

PROGRAM

**Keeping the Boat Afloat:
Rising above the Flood of Adversity**

**The 2009 Annual Training Conference of
The Iowa Rehabilitation Association
and
Regional Conference of the Great Plains Region
National Rehabilitation Association**

**October 14-16, 2009
Clarion Hotel and Conference Center
Cedar Rapids, Iowa**

Agenda

Wednesday, October 14, 2009

- 8:00 Exhibitor set-up (Roma)
9:30 IRA board meeting (Venezia)
10:00 Registration opens (lobby)
11:00 Exhibit area open (Roma)
12:00 – 1:30 Opening Luncheon (Roma)
-- Welcome by Kay Halloran, mayor of Cedar Rapids
-- Keynote speech: "Keeping YOUR Boat Afloat: A Conversation about Resilience" – Earl Hipp
1:30 – 1:45 Exhibit Presentations / Break
1:45 – 3:00 Concurrent Sessions
-- Employer Disability Resource Network – Barb McClannahan, Mike Williams (Colli)
-- Collaboration with Consumer Groups – Frank Potter and representatives of several Iowa consumer groups (Milano)
-- Atalissa: A Missed Opportunity; A View from a Disabled Advocate – Terry Cunningham, Jerry Mayes (Venezia)
3:00 – 3:15 Exhibit Presentations / Break
3:15 – 4:30 Concurrent Sessions
-- Using O*Net and CHOICES in the Rehabilitation Process – Matt Bruinekool (Colli)
-- Iowa Workforce Integration Efforts – Doug Keast (Milano)
-- The ADA Amendments Act – Amy Desenberg-Wines (Venezia)
4:30 – 5:00 IRA Business Meeting (Colli)
5:00 – 5:45 IRCA Business Meetings (Milano)
6:00 – ??? Hospitality

Thursday, October 15, 2009

- 7:00 Registration (lobby)
8:30 – 9:45 Concurrent Sessions
-- Assistive Technology and Universal Design: Applications to Students with Disabilities – Michael Venzon, James Stachowiak (Colli)
-- The Spirit of Robert's Rules of Order and Other Aspects of Facilitating Effective Meetings – Jay Brewer (Milano)
-- Veterans with Disabilities – John Mikelson (Venezia)
9:45 – 10:15 Exhibit Presentations / Break
10:15 – 11:30 Concurrent Sessions
-- Title TBA – Phil Davis, On With Life (Colli)
-- Registered Apprenticeship Opportunities in Iowa – Robert Snyder (Milano)
-- Effects of the Stimulus Bill on Iowa Agencies – Jeff Chamberlin, Ruth Allison, Adam Lansbury, Lyle Schwery (Venezia)
11:30 – 11:45 Exhibit Presentations / Break
11:45 – 1:30 Awards Luncheon (Roma)

- 1:30 – 1:45 Exhibit Presentations / Break
1:45 – 3:00 Concurrent Sessions
-- New Ethics, New Understandings: The 2010 CRCC Code of Professional Ethics for Rehab Counselors – Vilia Tarvydas (Colli)
-- Partnership at the One Stop: Make It Work for Your Client – Ruth Allison, Mary Lynn ReVoir (Milano)
-- Iowa's Laborshed Studies – Paula Nissen (Venezia)
3:00 – 3:30 Exhibit Presentations / Break / Voting
3:30 – 4:45 -- Ethics (title TBA) – Vilia Tarvydas or Jodi Saunders (Colli)
-- Decreasing Barriers to Learning for Students with Mental Illness: An Initiative between the National Alliance on Mental Illness and the Iowa City Community School District – Peggy _____, Barb Fleckenstein (Milano)
-- Building Social Capital for Job Seekers – Robert Stensrud (Venezia)
4:45 – 6:00 JPD Division Meetings (Milano)
6:00 – 9:00??? President's Reception (Roma)

Friday, October 16, 2009

- 7:00 Past Presidents' Breakfast (hotel restaurant)
General Sessions (all in Roma Room):
8:00 – 8:45 55 and Looking for Work – Terry Hornbuckle
9:00 – 10:00 Legislative Panel – Sen. Rob Hogg (D-Cedar Rapids), Rep. Kraig Paulsen (R – Hiawatha)
10:00 – 11:00 Title on diversity TBA – Hazel Pegues, Diversity Focus
11:15 – 11:45 IRA Business Meeting / Election Results / Closing Remarks

Program Notes

Earl Hipp – Keeping YOUR Boat Afloat: A Conversation about Resilience

Participants will learn about some of the skills required to be a resilient professional who feels comfortable, prepared, and optimistic in today's ever-changing world of work.

With a background as a clinical therapist, Mr. Hipp is a professional speaker, trainer, and author, with a flair for dealing with the rapidly changing world of work and the skills required to remain relevant, comfortable, and employable.

Barb McClannahan, Mike Williams – Employer Disability Resource Network (EDRN)

This presentation will introduce the audience to the EDRN website and the state, federal, and community partners who are working together to mobilize resources, supports, and services that add value to Iowa businesses hiring persons with disabilities.

