

ATTENTION COUNSELORS!

Michigan Rehabilitation Council's

Customers of MRS Leadership Program

MICHIGAN REHABILITATION CONFERENCE OCTOBER 2011

- **Do you have an open case with a customer who is or has the potential to be active in the field of rehabilitation?**
- **Do you have an open case with a customer who would benefit from the leadership development, learning and networking opportunities offered at the Conference?**
- **Do you have an open case with a customer who has a business as a result of assistance from MRS? Would that customer benefit from the opportunity to exhibit at the Conference?**

For the sixth year, the Michigan Rehabilitation Council (MRC) has received funding from MRS to provide scholarships for 10 Customers of MRS. The breakdown includes: 8 customers along with 2 allocated for small business exhibitors. The scholarship provides funding for each Customer to be an active participant at the Conference.

The attendees are divided into small groups, with assigned Mentors. This year, the Mentors will be members of the Michigan Rehabilitation Council. This support mechanism will assist the customers as they become acclimated to the overall conference experience. It also provides attendees with a resource person.

CUSTOMERS WHO ATTENDED IN PREVIOUS YEARS HAVE SAID:

- ☆ **"I left the Conference with a new found definition of disability and work."**
- ☆ **"I really feel like I am headed in a better direction because I had this opportunity."**
- ☆ **"Lots of good networking, information and exposure."**
- ☆ **"I learned about the Council and the opportunity to become a member, to serve the Governor and advocate for MRS Customers."**

The PROCESS for October 2011:

1. Print and complete the Application.
2. The MRC staff will make decisions about which applications (**eight**) will be accepted based on disability, ethnic, racial, and geographic factors.
3. In addition to the application submitted for Conference attendance, each District can complete an application for customers to exhibit at the Conference. **Two** Exhibitors will be selected, based on geographic representation and diversity.
4. Customers who apply for a scholarship **MUST** meet the following criteria:
 - Be a first time Michigan Rehabilitation Conference attendee;
 - Have an open MRS case and a signed IPE;
 - Be an active participant in his/her IPE;
 - Is expected to attend all Leadership Program activities and the entire Conference beginning, Tuesday October 25th at 6:00 p.m. through Friday, October 28th at 12:00 p.m.; and
 - Identify disability related accommodation needs on the scholarship application and contact information for service providers to meet those needs.
5. Counselors submit the completed scholarship application to their Site Manager, who determines which Customer(s) will be referred from the District.
6. Completed and approved Applications must be sent to the MRC Office no later than Friday October 14th, 2011.

NOTE: We prefer that applications are faxed to us at: 517/887-9369

7. The MRC Staff will contact the individual customers and their Counselors by phone no later than **Wednesday October 19th** to notify them of the scholarship award to attend or exhibit at the Conference.
8. MRC will complete the Conference exhibitor/registration form for each individual who receives a scholarship and forward the completed registrations to the organization that facilitates the Conference, MARO Employment and Training.
9. Prior to the Conference, MRC will send correspondence to each individual who receives a scholarship, with a copy to their counselor, which includes all necessary Conference and Scholarship information.
10. The MRC will host an orientation session for attendees and exhibitors on the evening of Tuesday, October 25th. Attendance at this session is required. Individuals will be provided with additional information about the Conference and receive a cash card for meals and mileage expenses at this session.
11. Following the Conference/Leadership Program, the MRC will compile a report, which will be distributed to the MRS Executive Team, District and Site Managers, Counselors who referred customers, customers who participated, and the MRC membership.