

## **Adults with Disabilities Workgroup: March 6, 2015**

**RHS makes referrals to:** ROP, Lincoln Training Center, Placer ARC, Pride Youth Services, Pride Industries, EDD/Golden Sierra, Alta Regional, Dept of Rehab

**Dept of Rehab makes referrals to:** Dream Catchers Empowerment Network, On My Own, NorCal Services for Deaf & Hard of Hearing, EDD/GS, America at Work

**Sierra makes referrals to:** *On-campus:* peer tutoring, online tutoring, The Hub, DSPS, Career Center, Veterans Services, Foster Youth, TRIO, EOPS, CalWorks, Puente, Umoja, Health Center, campus housing, financial aid

*Off-campus:* DoR, K12 Adult Schools, Library Literacy

*Also:* counseling agencies, transportation services, housing, foodstamps, childcare

**“Priority” AWD-serving agencies in our region:** DoR, EDD/Golden Sierra, Alta Regional, Pride Industries, Pride Youth Services Program, NorCal

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### **RAS:**

High school students age out of K-12 special ed and come to RAS without diploma. Struggle with learning disabilities. GED or diploma may not be realistic goals. Students need to be connected with DoR for job skills and to find employment. RAS has adult students who haven't received services at DoR because they were never identified as learning disabled during primary/secondary school. These student have no documentation that proves that they have a disability. *How can we help them access DoR services without this documentation?*

### **PCOE:**

Operates **Transition Partnership Program** (TPP) in conjunction with Dept of Rehab in all High School Districts throughout Placer County – focused on “direct-to-hire” or “short term career training/certificate.” *TPP is valuable for those learning-disabled students who might not be eligible for DoR services.*

*If students are eligible for Alta Regional Services (IQ < 70), it is questionable if DoR would be able to service them.*

**Transition Faire** – done through student services and special ed departments within regional school districts. Provide resources for families so that they know what the post-secondary job options are for students of all varying ability levels.

**Problem** is that outreach is only to existing district students – not regional AWD community at large. *Would be nice to have a Transition Faire that includes all regional resources and reaches broader AWD community.*

### **Dept of Rehab:**

Would be helpful to have DoR provide outreach and teach K12, AE and Sierra about their services. **Eligibility:** Need a psych or medical evaluation and documentation showing disability (Physical and/or mental disabilities that are *impediments to employment*). IF on SSI or SSDI, clients are presumed eligible for services. 18-22 year olds that don't

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want to receive special ed services in their high school districts can go through the application process to see if they are eligible to benefit from DoR services. If there is no documentation or proof the disability, clients would ask for an evaluation to determine what services DoR can provide. DoR has its own medical panel (which includes psychologists), and they conduct their own evaluations of applicants. They will also determine if adults have ADHD. To have DoR representation at Transition Faire -- contact Mark Frayser in the Roseville Office. If the DoR counselor meets with the "consumer" and determines that DoR doesn't have a specific service for this consumer, or what the consumer needs is beyond the scope of DoR services, DoR makes referrals to other agencies. DoR counselors do research on behalf of consumers and makes referrals to other service providers. *Consumers with "IQs < 70" are eligible for DoR services IF it is determined they are able to benefit from DoR services.*

### **Other AWD-serving Agencies:**

Transportation providers; Job Corps; California Conservation Corps; Goodwill  
Recruitment Services: Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard

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### **ACTIONS:**

- DoR outreach to K12, Adult Ed and Sierra College (at request of these agencies)
- DoR to provide Steering Committee with a document listing eligibility requirements (perhaps something from "Consumer Handbook" – available online?)
- Develop ***Pre-Eligibility / Pre-Application Checklist*** (modeled after DoR literature) that can be adapted by different AWD-serving agencies for intake purposes – so client knows what's needed at intake.
- Collect ***planning documents*** used by counselors/support services to support education and career goal attainment (e.g., workability planning documents, PCOE "transition packet").
- Gather examples of ***"OneStop" services models*** (e.g., Kaiser Advice Nurse, Sac311, PNOC, NC211, OneFathersLove, The Hub at Sierra College) that might provide framework/model for future delivery of AWD OneStop services.

### **Wish List:**

- "Transition Counselors" to serve adults with disabilities in various agencies
- "OneStop Center" with specific counseling/transition services expert specifically for adults with disabilities (with office at existing OneStops/WIBS)? New federal WIOA grant may serve as funding source, and seems like a "natural fit" for such services...
- List of employers who provide on-site internships (e.g., software companies, manufacturing, Project STRIPE, Hacker Lab at Sierra - <http://hackerlab.org/sierracollege/>) which lead to immediate skill-building and contacts.

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- Common “Education and Career Planning Document” and “Transition Packet” modeled after those currently used by workability and PCOE (includes “Plan,” IEP, resume, “when you turn 18”) for adults with disabilities who have not received such Workability support during high school.
- “Ambassadors” program comprised of regional Adults with Disabilities (from different subgroups) who serve as peer mentors/advocates for other similarly-disabled adults working to achieve educational and career goals.
- Tracking document/file, accessible by all providers, that includes records of services/agencies used and accessed by AWD clientele – somewhat like universal medical record (challenge: issues of confidentiality).

### Questions:

- How can the larger regional AWD community take part in Transition Faires already happening in our K12 school system? (suggestion: inform Libraries and other non-Gov’t CBOs that service adults with disabilities so they can help get word out)
- Which single, existing AWD-serving agency currently works with the widest range of differing groups of Adults with Disabilities in our region? (DoR? Workability?) Would this agency be the logical starting-point for housing a OneStop Services Center for adults with disabilities?
- How can we improve regional referral services to prevent adults with disabilities from being “bounced” from agency-to-agency because they don’t meet eligibility criteria?
- How do we balance providing one-to-one support/guidance to clients without “making the choice” for them? Need to allow for self-advocacy...
- When will Placer 211 “go live”?
- What about adults with disabilities who do not want to disclose? (Suggestion: creating culture of acceptance/belonging in our agencies – see efforts with LGBTQ communities; outreach with public service announcements/radio/media blitz)
- How can CAPED (California Association for Postsecondary Education and Disability) – caped.net – support AWD Workgroup efforts? (Listserve?)
- What can we learn from [http://www.scdd.ca.gov/employment\\_data\\_dashboard.htm](http://www.scdd.ca.gov/employment_data_dashboard.htm) about employment of people with developmental disabilities?

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