

Unpaid Family Worker (Issued March 2009) (Reviewed May 2014)

Purpose:

To inform staff that to support an employment outcome as an unpaid family worker requires the approval of a Bureau of Consumer Services Director.

Rationale

The purpose of DVR program is to assist eligible consumers to obtain, maintain, or advance in competitive employment.

Competitive employment is defined in the federal regulations as employment:

In the competitive labor market that is performed on a full-time or part-time basis in an integrated setting; and
For which an individual is compensated at or above the minimum wage, but not less than the customary wage and level of benefits paid by the employer for the same or similar work performed by individuals who are not disabled.

While the federal regulations discuss unpaid family work as a valid employment outcome, these employment goals do not meet the definition of competitive employment - compensated at or above minimum wage.

While Wisconsin Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) recognizes the value of unpaid family work, DVR supports employment outcomes which meet the standard of competitive employment as defined above.

Procedure:

DVR staff should work with consumers to assist them in achieving competitive employment outcomes.

If there is a specific case where unpaid family worker appears to be the most appropriate employment outcome, an approval by the Bureau of Consumer Services Director is necessary for support of the goal.