

Evaluator Committee Meeting Minutes **Thursday, February 18, 2010**

Present: Brigid Griffin, Jan Husen-Stortenbecker, Frank Koch, Marsha Silvey, Judy Wehrle, Janet Drudik

Absent: Carole Baldwin, Amelis Long

Evaluator Roundtable – An evaluator roundtable has been scheduled for Tuesday, May 4, 2010 at the Lincoln Case Service Office. Topics included in the roundtable are:

- Presentation by Dr. Jeromy Warner on neuropsychological evaluations, what the tests and subtests mean, how they relate to function in the worksite and community, and how VR staff should read and interpret the reports for use in developing and implementing vocational plans with individuals experiencing brain injury. He will also review the brief neuropsychological evaluation services. This will include the MicroCog, and how the PMT and Valpar #6 results contribute to the overall evaluation.
- Nonstandardized Assessments – The eval committee has gathered the nonstandardized assessment materials each office is using. This is being compiled and will be reviewed.
- Activities being completed with students at the school or in the office.
- Will discuss additional agenda items that will be submitted by evaluators.

Janet will contact Cheryl Ferree regarding obtaining CRC credits for the training. Janet will also contact Keri Bennett regarding having staff come who we are working within our TBI partnerships.

Job Analysis – Discussed if job analysis is being completed when partnerships are being developed. Frank Koch mentioned he is involved in developing partnerships in his area. Janet, Marsha Silvey and Laurie Colburn will be going to Johnson Community College in Overland Park, KS to discuss the BNSF training program. This should aid in deciding which assessments should be administered to verify VR is sending the appropriate people to the training program. Evaluators are encouraged to be involved in the development of these partnerships and making recommendations for assessments for a successful partnership.

New Evaluation Materials/Techniques Being Used – Jan discussed the new OJE site with Lincoln Action Program (LAP). It is a nonprofit site that has programs for Headstart, ESL and Poverty/Homeless Projects. Clients can work in areas of daycare, receptionist, teacher's aide, and building maintenance. Will have a job coach onsite. Will hopefully have four people there at a time.

Training New Evaluators – Brigid suggested having a mentor assigned to a new evaluator. She reports being fortunate to have a mentor when she started which was definitely a benefit for her training. Discussed the importance of staffing cases each day or at least once a week with new evaluators. Thought it would be helpful to have a training guide so evaluators, office directors and program director knew what areas needed to be trained, who would train the person, etc.

NE Career Connection Training – We are now considered an official partner of NE Career Connection and our logo will be added to the bottom of the home page of the site. Janet is on the advisory committee for the NE Career Connection with a meeting scheduled for February 26th. They have recently introduced the adult version (Journey) and would like to provide training for VR staff. Janet will wait until after the advisory committee meeting and demonstration of the new updates as well as discussion regarding future updates to determine if this is a good time to provide training to VR staff.

Nonstandardized Assessment Materials – Evaluators brought to the meeting copies of nonstandardized assessment materials they are using in their offices. Janet will compile the information, will eventually be placed in the Job Planning Resource Guide on VRIS, and will be reviewed at the evaluator roundtable on May 4th. If evaluators who were not in attendance at the eval meeting think they may have additional nonstandardized assessment materials please send them to Janet.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 14th from 10:00-3:00 at the Lincoln Case Service Office