With IVRS since 1999, Ms. McClannahan currently is their employment partnership consultant and facilitates efforts of the EDRN as well as the IVRS team of business specialists.

A current IRA board member, Mr. Williams is a disabilities consultant with the Iowa Division of Persons with Disabilities, specializing in reasonable job accommodations. He also is state coordinator for Youth Leadership Forum and College Leadership Forum.

Frank Potter and consumer group reps – Collaboration with Consumer Groups

It is to the advantage of rehab professionals and consumer groups to support each other by knowing the other's activities, sharing information, strategies and speaking with one loud voice when needed.

A past president of JPD, Mr. Potter retired in June 2009 after 39 years as a counselor with IVRS' Dubuque office. He is recipient of the 2008 IRA Counselor of the Year award, and currently is on the boards of IRA and CHADD of Iowa

Other panelists:

Geoffrey Lauer – Brain Injury Association of Iowa

S.J. Taylor – CHADD of Iowa

Casey Westoff – ARC of Iowa

Margaret Stout – NAMI

Mike Barber – president, National Federation of the Blind of Iowa

Mike Hoenig – past president, Iowa Council of the United Blind

Terry Cunningham, Jerry Mayes -- Atalissa: A Missed Opportunity; A View from a Disabled Advocate

A look at the Atalissa situation from the positive perspective that these men worked and supported themselves, fully participated in social, religious, and recreational activities; but most important were seemingly happy for 30 years in conditions others found deplorable. We blew the chance to tell that story.

Since 2003 Mr. Cunningham has been a policy analyst at the Center for Disabilities and Development in Iowa City, advancing systems change and consumer choice for

individuals with disabilities with community-based services. He monitors and keeps current the Olmstead-Real Choices in Iowa web site.

[Jerry Mayes]

Matt Bruinekool -- Using O*Net and CHOICES in the Rehabilitation Process

*O*Net is the greatest single source of occupational information for rehab counselors.*

*This presentation will provide participants with an overview of O*Net and how it can be used throughout the rehabilitation process to assist consumers in making good career decisions.*

Currently serving as IRA's vice president, Dr. Bruinekool has been director of the National Rehabilitation Institute at Drake University since 2000. His teaching emphasis is on intro to the rehab profession, human resource management, rehab administration, and placement.

Doug Keast -- Iowa Workforce Integration Efforts

Senate File 2699, passed in January 2008 requires that one-stop workforce systems in Iowa become collocated and integrated by June 30, 2011. After a similar effort stalled out 8 years ago, following the vision of WIA, Iowa is pursuing this vision with renewed energy. By the time of the IRA conference, at least 3 Iowa workforce centers will have launched this new integrated service model. The reasons for doing this are: 1) to respond to the demands of Iowa's growing and future industry, 2) to increase the efficiency and effectiveness with which employment services are offered in Iowa, and 3) to increase the value of employment services for Iowa job seekers. Doug will speak to conference attendees about the progress of Iowa's implementation under this directive.

[Doug Keast bio]

Amy Desenberg-Wines -- The ADA Amendments Act

Rehab professionals are a key resource related to the implications of disability law. Are you prepared to discuss the ADA Amendments Act? The ADA Amendments Act of 2008 went into effect on January 1, 2009. Come to this session if you are interested in learning more about the act and how it breathes new life into the ADA.

Since 2001 Ms. Desenberg-Wines has been running her own disability consulting firm, with contracts including University of Missouri's Great Plains ADA Center and the Drake University graduate program in vocational rehab, where she is adjunct faculty.

Michael Venzon, James Stachowiak -- Assistive Technology and Universal Design:

Applications to Students with Disabilities

[program description]

[Michael Venzon bio]

[James Stachowiak bio]

Jay Brewer -- The Spirit of Robert's Rules of Order and Other Aspects of Facilitating Effective Meetings

The bulk of the time in this session will be spent on the spirit of Robert's Rules of Order. As time allows, other guidelines and tools will be provided to assist participants to run more effective meetings.

A past president of IRA, Mr. Brewer is officially retired, but currently is walk manager for the NAMI walk, and is volunteer brakeman, fireman, and diesel engineer on the Boone and Scenic Valley Railroad. In the past he operated a cable company, a durable medical equipment company, and was treatment services director at the Marshalltown Veterans Home.

John Mikelson -- Veterans with Disabilities

Iowa has many veterans with disabilities returning from conflicts abroad. What are we to expect in the future and what is being done at the University of Iowa to address this subject?

A veteran of the US Army National Guard, Mr. Mikelson has been veterans advisor at the University of Iowa since 2005, creating the Student Veterans' Advising Center, and developing linkages between the university, VA hospital, VA Women's Clinic, and the UI Student Disability Services.

Phil Davis – [title TBA]

[program description]

[Phil Davis bio]

Robert Snyder -- Registered Apprenticeship Opportunities in Iowa

[program description] Registered apprenticeship programs in Iowa for career-minded Iowans with disabilities.

