

**Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS)**  
**DSU Update**  
**Michigan Council for Rehabilitation Services (MCRS)**  
**Thursday, February 9, 2023**

1. Budget Update:

<b>Federal Grants:</b>	
Vocational Rehabilitation:	
FFY22	\$ 101,964,517
FFY23 - Estimate	\$ 103,070,039
FFY23 Allotment to Date	\$ 22,892,695
FFY22 Assistive Technology	\$ 754,035
FFY23 Allotment to Date	\$ 158,693
FFY22 Independent Living - Title VIIB	\$ 354,316
FFY23 Allotment to Date	\$ 74,359
Disability Innovation Funds: FFY 2022 - FFY 2026	\$ 15,825,520
<b>Pre-Employment Transition Services:</b>	
FY22 Expenditures	\$ 15,496,207
FFY22 Carryover Funds	\$ 6,907,619
FFY23 Projected Reserve	\$ 15,460,506
	\$ 22,368,125

2. Performance Update:

- FY 23 summary YTD (10/1/22 – 1/31/23)

<b>Objective Tracking</b>			
<b>Events</b>	<b>Obj *</b>	<b>YTD Accom</b>	<b>% of Obj *</b>
Application	14,684	4,768	32%
Eligible/Delayed	12,053	4,208	35%
Service	9,256	3,083	33%
Closed-Rehab	5,290	1,778	34%

3. Bureau Updates:

- Central Office staff updates
- Staffing summary

- As of 2/7/23 there are:
  - 499 active staff
  - 86 positions in process
- LEO-E&T FY23 Operational Plan Objectives – areas of focus
  - Close Equity Gaps
  - Educate Michiganders and Grow the Middle Class by Removing Barriers to Employment
  - Create Better Jobs and Support Small Businesses

#### 4. MCTI Update:

- Projecting 47 Graduates for Spring Term.
- Graduation will be held March 16<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. This is the first in-person graduation ceremony since February of 2020.
- Facility Upgrades continue to move forward, with the intent that the construction firm is under contract by July. Construction would tentatively be slated for Fall of 2023.
- MRS approved additional upgrades/repairs including: pool renovation, upgraded heating/cooling for the classrooms, and 16 booth expansion for Machine Technology.
- Commercial Printing is printing all brochures and flyers for MRS.
- Open Houses are back in operation. We hosted an Open House in January and the Open Houses for March are full. The format allows for 300 visitors on campus during the Open House.
- Creating updated informational videos about MCTI. This will include an overview and then videos of each training program.
- Three former students have been hired by MCTI in the past two years. The most recent hire is for our Cabinetmaking Instructor position.
- MCTI is requesting to appeal a decision by EGLE that denied a seawall permit which would have allowed for a fully accessible waterfront. The permit was denied due to concerns on the natural resources associated with regulated lakes within the project limits and because feasible and prudent alternatives that avoid or lessen the bottomland impacts are available. MCTI maintains that the decision to deny the permit does not appear to have fully taken into consideration the accessibility of the waterfront and the ADA requirements.

#### 5. DIF Update:

The STEMM-Up team is wrapping up phase one of the Disability Innovation Fund (DIF) grant, which focused on research and development. While Michigan State University (MSU) finalizes its report on recommendations for Michigan Rehabilitation Services' (MRS) diversity, equity, accessibility, and inclusion (DEAI) policies and procedures, MRS and MSU are in the process of finalizing internal and public-facing

documents in preparation for implementing STEMM-Up services to eligible customers. Once finalized, content will be posted to the STEMM-Up website and social media profiles, with the aim of recruiting customers, STEMM employers, and community partners. MSU is in the process of hiring six Career Pathway Coordinators, who will work with STEMM-Up participants as they complete individualized training programs. MRS has initiated an employer recruitment workgroup to ensure that MRS and MSU strategies align; upon completion, each party will begin engaging with STEMM businesses to provide opportunities for field trips, mentoring, job shadowing, and internship opportunities. Upon receipt of the final report regarding MRS DEAI policies and procedures, MRS will begin reviewing recommendations to determine next steps toward meaningful and sustainable change.

6. CSNA Update:

The Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment is underway and will be completed this spring. Project Excellence (PE) has completed all interviews and collected surveys from all stakeholders. PE is now analyzing MRS and BSBP data and compiling data from the American Community Survey (ACS), Current Population Survey (CPS), and Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS). The draft report should be completed by April 2023 with the final report available by 5/31/23.

7. Business Services Update:

**Small Business Association of Michigan – Hidden Talent Workshop, March 21<sup>st</sup> E. Lansing/MSU Kellogg Center, 9am-4pm; No cost to attend.**

This year SBAM is pleased to welcome Meijer President & CEO Rick Keyes as our Keynote Speaker. For years, Meijer has been a leader in hiring people with disabilities. Keyes led the effort and continues to advocate for inclusion in the workplace as President & CEO. These efforts have resulted in national recognition as a Best Place to Work for Disability Inclusion.

MRS is a co-sponsor and will be presenting at the event. Link to register:

**[7th Annual MI Hidden Talent Workshop \(sbam.org\)](https://sbam.org)**