

Part 1 – Agency Profile

Agency Overview

The Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (IDVR) is one of six agencies under the oversight of the Office of the State Board of Education. Dr. Michael Graham is the Administrator of the Division. IDVR is charged with several major responsibilities: Management of the State/Federal Vocational Rehabilitation Program, State Renal Disease Program, and Extended Employment Services while also and serving as a flow through agency for funding related to the State Epilepsy Program.

The Public Vocational Rehabilitation program is one of the oldest and most successful federal/state programs in American history. Vocational Rehabilitation serves individuals with severe disabilities, which create significant barriers to gaining employment. The average time needed for a person to complete a rehabilitation plan and become employed is thirty-two (32) months, which last year resulted in a 356% increase in client weekly earnings and significant decreases in the need for public support.

The structure of IDVR includes a Field Services Bureau as well as managers who deal with Human Resources, Program Development, Planning and Evaluation, Fiscal Operations, and Information Technology. There are also eight Regional Managers who supervise Field staff in the following regions: Coeur d'Alene, Lewiston, Boise East, Twin Falls, Pocatello, Idaho Falls, Caldwell, and Boise West.

IDVR has 158 employees/150 FTPs serving in thirty-eight (38) offices throughout the state. Offices are located in Boise, Mountain Home, Coeur d'Alene, Sandpoint, Lewiston, Orofino, Moscow, Twin Falls, Burley, Pocatello, Blackfoot, Preston, Idaho Falls, Salmon, Rexburg, Caldwell, Nampa, Payette, & Eagle. There is one (1) Central Office, eight (8) Regional Offices; eleven (11) Sub-Offices; six (6) Mental Health Offices; eleven (11) School – Work Offices; and one (1) Corrections Office.

Core Functions/Idaho Code

Legal Authority for the Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation is Idaho Code, 33-2301 and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, 29 U.S.C. § 701, *et seq.*, and is augmented by regulations promulgated and set forth at 34 CFR § 361.1, *et seq.*

Services that may be available include evaluation of rehabilitation potential, vocational guidance and counseling, physical and mental restoration, vocational, academic and other training, job placement and other services, which can reasonably be expected to benefit the individual in terms of employment.

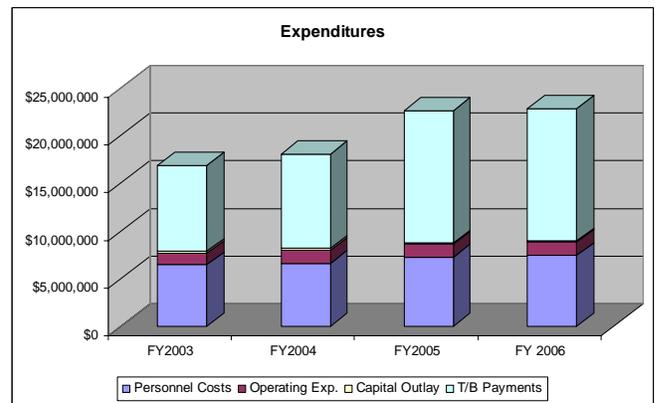
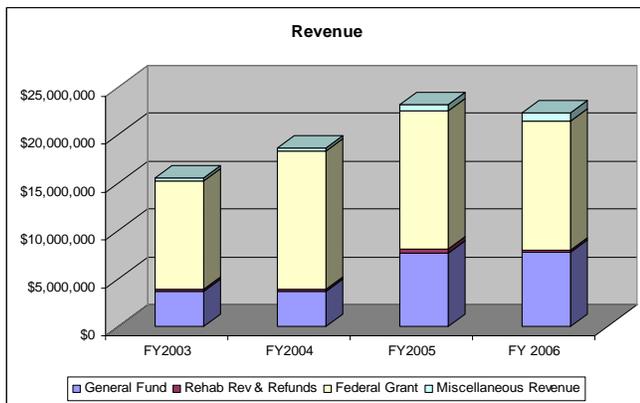
The Division also manages state- appropriated funds to assist individuals with chronic renal failure to help cover the catastrophic costs of this serious, life-threatening disease. The Division coordinates the medical management of this program, and coordinates its payments with the client's ability to pay, private insurance payments, and Medicare and Medicaid payments. (Idaho Code, Chapter 23, Vocational Rehabilitation 33-2307 – 33-2308)

The Extended Employment Services program offers funding for individuals with severe disabilities to receive employment services through Community Rehabilitation programs to develop work skills necessary to be employed. The program includes Community Supported Employment that provides long-term funding for those who require these services to remain employed in community-based employment as well as Work Services.

