Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

Organizational Shift to Improve
Vocational Rehabilitation
Residential Services

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July 8, 2013 - As part of the ongoing implementation to improve vocational rehabilitation services for residential vocational clients, the Cave Spring Vocational Rehabilitation Center (CSVRC) has been organizationally moved from the Vocational Rehabilitation Program to Roosevelt Warm Springs Institute for Rehabilitation (RWSIR). The organization shift will provide opportunities for centralization and standardization of vocational rehabilitation residential services.

Both RWSIR and CSVRC will implement a new model of service delivery that streamlines admissions processes and tracks available services based upon unique individual client needs. This will expedite employment outcomes and serve more clients with disabilities on both campuses.

Both campuses will use a unique model of assessment to identify clients' distinctive contributions to employment, their interests and the conditions needed to be successful in employment. Using an "a la carte" approach to services, the new programming at RWSIR and CSVRC will allow a wider array of services and timelines to assist clients in realizing employment success.

"This collaboration will enable both RWSIR and CSVRC to provide continuity of services and benefit from each program's strengths. I look forward to working with Russell Fleming and his staff at CSVRC in the months ahead to realize growth in both programs," said Bill Bulloch, RWSIR Executive Director. The reorganization will result in programmatic, facility and economic efficiency, as well as improved outcomes.

"This is an exciting time for GVRA," according to CSVRC Director Russell Fleming. "This new partnership and collaboration will allow both programs to offer more choices and possibilities for citizens with disabilities to be trained and prepared for the workforce."

Earlier this month, RWSIR entered into an interagency agreement with Georgia Regents University (GRU) to manage the medical hospitals of RWSIR. The RWSIR-GRU arrangement will enhance patient care at its rehabilitation and acute care hospitals, while the RWSIR-CSVRC reorganization initiates the transformation and increased concentration of the vocational rehabilitation component for the Warm Springs campus. Both reorganizations went into effect on July 1, 2013.

About Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)

GVRA operates five integrated and interdependent statutory programs that share a primary goal - to help people with disabilities to become fully productive members of society by achieving independence and meaningful employment. The largest of the programs are Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Program, Disability Adjudication Services, and the Roosevelt Warm Springs Institute for Rehabilitation. Two other unique programs serve consumers with visual impairments: the Business Enterprise Program and Georgia Industries for the Blind. To learn more about GVRA and its efforts to maximize employment opportunities and independence for Georgians with disabilities, visit www.gvra.georgia.gov.

About Roosevelt Warm Springs Institute for Rehabilitation

Officially incorporated as a polio treatment center in 1927 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, RWSIR has provided comprehensive medical and vocational rehabilitation for more than eight decades. As one of only eight state-managed rehabilitation centers in the country, its clinical operations include the Roosevelt Warm Springs Inpatient Rehabilitation Hospital, which serves individuals who require 24-hour rehabilitation nursing care and intensive rehabilitation; and the Roosevelt Warm Springs Long Term Acute Care Hospital, which specializes in the treatment of medically complex patients who are suffering from a recent catastrophic illness or medical complication related to chronic illness or injury causing a decline in physical function.

About Cave Spring Vocational Rehabilitation Center

CSVRC serves Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) clients ages 18 years and older who are referred by their VR counselors to receive residential services to assist them to go to work. Most are young adults who need additional services to transition from high school to further post secondary training or education and become employed. CSVRC serves individuals with all types of disabilities, with specialty staff trained and skilled in the use of American Sign Language in working with deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind consumers. GVRA and CSVRC provide vocational rehabilitation services without regard to age, gender, race, color, creed or national origin.