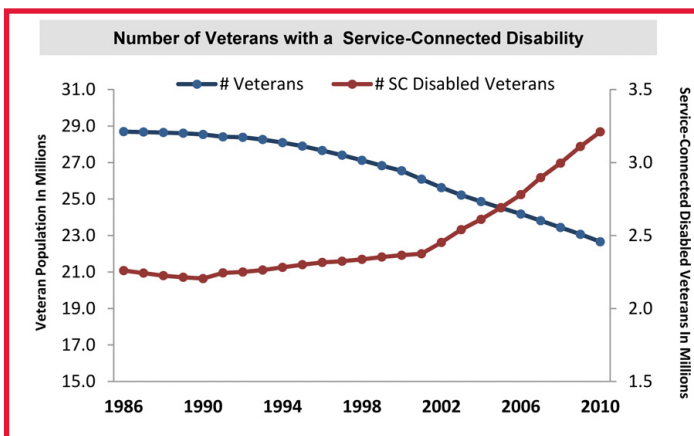


The mission of the Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission is to ensure individuals with disabilities achieve quality employment, independence and disability determination outcomes through integrated services, partnerships and innovation.

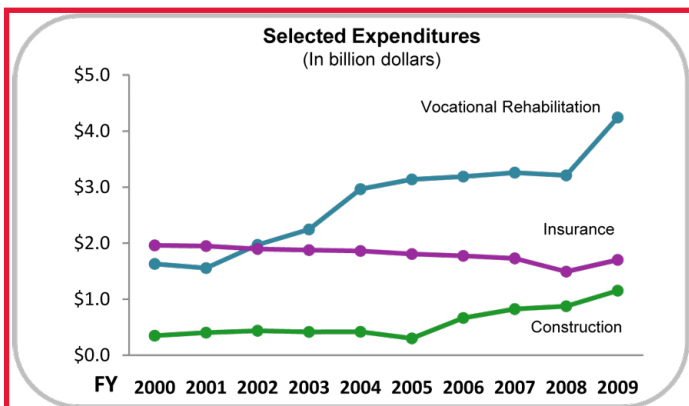
Memorial Day Shapes RSC



Memorial Day is a sacred national holiday. It has become a three day weekend that marks the start of summer; but as we celebrate with friends and family, it is impossible not to feel humble gratitude toward the veterans who have protected these blissful freedoms over many generations.



At RSC, we see the sacrifice that this service sometimes demands. There are now 3.42 million Veterans with a service-connected disability. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) spends more than \$4 billion a year on Vocational Rehabilitation and that does not count the services provided across the country by agencies like Ohio RSC.



(Graphics from U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs)

Direct cash benefits to disabled veterans exceed \$35 billion a year.

With Baby Boomers who are aging and often becoming disabled, being joined by wounded warriors from 10 years of combat, there have never been so many disabled Americans. The fact that so many of the service-connected disabilities are also evidence of heroic selflessness for all Americans, is putting a spotlight on our societal need to create opportunities for all of our citizens.

This is why I am happy to congratulate RSC's Scott Hinton, honored with the Jake Brewer Leadership Award at the 2012 Central Ohio Armed Forces Day Observance.



Scott Hinton receiving the Jake Brewer Leadership Award.

Moreover, I am proud to be part of a group of professionals like our team at RSC, who embody the spirit of service and who are devoted to a mission that is of such obvious and growing importance, when we pause and reflect as part of the Memorial Day festivities.

Jobs Summit Update

Planning is picking up speed for the first ever Ohio RSC DisAbility Jobs Summit being held on September 17-18 at the Columbus Convention Center. Our theme of connecting and building partnerships is behind all of the progress we are making. The Ohio Business Leadership Network (OBLN) Board of Directors meeting this week was nearly totally devoted to this event. OBLN member company Cardinal Health will lead programs on interviewing skills and what employers look for. Hands-on help will continue with Time Warner leading sessions on how to make a professional impression to get and keep a job.

OBLN members will be expert advisors for a session on resume writing featuring 50 computers, thumb drives to store the resume and printers to put the finished product on paper. Our goal is to give RSC consumers and providers valuable advice and tools to use for the most productive possible job search for individuals with a disability.

OBLN will highlight the proposed new Section 503 rules for federal contractors and create the ideal opportunity for these contractors to find job candidates who are disabled. We expect a big crowd of employers because these contractors need to show a strategy for hiring individuals with disabilities to comprise 7% of their workforce on federal projects.

We will have a panel of successful employers who belong to the OBLN tell us how they have made their



companies disability friendly and what achieving that distinction has meant to their organizations. We will have OBLN members, who are pioneers in the use of lean process productivity strategies as part of their employment program for individuals with disabilities, discuss the system-wide improvements made as a result.

We have a big team of RSC employees working hard to make our Jobs Summit a high impact event for all who attend. I look forward to seeing you there.