The Epilepsy Foundation of Idaho is a statewide not-for-profit organization, directed by volunteers and dedicated to helping all individuals in Idaho affected by epilepsy/seizure disorders overcome the associated problems through direct services, increased public and professional understanding, prevention of epilepsy, and the control of epilepsy and its consequences. The Joint Financial Appropriations Committee has designated IDVR as the flow through agency for funding this entity.

Revenue and Expenditures

Revenue	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
General Fund	\$3,635,400	\$3,673,000	\$7,676,800	\$7,737,900
Rehab Rev & Refunds	\$266,800	\$217,600	\$401,000	\$238,300
Federal Grant	\$11,277,700	\$14,381,900	\$14,471,200	\$13,467,000
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$293,500	\$326,900	\$564,000	\$870,200
Total	\$15,473,400	\$18,599,400	\$23,113,000	\$22,313,400
Expenditure	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Personnel Costs	\$6,434,200	\$6,581,900	\$7,249,700	\$7,383,500
Operating Expenditures	\$1,214,200	\$1,380,400	\$1,379,600	\$1,418,500
Capital Outlay	\$170,600	\$228,900	\$67,800	\$95,400
Trustee/Benefit Payments	\$9,087,500	\$9,910,200	\$13,931,800	\$13,921,600
Total	\$16,906,500	\$18,101,400	\$22,628,900	\$22,819,000



Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
The number of individuals served by Vocational Rehabilitation	12,090	12,959	13,438	13,191
The number of individuals who went to work after receiving VR services	1,711	1,799	1,777	1,907
The percent of all individuals who went to work after receiving VR services	60.5	60.5	58.58	54.49
The average hourly earnings of all individuals who completed the VR program and went to work	\$7.45	\$7.73	\$8.77	\$8.69
The percentage of individuals who have maintained their employment twelve months after exiting the VR program	.75	.78	.80	.79

**IDVR is primarily a federally funded program that assesses performance on a Federal Fiscal Year basis for consistency. For this reason, chart data represents figures that are six months behind the State Fiscal data reported.*

Performance Highlights

Services to Corrections Clients

The Corrections population continues to be a major source of challenge in regard to rehabilitation needs and successful outcomes. In 2004, IDVR had 341 successful corrections case closures, while in 2005; 316 successful case closures were noted. Since Idaho continues to rank near the top of national statistics in regard to people incarcerated per population, further effort is necessary to effectively address this issue. IDVR has established a specific region in the Treasure Valley designed to target this population. The intended goal is to serve this population more effectively and to create closer ties with the Idaho Department of Correction in an effort to utilize the resources of both programs efficiently. IDVR created a region that deals only with the Corrections caseloads. By combining these caseloads and having a Regional Manager who has a long history of successfully serving this population, an improvement in services is expected. The Division continues to provide ongoing education to the Idaho Department of Correction (IDOC) about the mission and purpose of Vocational Rehabilitation services to ensure more appropriate referrals of IDOC clients. IDVR has also organized a joint training sponsored by US Region 10 RCEP/Western Washington University that will utilize VR staff to provide training on Corrections and Rehabilitation to other Rehabilitation Specialists in the Northwest.

Migrant Service Coordinator Project

Steady progress has been experienced in this the third year of the Migrant Seasonal Farm Worker Grant (MSFW). Great strides have been made in developing a self-supporting service network targeting the specific employment needs of MSFWs with disabilities and their families, increased career track employment opportunities, improved economic status and greater integration into the prevailing culture. The bi-lingual, bi-cultural Migrant Service Coordinator (MSC) has done well in meeting the objectives established for the marketing phase of the project in moving services to the Bannock/Oneida/Power County areas of the state, while also continuing to maintain service provision in the Twin Falls/Burley area. Closer working relationships and linkages are being established with Adult Basic Education, One-Stop Career Centers, Idaho Department of Labor, and the Idaho Migrant Council as well as other relevant partners. Numerous contacts have been made with area employers, which have played a primary role in the placement of at least three (3) MSFWs with disabilities this year. The highly individualized service coordination that the MSC provides has been instrumental in family members of MSFWs with disabilities having access to services they need to further support the rehabilitation process. The project is doing well in terms of the number of MSFWs with disabilities served (191), the number of family members of MSFWs with disabilities receiving services (58), and the number of MSFWs with disabilities who returned to work (22). We anticipate that the project will experience additional growth with the movement to the Canyon and Elmore county areas in the fourth year of the grant.

