings from Tony Plotner, Project Coordinator, RSA Region V CRP-RCEP

Hello! I am pleased to welcome you to our RSA Region V CRP-RCEP Fall newsletter "Around the Region." To update you on Region V activities, past, present, and future, I'll start with the Advanced Employment Simulation Training (AES). Thirty participants from all over RSA Region V recently completed the week-long, intensive Advanced Employment Simulation Training in Chicago. Participants upgraded their skills and knowledge via a team-building experience that focused on person-centered planning, empowerment, marketing, business partnerships, and collaboration. The partnering and networking among participants throughout the week was a bonus appreciated by not only the participants, but also by the facilitators.

We will be offering another Advanced Employment Simulation training this summer, but don't wait that long. Be sure to take advantage of the professional development trainings that are being offered this fall and winter.

Two new training series are being offered. First, our Leadership in Rehabilitation Certificate Series will begin January 22-24, 2003 in Indianapolis. This series is designed to influence future leaders and to enhance the professional's job performance by featuring state of the art practices. Details of this certificate series are on the RSA Region V CRP- RCEP Web site.

Another training opportunity for employment specialists is our workshop series entitled; "Tools of the Trade." "Building the Framework: Job analysis and matching" begins the series:

- November 12, 2002, Chicago, IL with Karen Steffan and James Emmett
- November 14, 2002, Minneapolis, MN with Sue Ann Morrow and Tom Sechrist
- December 5, 2002, Cleveland, OH with Sue Ann Morrow and Tom Sechrist

"General Contracting: Communication and Conflict Management" workshop follows:

- November 21, 2002, Indianapolis, IN with Jane Everson and James Emmett
- December 12, 2002, Chicago, IL with Jane Everson and James Emmett

RSA Region V CRP-RCEP Listserv

To date there are over 100 subscribers to this listserv that includes people from all six states. The purpose of this electronic discussion list is to facilitate information sharing and communication quickly and easily. If you'd like to subscribe free, please e-mail Lynda Leach at leachlyn@uiuc.edu.

“Putting Up the Sign: Basic Marketing” is scheduled for:

- December 4, 2002, Milwaukee, WI with Tom Sechrist and Camille Mayhall

The cost for participants is \$45 per workshop and CEUs or CRCs are available.

For those of you who prefer distance learning, our Web-based courses started on November 4, 2002, with the “Employment Provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act.” The six lessons in this course are designed to help service providers learn how the law applies to the people they serve, especially in the area of employment. The cost for this six-week class is \$45.00 and includes study materials.

The “Natural Supports” Web-based course begins January 13th and will be a six-session course. Each two-week session will provide information that will be useful, practical, and immediately applicable in the supported employment setting. Some of the topics that are included in the course are job development, training supports, organizational supports, social supports, physical support, and community and family supports. The purpose of the course is to help coordinate the needs of the individual in relation to the employment setting. The cost for this six-week course is also \$45.00.

To register for any of these events, please complete the enclosed form. Please return your completed form to Betty Taylor. If you have questions, contact me at plotner@uiuc.edu or 217-333-2325.

We have also been working on exemplary programs and practices nominations for community rehabilitation providers. Our nomination packet will be ready to disseminate in a few months, so please be on the look out for that. We want to help share information on exemplary program features and promising practices for CRPs in RSA Region V. We know many of you are doing great things and we will want to hear from you.

One last reminder...please let us know if you are interested in co-sponsoring a training event in your community. The benefits to you include maximizing your resources, customized training to your local audiences and needs, and two free registrations. We ask that you, in turn, will help us target participants, as well as identify the appropriate training venue in your area. To let me know your interest in this or your need for other technical assistance, please complete and return the form at the end of the newsletter. Thank you!

Tony

Graduate Students at RSA Region V CRP-RCEP invaluable members of the CRP-RCEP Staff!