RSC Races for the Cure

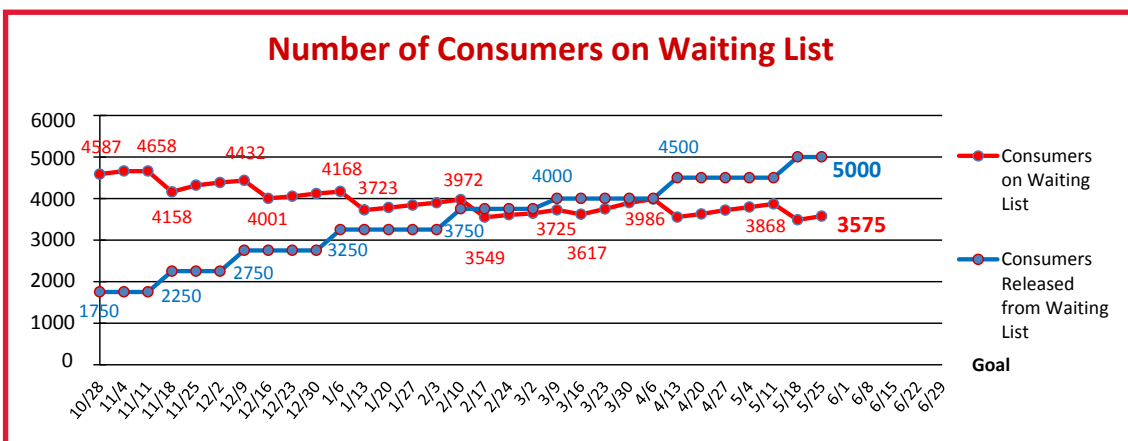
For the second year in a row, RSC was represented by a team of DDD employees in the Race for the Cure. This group was able to raise more than \$1,500 for the purpose of breast cancer research. Many RSC employees bought Mother's Day plants in pretty pink painted pots. We had a bake sale and we designed and sold t-shirts commemorating the race. Beth Ruth collected stories of employees affected by breast cancer and made a display for the DDD lobby, and the Ohio Association of Disability Examiners kicked in a generous \$100 donation to our cause. There were three dress-down days for the Race for the Cure which raised over \$500. Our RSC DDD team was part of 44,000 participants on Saturday but was raising awareness about breast cancer for weeks before the event.



Kim Shaw and her family preparing for the Race. Kennedy Shaw carb loading!



Jen Maxson and her dad, John Maxson

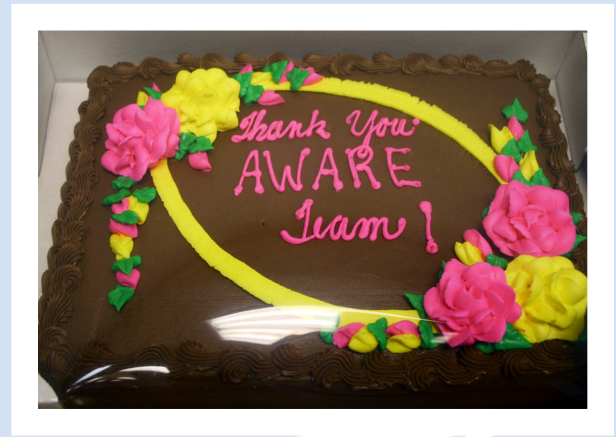


RSC is AWARE of Employee Excellence

The large team of RSC employees behind the mammoth Accessible Web-based Activity and Reporting Environment (AWARE) gathered this week at headquarters to celebrate their achievement and the Governor's Award for Employee Excellence that project manager Teji Adeyemon received two weeks ago.

Team members agree the three year, \$2.5 million technology upgrade is memorable as a major milestone of their RSC career. The shared experience of working successfully across geography and department is a bond that strengthens RSC's ability to perform. Moreover, counselors who are successfully using the AWARE technology from remote locations across the state to better serve consumers should be proud of this career milestone. AWARE remote access capability allows RSC to embed counselors in the community. The \$1.2 million we have saved on rent has been shifted to serving consumers who would have been on the waiting list without this operational efficiency.

We move fast at RSC and often times we don't take the time to savor our successes. It was great to share time with the AWARE team to celebrate and to see a room full of RSC employees all eager to be part of another big project that will test them but propel us to provide better service to Ohioans with disabilities.



Coordination and Infrastructure Team



Director Miller addressing the AWARE teams.



Testing Team



Informal Team



Database Team



Michael Roelfsema represented the Pilot Team.



Business Process Alignment Team



Teji Adeyemon, AWARE Project Manager



Reporting Team



The Leaders



Education Team



Huameng Li was the only member present from the Application Development and Interface Teams.

For more information or questions on stories in this publication please call Shirley Marchi, Community Relations Liaison, at 614.438.1477. Produced by the Office of Communications, May 25, 2012.