PASS Plan and Benefit Specialist Project

The Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, in partnership with Idaho Medicaid, was able to develop a pilot project to assess the effectiveness of dedicated PASS Plan writers for IDVR clients. The purpose of implementing the PASS Plan (Plan for Achieving Self Support) and Benefit Specialists Project was to provide resources to VR staff/clients for utilizing SSA Work Incentives, i.e., PASS Plans to assist in funding expenses related to their rehabilitation needs and to assess the usage of this service. Using PASS Plans for costs associated with the client's rehabilitation plan has enormous financial advantages to IDVR by conserving resources. This would allow IDVR to continue to serve the increasing numbers of clients who are eligible for services despite limited financial resources. There were a total of eighty-eight (88) referrals made to the project, nineteen (19) PASS Plans written of which nine (9) PASS Plans were approved. A total of \$108,285.00 was realized during the time frame of the project based on documentation verifying PASS Plan approval, with \$244,570.97 as possibly being covered through PASS Plans already written during the project. It is obvious that PASS Plans can offer an additional avenue as a comparable benefit to IDVR.

Statewide Employer Symposiums

During 2005, the Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation was able to partner with Idaho Division of Medicaid to hold seven (7) statewide employer symposiums. IDVR contracted with RBCI, Inc., to assist with this effort. In reviewing the overall impact of the employer symposiums, it was found that there were more than 159 symposium attendees (those who actually signed in), 2200 letters mailed to employers with basic information about how VR might assist them, and more than 192 direct phone calls made to employers. Announcements about the symposiums also appeared in the Coeur d'Alene Press, Lewiston Tribune, Idaho Statesman, Idaho State Journal,

and Post Register, whose reader base numbers in the hundreds of thousands. These various contacts reached many employers who previously had no idea what VR did or how VR might assist them in their businesses.

Part II – Performance Measures

Performance Measure	2003	2004	2005	2006	Benchmark
The number of individuals exiting the VR program who achieved an employment outcome during the current year shall be equal to or exceed the previous year performance.	1711	1799	1777	1907	Increase the number of eligible individuals that are served.
Of all individuals who exit the VR program after receiving services, the percentage who are determined to have achieved an employment outcome shall be at least 55.8%.	60.5	60.5	58.58	54.49	Increase the number of individuals who successfully become employed after receiving Vocational Rehabilitation Services.
The average hourly earnings of individuals exiting the VR program who achieved an employment outcome during the current year shall be equal to or exceed the previous year’s performance.	\$7.45	\$7.73	\$8.77	\$8.69	Increase the earnings of individuals who after receiving VR services, become successfully employed.
The percentage of individuals who have maintained their employment and earnings twelve months after exiting the VR program will be equal to or greater than the previous year’s performance.	75%	78%	80%	79%	Increase client employment retention twelve months after successful case closure.
The service rate of all individuals with disabilities from minority backgrounds as compared to all non-minority individuals with disabilities shall be at least .80 (ratio).	.94	.94	.938	.984	Increase the number of individuals from minority backgrounds that are served.
The number of individuals involved with the correctional system exiting the VR program who achieved an employment outcome during the current year shall be equal to or exceed the previous year performance.	246	288	341	316	Increase the number of individuals involved with the Correctional system who successfully become employed after receiving VR Services.

Performance Measure Explanatory Note: The performance measures established are those utilized by the Rehabilitation Services Administration which provides Federal oversight of the effectiveness and quality of all Vocational Rehabilitation Agencies across the United States.

For More Information Contact

Dr. Michael Graham
Vocational Rehabilitation
650 W State Rm 150, PO Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0096
Phone: (208) 287-6477
E-mail: mgraham@vr.idaho.gov

Director Attestation for Agency Profile

In accordance with *Idaho Code 67-1904*, I certify the data provided in the Agency Profile has been internally assessed for accuracy, and, to the best of my knowledge, is deemed to be accurate.

Department: Idaho Div. of Vocational Rehabilitation

Michael Graham
Director's Signature

July 11, 2006
Date

Please return to:

Division of Financial Management
Attn: Anita Hamann
700 West Jefferson, Rm 122
Boise, Idaho 83720-0032

FAX: 334-2438
E-mail: info@dfm.idaho.gov