

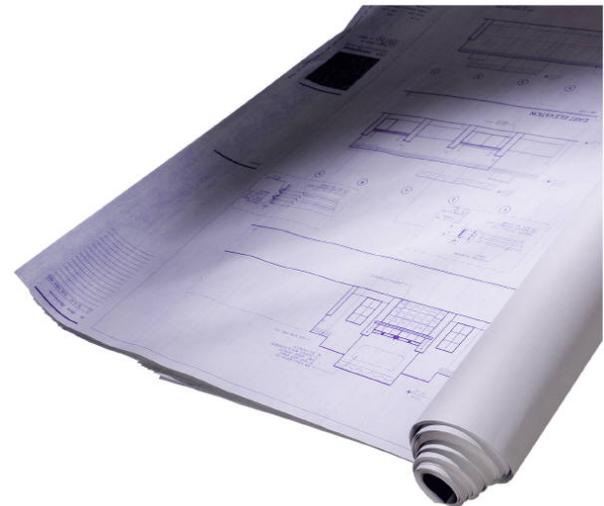
Prevocational Services in Family Care/IRIS: DVR Issues

Wisconsin Rehabilitation Council
January 20th, 2011



The Managed Care and Employment Task Force (MCETF)

- Created a “blueprint” for improved employment outcomes and services in Family Care/IRIS
- 28 highly respected members, representing a wide range of stakeholders
- Manuel Lugo (**DVR**) was a key member & chairperson of the Blended/Braided Funding Committee
- 84 recommendations accepted by DHS Secretary in December, 2008



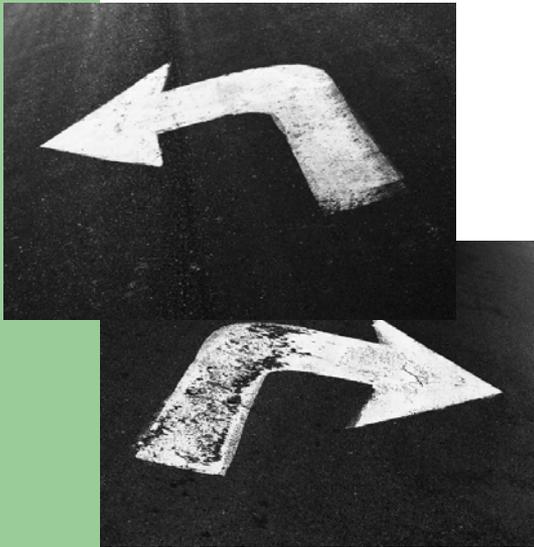
Choice or Encouraged Activity?

Initial debate:

Is employment, particularly integrated employment, just **a choice** that the long-term care system should neither encourage or discourage?

OR

Is employment something the long-term care system should **encourage** because it recognizes the **inherent benefits**?



January, 2009

- The Division of Long-Term Care adopted a strategic priority to *promote and support integrated employment outcomes among people with disabilities* eligible for, or receiving, Medicaid funded services, including receiving long-term care services
- New outcome measure for long-term care system

MCETF Recommendations re: Prevocational Services

The Department of Health Services should:

- Update the service definition of **prevocational services** to reflect best practices in community integration
- Prevocational services should enhance what is currently available through **DVR**
- Prevocational services should not be based on a readiness model

MCETF Recommendations re: Prevocational Services

- Policy should clarify that a Family Care/IRIS enrollee can be referred to DVR or to MCO-funded supported employment services without prior participation in **prevocational services**
- DHS should consider developing rigorous criteria for new admissions to **prevocational services** in work centers/sheltered workshops.

Revised Prevocational Service Definition

- Service should develop general, non-job-task-specific ***strengths and skills*** that contribute to ***employability in integrated, community settings***
- Outcome of service is expected to be ***integrated, employment on at least a part-time basis***
- People may participate in paid work as part of prevocational service delivery but this is ***not*** the intended outcome of the service

Revised Prevocational Service Definition

- Members who receive prevocational services during some days or parts of days may also receive supported employment, educational, or day services at other times
- Participation in prevocational services is not a prerequisite for supported employment services provided under the waiver
- Prevocational services may be provided in a variety of community locations including but not limited to work centers/sheltered workshops

Revised Prevocational Service Definition

- Only activities that contribute to the member's work experience, work skills, or work-related knowledge can be included in prevocational services
- Prevocational services may be provided to supplement, but may not duplicate services provided as part of an approved Individualized Employment Plan (IPE) funded under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, or under an approved Individualized Education Plan (IEP) under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

Technical Guidelines

- Describe how DHS expects revised service definition to be implemented in practice
- Web-based training on Technical Guidelines available through DHS; free for all stakeholders; required for care managers
- Decision tree tool and sample six month progress and status report also created

Technical Guidelines

- Everyone is capable of integrated employment with the right job match and supports in place
- All prevocational service participants should be making ***reasonable and continued progress*** toward at least part-time participation in integrated employment; Pre-voc provider expected to facilitate that progress and connect people with **DVR** at appropriate time.
- Clear differences between continuing and new member

Supports for CRPs

- Rebalancing grants and technical assistance
 - Modeled after T-TAP initiative
 - Customized employment training
- Training to inform development of community-based prevocational service models

Anticipated Impact on Vocational Rehabilitation Services

- Increased referrals to DVR of individuals needing
 - Community-based assessments
 - Customized employment placements
 - Supported employment services (currently @ 12%)
 - Long term employment supports
- Need for a statewide interagency service agreement supported by:
 - Technical assistance guidance
 - Training for all partners and service provision staff on collaborative, cooperative service provision

A Customized Employment Pilot

DVR wanted to explore Customized Employment

- Worked with System Partners and local Service Providers to develop a pilot
- Pilot was conducted in 4 of 11 Workforce Development Areas to gather data and promising practices
- 30 Common customers enrolled from a combination of general, current facility referrals and facility diversion projects
- Original pilot was for 12 months now extended to 18 months

DVR/OFCE MOU-Serving the Common Customer

- Clarifies roles and responsibilities of DVR and MCO
- Delineates payment responsibilities
- Describes conflict resolution procedures and policy

Resources

- <http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/wipathways/>
- <http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/ltcare/ProgramOps/Index.htm>
- <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dvr/>

For more information

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