Mr. Snyder the representative for the Office of Apprenticeship, US Department of Labor, for all of Iowa and Rock Island County, IL. In a varied past, he served as Peace Corps training coordinator in the Russian Federation, training advisor at the Navy College Center in Florida, and ran a medium-sized business in Memphis, TN.

Jeff Chamberlin, Ruth Allison, Adam Lansbury, Lyle Schwery -- Effects of the Stimulus Bill on Iowa Agencies

Four Iowa agency representatives will discuss stimulus initiatives implemented this summer and through the next year. This will be an opportunity for Iowa rehab professionals to speak to these representatives regarding opportunities for people with disabilities whom they are serving.

[Jeff Chamberlin bio]

[Ruth Allison bio]

Mr. Lounsbury is executive director of the Iowa Commission for Volunteer Service
Mr. Schwery is program coordinator with the Iowa Finance Authority for the State Homeless Program, also providing support to the Iowa Council on Homelessness.

Vilia Tarvydas -- New Ethics, New Understandings: The 2010 CRCC Code of Professional Ethics for Rehab Counselors

This program will present information about trends in ethical standards. examine the evidence used for revision of CRCC Code of Professional Ethics, discuss the process of revision for CRCC's code of ethics, and provide an overview of significant changes in the new CRCC code.

Dr. Tarvydas is program coordinator of graduate programs in rehabilitation at the University of Iowa, and has over 30 years of experience as a rehab educator and practitioner. She has been prominent on the national level in development and revision of ethical codes for several rehabilitation and counseling organizations.

Ruth Allison, Mary Lynn ReVoir -- Partnership at the One Stop: Make It Work for Your Client

Learn how customers seeking employment can be shared by using the one-stop Workforce services and even the Ticket to Work, while achieving best customer services as a system. Attendees will hear about real life examples and have the opportunity to brainstorm ideas in small groups.

Ms. ReVoir is lead disability program navigator for the state of Iowa, focusing on implementation of the employment networks throughout the state Workforce system.

Ms. Allison is an administrative consultant with IVRS. She once was supervisor for IVRS's Burlington office, and before that worked with corrections both in institutional and community-based settings.

Paula Nissen -- Iowa's Laborshed Studies

Laborshed studies provide community economic developers and existing or prospective employers a flexible tool to understand the local labor market and make informed expansion and site selection decisions. A Laborshed is defined as the area or region from which an employment center draws its commuting workers. Laborshed studies show the distribution of the workers, irrespective of natural or political boundaries.

Laborsheds also address underemployment, the availability and willingness of current and prospective employees to change employment within the workforce, current and desired occupations, wages, hours worked and distance willing to commute to work.

Ms. Nissen has been with Iowa Workforce Development since 1996, and currently is chief of IWD's Research and Performance Planning Bureau, which analyzes labor market data in the state of Iowa. She also is an instructor in the University of Oklahoma's Economic Development Institute, teaching courses in customized survey design and analysis.

[Ethics session TBA – Vilia Tarvydas or Jodi Saunders]

[program description]

[presenter bio]

Peggy (NAMI), Barb Fleckenstein (Iowa City Public Schools) -- Decreasing Barriers to Learning for Students with Mental Illness: An Initiative between the National Alliance on Mental Illness and the Iowa City Community School District

In 2005 the National Alliance on Mental Illness of Johnson County approached the Iowa City Community School District to establish a partnership with the goal of decreasing barriers to learning for students with mental illness. The partnership is an effort to increase support and cooperation between the school district and families of children with mental illness. The symptoms of mental illness, its stigma, and lack of recognition of symptoms are barriers that limit a student's success in school. NAMIJC and the ICCSD partnership have several educational projects designed to increase the

awareness of mental illness and access needed support for students and families in the school district.

[Peggy's bio]

[Barb Fleckenstein's bio]

Robert Stensrud -- Building Social Capital for Job Seekers

This program discusses specific social networking strategies counselors and clients can use to develop employer relationships and job leads.

[Robert Stensrud bio]

Terry Hornbuckle -- 55 and Looking for Work

Iowa is at the brink of a changing work demographic, and older Iowans desire to work and need to work. This session will discuss the changes in Iowa's worker demographics and challenges that older, disabled Iowans have in finding employment. Also the Iowa Senior Community Service Employment Program will be discussed.

Ms. Hornbuckle is state mature worker coordinator for the Iowa Department on Aging, and has extensive case management experience with the Iowa Department of Human Services and other agencies.

Sen. Rob Hogg (D-Cedar Rapids), Rep. Kraig Paulsen (R – Hiawatha) – Legislative Panel

Here we get a chance to hear from two prominent Iowa legislators and let our views be known. By so doing, we can have an effect on rehab policy on the state level.

Senator Hogg is a rising force on the Democratic side of the aisle in the Senate, taking leadership roles in legislation affecting education, fiscal policy, and the environment. Representative Paulsen is House Minority Leader, and has taken the lead in legislation affecting _____.