

Weekly Focus



Rehabilitation Services Commission

Kevin L. Miller
Executive Director

February 3, 2012

The mission of the Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission is to ensure individuals with disabilities achieve quality employment, independence and disability determination outcomes through integrated services, partnerships and innovation.

Area Managers Begin Training

RSC Area Managers from the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation (BVR), the Bureau of Services for the Visually Impaired (BSVI) and the Division of Disability Determination (DDD) gathered in Columbus for the same supervisory training our headquarters management team has taken. The day was a good primer on how to successfully coach and how to skillfully delegate. We discussed how these classroom lessons can be transferred from training to the office. Our Human Resources Training Department has been very busy recently with programs we believe will enhance RSC productivity and increase satisfaction for our workers.

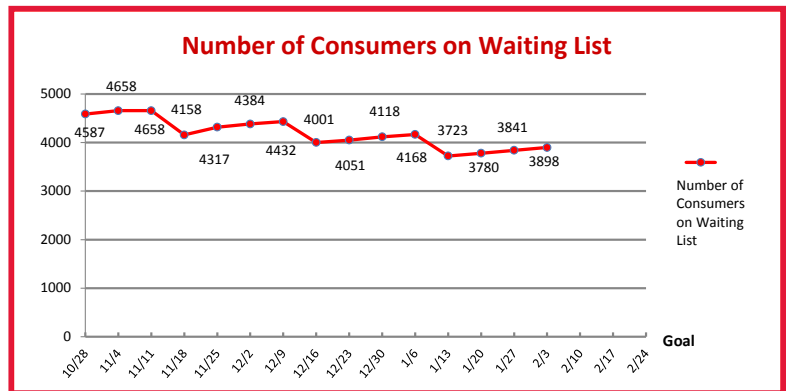


Area Managers meet with Director Miller

Peer to Boss Training

RSC supervisors from all divisions were at headquarters all week for training on making the transition from peer to boss. Supervisors are the first line of our management team and they most often come from the ranks of our staff, so they literally change overnight from peer to manager.

It's a unique situation to go from worker to supervisor in the same department but this training program helps our managers make the transition. Moreover, by assisting them in this transition, we have front line supervisors with personal hands-on experience with our programs, our people, our problems and our opportunities. We



think this results in the best possible service for our consumers and the most insightful management for the RSC workforce.



Mary Koeninger (left, standing) and Kathy Boss (right, standing) facilitating Peer to Boss training

Opiate Action Team Orientation

The fight against Opiate addiction is getting reinforcements from an Opiate Action Team that met for the first time to implement some of the programs initiated by the Opiate Cabinet. RSC is a big part of this battle against an epidemic on Ohioans. RSC and the



Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services (ODADAS) have been working together on the Recovery-2-Work program, our historic \$36 million dollar commitment to address the Opiate addiction problem in Ohio.

Our small leadership team met for another session at our third partner's office, the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities (OACBHA). All three of our agencies are devoted to doing whatever it takes to make the Recovery-2-Work program successful, as so much of the Opiate addiction response that continues to grow needs the momentum generated by this joint effort. My gratitude is beyond words to the many staff members working to assist counties in being successful.

BCI Leadership Panel

It was a great honor to be included in a panel on leadership for the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI). This unit of the Attorney General's office is where the real people who do the work we see dramatized on TV shows like Las Vegas, Miami and New York CSI (Crime Scene Investigation) act as a resource for law enforcement across Ohio. My thanks to Superintendent Tom Stickrath for the opportunity to participate.



Director Miller and Deputy Chief Kimberly Jacobs, Columbus Division of Police, Administrative Subdivision, at the BCI Leadership Panel

Toledo Hosts First Winter Hockey Festival

Ten special hockey teams from around the Great Lakes region will gather in Toledo's Ottawa Park next weekend for the inaugural UCT Winter Hockey Festival. Special hockey is a non-contact sport for males and females with intellectual or physical disabilities. The teams are broken down by skill level rather than according to age or experience.

The event is sponsored by United Commercial Travelers (UCT), and Bowling Green State University's Leading for Success class is driving the marketing and promotion for the event. Toledo Mayor Mike Bell will drop the opening puck on this big weekend that will see each team play at least three games.

Columbus will be represented by the Blue Jackets American Special Hockey Association team, which is part of the Columbus Chill Youth Hockey Association. The team has played in an NHL arena this year and now they're in the first ever UCT Winter Hockey Festival, so it's been a great season!



A Business Success Story

RSC works in partnership with the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) when a consumer wants to own their own business. Brian Hill is a great example. Mr. Hill has a disability but he also has training, certification and a license as a barber. Our BVR counselor Zandia Galvin teamed with the Micro-Enterprise program in ODOD's Small Business Development Center, and now Brian Hill has his own barbershop on Hudson Street in Columbus.

Brian's grand opening was a festive event as friends and future customers came out for a ribbon cutting and remarks by Columbus Mayor Michael Coleman, State Representative Carlton Weddington, ODOD Director Christiane Schmenk and myself. We all wished him good luck and much prosperity. But, it was Brian's speech that moved us all. The gratitude shown by RSC consumer Brian Hill to his counselor Zandia Galvin is a moment that brought me great pride. Brian Hill realized a dream to own a business and told everyone he couldn't have done it without Zandia at RSC, prompting a well-deserved burst of applause. Keep up the great work, Zandia!



Howard Warner, Ohio Barber's Board; Connie Spurill, ODOD; Columbus Mayor Michael Coleman; Zandia Galvin, RSC Counselor; State Representative Carlton Weddington, Columbus; Brian Hill, new business owner; Director Miller at the grand opening

For more information or questions on stories in this publication please call Shirley Marchi, Community Relations Liaison, at 614.438.1477.

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