Kim Keller, Ph.D. Candidate in Special Education at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Ms. Keller’s research is focused on transition and employment for persons with disabilities, and on program evaluation. Kim’s graduate research assistantship will provide an analysis of in-service training needs for stakeholders in a six-state region. In addition, she is the Vocational Coordinator for the Naperville, Illinois School District. Her responsibilities include developing business partnerships and training sites for students and adults with disabilities, establishing mentoring and social support, and monitoring program improvement. Ms. Keller is a certified Cooperative Vocational Educator (Southern Illinois University certification), and Special Education teacher with certification in TMH and Social/Emotional Disorders (University of Illinois). Ms. Keller has conducted in-service training for programs targeting students at-risk of academic failure. She is also the recipient of the W. E. A. and C. C. Young Scholarship and the National Board Certification Scholarship. As a program assistant for Illinois RCEP, Kim helps with all aspects of training and technical assistance.



RSA Region V CRP-RCEP Teleconference Series

One-Stop Career Centers: The Basics and The Benefits to Community Rehabilitation Providers was the featured topic for the first teleconference on October 21, 2002. Laura Ritterbush, Independent Consultant, Ringgold, GA, Howard Glad, Assistant Commissioner, Rehabilitation Services, Minnesota Department of Economic Security, and Maggie Leedy, One-Stop Services Coordinator, Montgomery Works, Montgomery County, MD, discussed the national, state, and local perspectives of one-stop services for people with disabilities and how community rehabilitation providers can work with one-stops to maximize employment outcomes. The One-Stop Career Centers PowerPoint Presentation by Laura Ritterbush can be found at <http://www.ed.uiuc.edu/sped/illinoisrcep/onestop.htm>.

The second in this series was the teleconference, *Recruiting, Hiring, and Retaining Quality Employees*, November 5. Tom Sechrist and Sue Ann Morrow discussed specific strategies that can be used to recruit, hire, and retain quality employees for your organization. Their PowerPoint Presentation can be found on the RSA Region V CRP-RCEP Web site.

On November 19th, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m., (CST) the topic of the teleconference is *Transition and Youth with Disabilities: Overview of Importance, Definition, and Current Areas of National Attention* with Frank Rusch. Dr. Rusch will overview the importance of transition services for high school youth with disabilities and provide a review of transition legislation, historical influences, and progressive changes in rehabilitation law.

On January 14, 2003, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. (CST), Janis Chadsey, Ph.D., will discuss *Fitting in Socially by Understanding the Work Culture*. Every work setting has its own culture and jobs can be secured or lost depending on an understanding of the culture. This discussion will include elements of the work culture that will help CRPs in their job placement and maintenance efforts. In addition, the relationship among natural supports, work culture, and social relationships will be explored.

There will be time for questions and discussion following each teleconference, so we hope you will join us for these interactive calls by dialing in at 217-265-8030. The only cost to you is the long distance fee to the 217 area code. Audio and text transcripts of all teleconferences will be archived on RSA Region V Web site.

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: **News You Can Use** :
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From the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce: *Partnership to Increase Employment Among People With Disabilities*

On October 18, 2002, The U.S. Department of Education announced a partnership with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Center for Workforce Preparation to acquaint the business community with programs and resources available at the Education Department and the Chamber to help employers tap into the disability community for qualified workers.

This action comes as the two organizations recognized

National Disability Employment Awareness Month, proclaimed October 1 by President Bush, with a Web cast entitled, "Disability Employment 101: Learn to Tap Your Hire Potential."

The event featured government and private officials discussing current research, successful strategies, and Education Department initiatives related to employing people with disabilities.

"While we have seen some slight improvement in recent years, far too many Americans with disabilities are still without meaningful jobs, not because they are unqualified but because they are often overlooked," said Robert H. Pasternack, Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

At the Education Department, the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services administers several programs that help develop the skills of people with disabilities. Among them are:

- The Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) funds state vocational rehabilitation agencies that help promote employment, integration and independence of people with disabilities.
- The National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR), conducts research activities in such areas as accessibility, assistive devices, and reasonable accommodations.
- The Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) administers the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

Pasternack said a resource guide is under development by his office and the Center for Workforce Preparation to acquaint employers with the programs available at the department and the chamber of commerce that can help businesses incorporate people with disabilities into the workforce.

