



Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission

## VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES

### Year in Review July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

#### Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission

**3,973** citizens with disabilities have been successfully placed into competitive employment based on their choices, interests, needs and skills.

The earnings of these rehabilitated employees in MA in the first year were **\$77.9 million**.

Estimated public benefits savings from people rehabilitated in MA were **\$29.8 million**.

Average Hourly Wage **\$14.11**

Average Work Hours Weekly **26.7**

\*The returns to society based on increases in lifetime earnings range from \$14 to \$18 for each \$1 invested in the MRC Vocational Rehabilitation program.

\*\$5 is returned to the government in the form of increased taxes and reduced public assistance payments for every \$1 invested in the MRC Vocational Rehabilitation program.

*\*Based on Commonwealth Corporation Study.*

#### Who Are Our Consumers?

Psychiatric Disabilities	40.1%
Substance Abuse	8.3%
Orthopedic Disabilities	9.9%
Learning Disabilities	22.8%
Developmental/Intellectual Disabilities	2.3%
Deaf and Hard of Hearing	5.9%
Neurological Disabilities	2.4%
Traumatic Brain Injury	1.3%
Other Disabilities	7.0%

Average Age 32.4

Female 45.7%  
Male 54.3%

Asian/Pacific Islander 3.6%  
Black 18.0%  
Hispanic 12.4%  
Native American 1.1%  
White 79.2%

### FACTS AT A GLANCE

The goal of our services is to promote dignity through employment and community living, one person at a time. We hope all citizens with disabilities in Massachusetts will have the opportunity to contribute as a productive member of their community and family as a result of services provided by the MRC.

<b>Consumers actively receiving services</b>	<b>27,028</b>
<b>Consumers enrolled in training/education programs</b>	<b>17,685</b>
<b>Consumers with disabilities employed in competitive, integrated employment</b>	<b>3,973 (100%)</b>
<b>Consumers employed with medical insurance</b>	<b>96.6%</b>
<b>Consumers satisfied with services</b>	<b>86.0%</b>

**Mission:**

The Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC) promotes equality, empowerment, and independence of individuals with disabilities. These goals are achieved through enhancing and encouraging personal choice and the right to succeed in the pursuit of independence and employment in the community.

**Vision:**

The MRC provides comprehensive services to people with disabilities that maximize their quality of life and economic self-sufficiency in the community.

**Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Division:**

The MRC Vocational Rehabilitation Program and the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind serve eligible individuals with disabilities who are available and able to attain employment as a result of vocational rehabilitation services.

The MRC Vocational Rehabilitation Program is the federal-state vocational rehabilitation program focused on assisting individuals with disabilities to obtain, maintain, and advance in employment. Some of the MRC-VR services provided include:

- Vocational counseling, guidance, and assistance in job placement;
- Training programs, including job-driven partnerships with employers, including college and vocational certificate programs, if appropriate, to attain competitive employment;
- Assistive technology and rehabilitation technology services;
- Job Coach services;
- Community based employment services;
- Interview preparation and direct job placement services;
- Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) for students with disabilities.

**What MRC Consumers Have To Say:**

- ❖ “It has been a great comfort and a blessing to me to have the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission in my corner over the years as I progressed along my vocational path. Thank you to all of my MRC counselors!”
- ❖ “I have frequent contact with my counselor and placement specialist. They both have added stability during my employment search up until I gained employment which both have offered me stability. It's one matter to garner employment and another to maintain it. Both are both very professional and dedicated to their profession. Thank you.”
- ❖ “The Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission increases and improves the quality of life of any person they are dealing with. They educate, and promotes equality, empowerment and independence of the individual to our day to day activities.”
- ❖ “Currently MRC is doing everything possible to help me find a new career, helping me organize my search and overcome personal physical and psychological limitations.”
- ❖ “My counselor was amazing. She was caring, competent and really helped me with several important hurdles.”
- ❖ “The MRC helped me with a career by helping me get back into school. Now that I finally have a degree, I qualify for many more jobs than I did before. My counselor has also directed me to resources like career centers and offered me MRC counseling as well.”
- ❖ “My counselor is extremely knowledgeable, prepared, encouraging, and supportive. She has me on the right vocational and educational path.”