

JWOD/NISH and State Use

Virginia Disability Commission

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Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) Program

- **1938 – Wagner-O'Day Act**
Creates employment opportunities for blind only
- **1971 – Javits Amendment**
Includes people with severe disabilities and allows the program to provide services to the Federal Government

Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) Program

- **The JWOD Program is governed by the President's Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled**
- **A strong partnership with the federal government customer and our Community-Based Rehabilitation Program (CRP) partners**

NISH

- **The Central Non-Profit Agency (CNA) whose mission is to create employment opportunities for people with severe disabilities by securing Federal contracts through the JWOD Program for our network of CRPs**
- **NIB - The CNA that oversees the program on behalf of CRPs that serve people who are blind or visually impaired**

NISH in 2005

- **44,021 people with severe disabilities employed on JWOD contracts**
- **Over \$371 million paid in wages to these individuals**
- **\$9.46 average hourly wage**
- **554 participating CRPs**
- **\$1.8 billion in sales**

JWOD + NISH = Jobs!

- **JWOD Program offers a variety of employment choices – Document Destruction, Fleet Maintenance, Grounds Maintenance, Custodial, Food Service, Teleservices, Chemical Protective Suits, Mailroom Services, Postal Totes, Administrative Services**
- **Allows people with severe disabilities to acquire job skills and training, receive wages and benefits, and gain greater independence and quality of life.**

JWOD + NISH = Jobs in Virginia

- **2,544 individuals with severe disabilities employed on JWOD contracts**
- **\$98.5 million Virginia sales**
- **\$25.9 million wages paid**
- **26 participating CRPs**

Unemployment in Virginia Among Individuals with Disabilities

- **295,802** self-reported in 2000 Census as being disabled between the ages of 21 and 64 and unemployed

NISH Institute

- **NISH is in process of creating the Institute on Economic Empowerment for Individuals with Significant Disability-Related Barriers to Employment**
- **5 year plan for implementation**
- **Conduct action-oriented research and develop long-term strategies to foster independence and economic self-sufficiency**

Economic Benefits of JWOD Employment

- 2003 studies in custodial, food service, and commissary
- Savings to state and federal governments totaling **between \$3000 and \$6000** per worker per year

State Use

- **All State Use legislation based upon JWOD model**
- **45 states have State Use legislation – including Virginia**
- **State Use designed to provide a market for the products and services produced by individuals who are blind or severely disabled to state government, agencies, departments, municipalities, and universities**

State Use

- **19 states have organized State Use Programs with a CNA**
- **Many other states – without a CNA – operate the program more informally with CRPs negotiating directly with the state – numbers are not tracked**
- **75% of business is in services**
- **First program – New York – dates to 1940's**
- **Newest Program – Utah – March 2006**

State Use – The Numbers (2005)

- **32,218 individuals with disabilities employed**
- **16 million hours worked**
- **\$103 million in wages earned**
- **879 CRPs participating**

State Use

- **Top 5 Services:**
 - Janitorial
 - Temporary Services
 - Litter Pick-up
 - Photo ID
 - Landscaping

State Use

- **Top 5 Products:**
 - Copier Paper
 - Plastic Trash Bags
 - Adult Incontinent Briefs and Pads
 - Toilet Tissue
 - Recycled Toner Cartridges

The Value of State Use to the State

- Eliminates the bid process, thus reducing procurement costs
- Continuity of vendors, thus establishing long-term business relationships
- Commitment to quality, fair pricing, and on-time delivery by the producing CRP
- Saves the state money!!!! Studies show that for each dollar a state spends on a State Use product or service, it saves between \$1.15 and \$1.40 on public assistance expenditures

The Value of State Use to CRPs

- Provides constant, steady work
- Allows CRP to invest in equipment for long-term contracts
- Enhances training offerings
- Allows CRP to grow, thus extending its client base
- Fulfills the mission of the CRP to a greater extent

The Value of State Use to People with Disabilities

- A paycheck!
- Enhanced sense of self-esteem and self-sufficiency
- Provides an opportunity to learn and/or expand marketable job skills and increases likelihood of a community-based job placement with competitive employment
- They become tax-payers, not tax dollar users
- Note: Over 70% of people with disabilities who want a job are currently unemployed!!!

Economic Benefits

- 2004 study of 10 State Use Programs
- **\$2,200** annual savings per person

Questions?

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