**Don't forget to check out the
RSA Region V CRP-RCEP
Web site:**

www.ed.uiuc.edu/sped/illinoisrcep

In addition, a series of nationwide forums is being planned to provide the business community with a unique opportunity to partner, share successful practices and recruit from new sources such as schools, vocational rehabilitation agencies, and the research community. "During the month of October and throughout the year, please consider with us how you or your business might be able to help ensure that no American worker is left behind," Pasternack said. For more information about disability-related resources, visit <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OSERS/Resources/>.

Please contact Jim Bradshaw, (202) 401-1576, for more information about this new partnership.

Resources

Braddock, D. et.al. (2002). Disability at the dawn of the 21st century and the state of the states. (7th ed.) Washington, DC: AAMR.

The definitive sourcebook on the analysis of financing services and supports for people with developmental disabilities in the United States.

Center for International Rehabilitation Research Information Exchange (CIRRIE), National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR), SUNY at Buffalo (2001). The Rehabilitation Provider's Guide to Cultures of the Foreign Born. Buffalo, NY: Author.

Monograph series for rehabilitation service providers to address cultural issues of individuals who are foreign born and are in need of rehabilitation services pdf and html versions of the following monographs are found at their site at <http://www.ncddr.org/du/products/focus/focus2/>

Storey, K., Bates, P., & Hunter, D. (Eds.) (2002). The road ahead: Transition to adult life for persons with disabilities. St. Augustine, FL: Training Resource Network, Inc.

This book provides strategies and ideas for improving the lives of people with disabilities in the educational and adult service systems.

Web Sites

- www.MontgomeryWorks.net — Montgomery County, Maryland One-Stop Services
- www.onestops.info — The National Center on Workforce and Disability/Adult is based at the Institute for Community Inclusion at the University of Massachusetts, Boston.
- www.doleta.gov — U.S. Department of Labor, Employment & Training Administration
- <http://www.mnworkforcecenter.org/rehab/index.htm> — Minnesota Workforce Center
- <http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/dwepfe/> — Wisconsin Employment Connection
- <http://www.ides.state.il.us/ietc/map.htm> - The Illinois Employment and Training Center Network
- <http://www.michiganworks.org/> — Michigan Works!
- <http://www.state.oh.us/odjfs/onestop/> — Helping Ohioans
- http://www.ssa.gov/work/Ticket/ticket_info.html — The Work Site, Office of Employment Support Programs, SSA
- <http://www.disabilityinfo.gov/> — New Comprehensive Federal Web-site of Disability-Related Government Resources
- <http://www.dol.gov/odep/programs/promotin.htm> — The Small business and Self-employment Service (SBSES)



**Selected
Conferences/Workshops/
Trainings**

Mark Your Calendars



November 2002

CSAVR

Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation
– “The Future is Now”
The Westin Seattle, Seattle, WA
November 17-20, 2002

<http://www.rehabnetwork.org/default.htm> for conference details

2002 National Business Leadership Network Summit

Human Capital – Turning Investment to Profit
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
Washington, DC
November 18-19, 2002

<http://www.usbln.com/about/summit2002/index.htm>

Michigan Rehabilitation Conference

Michigan Rehabilitation Association/MARO Employment & Training Association: *Ticket to Where?*
Grand Traverse Resort, Acme, MI
November 6-8, 2002

Contact: Harry R. Smith, 517.484.5588 or hsmith2@maro.org

RSA Region V CRP-RCEP at the University of Illinois - “Tools of the Trade” Workshops

