

FY 2010 Annual Program Performance Measures

DEPARTMENT: MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, LABOR & ECONOMIC GROWTH

APPROPRIATION UNIT: Sec 114 Boards, Authorities and Commissions

PROGRAM: Commission on Disability Concerns and Division on Deaf and Hard of Hearing

TIMELINE: October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010

PROGRAM MISSION STATEMENT (Customer-Focus Direction)

The Michigan Commission on Disability Concerns (MCDC) is a unit within Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS) and serves as a state-wide disability advocate for persons with disabilities, including those who are client customers of, or applying for services from MRS. The MCDC provides information and technical assistance for these persons with disabilities and is a resource to employers, state and local governments, family members and the general public. The MCDC is the host unit within MRS for the Division on Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DODHH). This Division is the only state program which has oversight for sign language interpreting, testing, certification and education of the State Interpreter Law. The DODHH is a primary resource to Michigan Rehabilitation Deaf and Hard of Hearing Customers and the counselors who serve them.

VISION STATEMENT

We are a state that honors personal dignity, embraces diversity and provides programs and supports to achieve employment, self-sufficiency and community inclusion with full citizenship for all individuals who experience a disability.

PROGRAM STATEMENT

The MCDC and the DODHH are units that enhance disability advocacy and the identification of disability service resources for MRS, State Government, the business community, and the general public.

FUND SOURCE:

GF/GP
State Restricted Funds
Federal Funds

LEGAL BASIS:

PA 11 1968
PA 434, 1988
PA 204 1982, Amended 2007
Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended

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CUSTOMER IDENTIFICATION:

MCDC-DODHH works with people with disabilities, including those who are client customers of MRS or who are applicants for MRS and the Michigan Commission for the Blind (MCB). Persons with disabilities who contact MCDC-DODHH who are not in the above two categories are provided information about MRS and MCB, their programs and services, the application process and the location of an MRS office in the person's area. This is the only program in state government with responsibility for the implementation of the sign language interpreter law. Another customer base is people seeking sign language interpreter services and sign language interpreters seeking certification or re-certification.

CRITICAL GOALS/MAJOR OBJECTIVES and RESULTS

Program Goals

During FY 2010, MCDC staff worked to finalize draft Rules and Regulations toward implementation of Public Act 204, amended 2007, "The Michigan Sign Language Interpreters Act." Staff reviewed and revised draft Rules and Regulations and began working with DELEG legislative and policy staff directed toward DELEG final approval. Plans are to forward the Rules and Regulations to the State Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules (SOAHR) and public hearings following DELEG approval.

To prepare for and conduct the 11th Annual Michigan Youth Leadership Forum in June 2010 at Michigan State University. In FY 2010, 29 students from all areas of the state participated in the 11th Annual Michigan Youth Leadership Forum at Michigan State University. The Forum was under budget at just under \$30,000.00. Activities toward the 12th Annual Youth Leadership Forum scheduled for June 2011 include distribution of applications, review of applications, selection of student delegates, selection of mentors and forum presenters, and secure additional funding to ensure a successful Forum

In FY 2010, MCDC-DODHH and MRS staff engaged in extensive activities to respond to RSA audit findings. Subsequent to the RSA findings, the decision was made to assimilate the Bureau into MRS. The process will be completed in 2011 and will include further education of staff concerning Title I requirements of the Rehabilitation Act, the linkage of MCDC-DODHH staff to MRS central office and field staff, enhanced activities of a deaf/hard of hearing cadre and more effective documentation of MCDC-DODHH staff activities.

PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS and Efficiency (Current Year)

See above.

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PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT PLANS FOR FY11

Redesign and redefine MCDC-DODHH programs and services.

Establish staffing levels and capacity to fulfill goals of programs and services consistent with program funding.

Achieve a seamless assimilation of MCDC-DODHH into MRS.

CHALLENGES FOR FY11 and BEYOND

With the assimilation of the MCDC-DODHH Bureau into MRS, careful planning will be needed to ensure the continuation of GF/GP funding for this unit, especially with regard to the provision of services under the PA 204, as amended in 2007. Continued training and monitoring will be necessary to ensure full compliance with federal RSA requirements. Challenges are the efficient and effective program assimilation and redefinition that maintains services consistent with all pertinent legal requirements and program missions.