

The MRC & Office of Federal Contracts Compliance Program Federal Hiring Event

2014 Results

# of employers	43
# of consumers interviewed	263
# of Hires on day of event	35
# of Placements resulting from event	109 <i>(as of 9/30/14)</i>
# Successful Employment Outcomes (90+ days)	79 <i>(as of 9/30/14)</i>
Partners	OFCCP, MCB

2013 Results

# of employers	36
# of consumers interviewed	185
# of Hires on day of event	45
# of Placements resulting from event	114
# Successful Employment Outcomes (90+ days)	85
Partners	OFCCP

The number of employers taking part in the event grew from the first to second year, and the number of consumer interviews that were planned and executed during the event grew substantially. Through August 2014, 109 MRC consumers have been placed into competitive employment as a direct result of the MRC/OFCCP/MCB 2014 Federal Hiring Event. Of these, 79 have achieved a Successful Employment Outcome, holding employment for 90 days or more.

➤ **The current average wages for consumers employed through the MRC Federal Hiring Event are \$13.81, and the average work hours are 29 hours per week.**

Consumer Feedback

The MRC conducts annual surveys of Federal Hiring Event consumers, staff, and participating contractors to obtain feedback for planning and management purposes. Survey results have shown high levels of satisfaction and enthusiasm from all three of these groups over the first two years of the event.

In 2014, 92% of surveyed consumers were satisfied with the hiring event and with their interviews, with the great majority reporting that they were “very satisfied” overall. A majority of surveyed MRC consumers reported that they felt adequately prepared for their interviews.

Program Description

The MRC/Office of Federal Contracts Compliance Program (OFCCP) Federal Hiring Event brings Vocational Rehabilitation consumers and federal contractors together in one space. The event provides consumers with opportunities for competitive employment, and federal contractors with access to qualified applicants. The first Federal Hiring Event took place in 2013, and its clear value and success led to the development of an annual event.

The MRC’s Job Placement and Employment Specialists work with the OFCCP to recruit federal contractors for the event. MRC counselors identify consumers with interests, strengths and skills suited to the event. The MRC prepares these consumers for successful interviewing and preparation prior to the event.

In 2014, the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind (MCB) also took part, and three simultaneous hiring events took place across the Commonwealth. With continued success, this initiative can grow to include more regional partners and assist a wider group of consumers and federal contractors. The Federal Hiring Event offers a viable model for innovative VR agency collaboration with employers.