Job Analysis and Matching
LaSalle Bank, Chicago, IL
November 12, 2002

Job Analysis and Matching
Wells Fargo Tower, Minneapolis, MN
November 14, 2002

Communication and Conflict Management Training
Easter Seals Crossroads Rehabilitation Center
4740 Kingsway, Indianapolis, IN
November 21, 2002

For more information, please contact Tony Plotner, Project Coordinator, at plotner@uiuc.edu

SECT

(Supported Employment Consultation & Training)
Anderson, IN

For more information on the following trainings, please contact the SECT Center staff at sect@cfmh.org or 765-641-8293

Beyond Traditional Job Development
Indianapolis, IN
November 5, 2002

Employment Support Specialist “100” Training
Anderson, IN
November 19-22, 2002

Vocational Alliance Autism Project

“Autism Spectrum Disorders and Work...Getting the Pieces Together”

Northfield Inn, Springfield, IL
November 5, 2002

William Tell Holiday Inn, Countryside, IL
November 6, 2002

For more information, please contact staff at 708-597-3101 or telesuppsys@aol.com.

Wisconsin APSE

Annual Statewide Supported Employment Conference
Green Lake, WI
November 14-15, 2002

For more information, go to the web site at:
<http://wiapse.tripod.com/id17.htm>



DECEMBER 2002

Indiana 12th Annual APSE Conference

Oh, The Places We'll Go!
Indianapolis, IN
December 4-6, 2002

For more information, go to the web site: <http://www.inapse.org/>



SECT

(Supported Employment Consultation & Training)
Anderson, IN
For more information on the following training, please contact the SECT Center staff at sect@cfmh.org or 765-641-8293

Social Security Work Incentives-Refresher
Seymour, IN
December 4, 2002



NCSET

(National Center for Secondary Education and Transition at the University of Minnesota)
Coordination and Management of Supports and Services for Individuals with Disabilities from Secondary to Postsecondary Education and Employment: Capacity Building Institute
Boston, MA
December 9, 2002 – December 10, 2002

Please go to the Web-site www.ncset.org for more information.

Annual TASH Conference

Boston, MA
December 11-14, 2002

Please go to <http://www.tash.org/2002conference/> for details.



NEORA Annual Training Conference

Ohio Rehabilitation Association
Dec 6, 2002

Contact Matt Riley for more information at mriley@ucpcleveland.org



RSA Region V CRP-RCEP at the University of Illinois - "Tools of the Trade" Workshops

Basic Marketing
Milwaukee, WI
December 4, 2002

Job Analysis and Matching
Penton Media Building, 1300 E. 9th St., Cleveland, OH
December 5, 2002

Communication and Conflict Management Training
LaSalle Bank, 135 S. LaSalle St., Chicago, IL
December 12, 2002

RSA Region V Consultants:

Please send us names with contact information and expertise of consultants and trainers you would recommend. RSA Region V CRP-RCEP staff are developing a searchable data base of consultants for the web.

Thank you!

Technical Assistance and Co-Sponsorship of Regional Workshop Request Form

Name: _____

Title: _____

Agency: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Area of Need for Technical Assistance
or Co-Sponsorship of Regional Workshop:

Comments: _____

Return To: Tony Plotner, Project Coordinator
RSA Region V CRP-RCEP
Transition Research Institute
117 Children's Research Center
51 Gerty Drive
Champaign, IL 61820
217-333-2325
fax: 217-244-0851



Don't Wait !

Sign up NOW for the next
"Tools of the Trade Workshop" !

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Need Help? Give Us A Call

**RSA Region V CRP-RCEP Training
Registration Form**

Cancellation must be received in writing 10 days prior to event for refund.

Name: _____

Agency: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone #: _____ E-Mail: _____

Event: _____

Date: _____

Payment Enclosed: _____ (Please make checks payable to the **University of Illinois.**)

For more Information Contact: Tony Plotner at 217-333-2325 or plotner@uiuc.edu

Send or fax your registration to: **RSA Region V CRP-RCEP**
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