

WEEKLY FOCUS

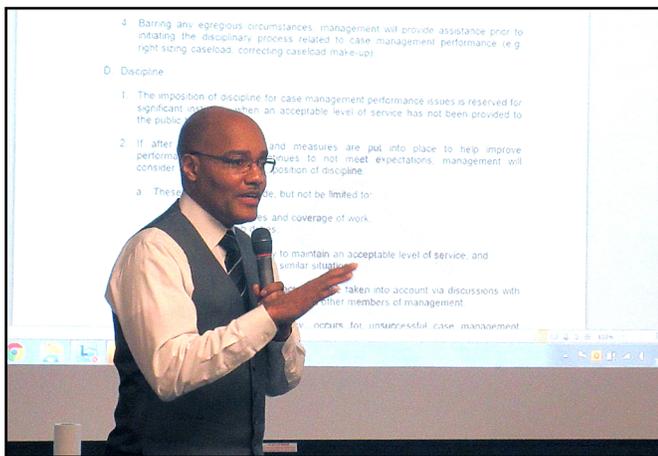
Ohio | Opportunities for Ohioans
with Disabilities

Kevin L. Miller, Executive Director

March 27, 2015

The mission of the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency is to ensure individuals with disabilities achieve quality employment, independence and disability determination outcomes.

OOD Supervisors: Committed to Excellence



Labor Relations Manager Cornell Hale spoke at the Vocational Rehabilitation Statewide Leadership Meeting.

Anyone who has worked in state government for very long, can tell you horror stories about meetings. We have all experienced them - seemingly never-ending meetings, that don't manage to accomplish anything, meetings about meetings, etc.

Yesterday, I spent a chunk of my day in a meeting with OOD Supervisors and Area Managers discussing processes and procedures related to their managerial roles. You may be wondering if I allocated my time efficiently by doing this, and I think so. As Woody Hayes would say, "Win with People" and by attending these meetings I can leverage the ground level and gain better understanding for what managers and supervisors do on a daily basis. OOD can't provide opportunities for individuals with disabilities to achieve quality employment and independence without our highly qualified and dedicated staff. Yesterday was about helping our managers and supervisors do the best job they can and supporting them in the important work they do.

I wanted them to know that I appreciate their continuous

efforts to achieve successful outcomes and that the agency stands behind them when they have to make the tough choices they often do, with being a supervisor or manager.

It is in the day-to-day work of our supervisors and counselors that our mission and vision, and our strategic plan, meets reality. It is their work that reflects the values we emphasize: Accountability, Compassion, Integrity, Partnerships, Quality Outcomes, and Respect. In talking with them, it is clear; they embrace this mission and vision and are committed to these shared values.



VR Assistant Deputy Directors Darin McCoy and Greg Dormer led the Vocational Rehabilitation Statewide Leadership Meeting.

So, thanks to all of the staff who took time out from their busy schedules to attend yesterday's meeting. Thanks for all of the great work you do every day, to better serve Ohioans with disabilities.

Excellence in Service Awards

Speaking of excellence, OOD's Excellence in Service Awards Ceremony is scheduled for May 5, which means award nominations are being accepted.

The Excellence in Service Awards recognize and reward OOD individuals and groups who have performed

above and beyond in their efforts to improve customer satisfaction and job performance, as well as encourage creativity, innovation and initiative. The award was designed in coordination with the DDD and BVR/BSVI Director's Advisory Groups. The Selection Committee is comprised of members from BVR/BSVI, DDD, Support Divisions and our Unions.

Employees or groups can be nominated by other employees or themselves. Up to six individuals or groups may be selected to receive an award. Please submit your nominations to Kathy Boss at Kathleen.Boss@ood.ohio.gov no later than April 15, 2015. Contact Kathy if you have any questions and/or are in need of a nomination form.

Consumer Advisory Committee

The Consumer Advisory Committee met last Saturday. Meeting topics included Governor Kasich's Executive Budget, the VR Self-Service Portal, and how to increase access and referrals. If you have a former VR consumer who is interested in becoming a member of the CAC, please contact Shirley Marchi at Shirley.Marchi@ood.ohio.gov or 614-438-1477.

Individuals in Job Ready Status by County



Total Statewide:

3,703

* Job Ready Status Individuals have received Vocational Rehabilitation services and are ready and seeking employment.

For more information or questions on stories in this publication, please call the Office of Communications at 614.438.1474.



Produced by the Office of Communications, March 27, 2015.