

Maryland State Department of Education
Division of Rehabilitation Services
Maryland State Rehabilitation Council
2014 Annual Report

WELCOME LETTER

As we welcome a new year, we have the opportunity to reflect on the numerous successes of the remarkable programs and services provided through the Maryland State Department of Education's Division of Rehabilitation Services (DORS). DORS has made it possible for thousands with disabilities to find true independence, become employed, and have remarkable futures – often far beyond where they may have imagined without receiving such support.

This year alone, DORS helped 2,545 people move from public benefits into employment. These new employees added over \$35 million to Maryland's economy. Proudly, the programs offered through DORS work.

The Division of Rehabilitation Services, in collaboration with its consumers, its staff, its community and business partners, and Maryland schools, remains true to its mission – to ensure success for each of its programs. We are certain 2015 will prove to be another year of innovation and success for the many DORS programs.

Suzanne R. Page, Assistant State Superintendent, Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Rehabilitation Services

Lillian M Lowery, Ed.D., Maryland State Superintendent of Schools

Jeffrey Moran, Chair, Maryland State Rehabilitation Council

DORS SUCCESS STORY • JEROME SMITH

DORS partnered with numerous Maryland businesses during 2014, helping them find qualified job-ready candidates and helping DORS consumers find employment.

One of the most interesting partnerships was with the new Horseshoe Casino that opened in the Baltimore Inner Harbor in March.

DORS business specialists worked with Horseshoe and with the Mayor's Office on Employment Development to offer two Horseshoe Legendary Academy Trainings. Sixty DORS consumers completed the Academy, which gave them special consideration in the application/hiring process.

Several consumers were hired by Horseshoe, including Jerome Smith. Jerome works full-time as a cashier in the employee cafeteria. He was persistent in his quest to become a Horseshoe employee. "It was hard to get a job here. Being that I was blind, they didn't know what a blind person could do. After the first day of interviews, they sent me home, but I came back and they asked why, so I told them 'I CAN do a job here!' and they hired me!" Horseshoe's Vice President of Food and Beverage, Robert Viox says Jerome is an asset to Horseshoe. "These are his consumers [the Horseshoe staff] and he provides excellent service."

DORS Rehabilitation Technology Services staff worked with Horseshoe to create a Plexiglas template with cutouts for the most used commands on the cash register touchscreen and Horseshoe altered the checkout program so that all the information Jerome needs fits on one screen. Jerome: "There are more than a thousand employees here and every single person knows me. I thought it would be scary working here, but I love it!"

OUR NUMBERS • FY 2014

SOURCE OF FUNDS:

STATE FUNDS:

State Matching Funds:	\$13,313,880
State Non-matching Funds:	<u>728,254</u>
TOTAL STATE FUNDS:	14,042,134

FEDERAL MATCHING FUNDS:

Basic Program:	39,679,366
Independent Living (Older Blind):	957,225
State Independent Living Services:	440,692
Training:	<u>130,902</u>
SUB TOTAL FEDERAL MATCHING FUNDS:	41,208,185

FEDERAL NON-MATCHING FUNDS:

Social Security Reimbursement:	2,106,444
Supported Employment State Grants:	480,000
Client Assistance Program:	<u>195,332</u>
SUB TOTAL FEDERAL NON-MATCHING FUNDS:	35,127,695

TOTAL FEDERAL FUNDS: 90,378,014

SPECIAL FUNDS:

Business Enterprise Program for the Blind:	2,208,871
Sequestration Restoration:	800,000
Third Party:	<u>104,531</u>
TOTAL SPECIAL FUNDS:	2,313,402

TOTAL COMBINED FUNDS AVAILABLE: \$92,691,416

EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS:

Disability Determination Services:	\$31,545,920
VR Client Services Program:	20,362,880
Case Services:	20,185,247
Workforce & Technology Center:	11,339,476
Administration:	6,249,022
Business Enterprise Program for the Blind:	2,208,871
Sequestration Restoration:	<u>800,000</u>
TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED:	\$92,691,416

MARYLAND DDS FY-14:

Total Claims Received:	78,805
Total Claims Processed:	75,434
Total Processing Time:	89.4 days
Net Accuracy:	97.8%

PERSONS REHABILITATED BY PRIMARY DISABILITY:

Psychiatric Disability:	1,007
Cognitive Disability:	874
Orthopedic:	95
Deaf & Hard of Hearing:	179
Other Physical Disabilities:	175
Blind & Visual Impairments:	178
Communication Disabilities:	31
Respiratory Impairments:	<u>6</u>
Total:	2,545

PERSONS REHABILITATED BY OCCUPATION AT CASE**CLOSURE:**

Service:	1,559
Clerical, Sales:	389
Professional, Technical, Managerial:	259
Production, Construction, Operating, Materials Handling:	185
Homemaker:	117

Farming, Fishery, & Forestry:	30
Vending Operator/Worker:	<u>6</u>
Total:	2,545

NOTE: "Persons Rehabilitated" refers to those individuals who have achieved gainful employment for at least 90 days as a result of DORS services.

STUDENTS SERVED BY PRIMARY DISABILITY

	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
Psychiatric	2,100	2,113	2,163
Cognitive	4,996	5,239	5,429
Orthopedic	246	233	236
Deaf or Hard of Hearing	533	546	554
Other Physical Disabilities	423	459	461
Blind & Other Visual	236	252	246
Communication	173	181	190
Respiratory	8	10	24
Total	8,714	9,033	9,303

Martin O'Malley, Governor

Charlene M. Dukes, Ed.D., President, Maryland State Board of Education

Lillian M Lowery, Ed.D., State Superintendent of Schools

Suzanne Page, Assistant State Superintendent in Rehabilitation Services

Maryland State Department of Education

Division of Rehabilitation Services

DORS Administrative Office & Headquarters, Office of Field Services, Office for Blindness & Vision Services and the Workforce & Technology Center are located at:

2301 Argonne Drive

Baltimore, Maryland 21218-1696

Phone: 410-554-9442

Toll-free: 1-888-554-0334

Video Phone: 1-866-371-3614 or 443-453-5981

dors@maryland.gov.

Annual Report: www.dors.maryland.gov/annualreport.

DORS field and OBVS counselors are located in over 20 field offices throughout Maryland. To find the nearest one, contact DORS headquarters or visit www.dors.maryland.gov.

Disability Determination Services

P.O. Box 6338

Timonium, Maryland 21093-6338

Phone: 410-308-4500

TTY: 410-308-4550

Toll-free: 1-800-492-4283

md.dd.timonium.dds@ssa.gov.

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