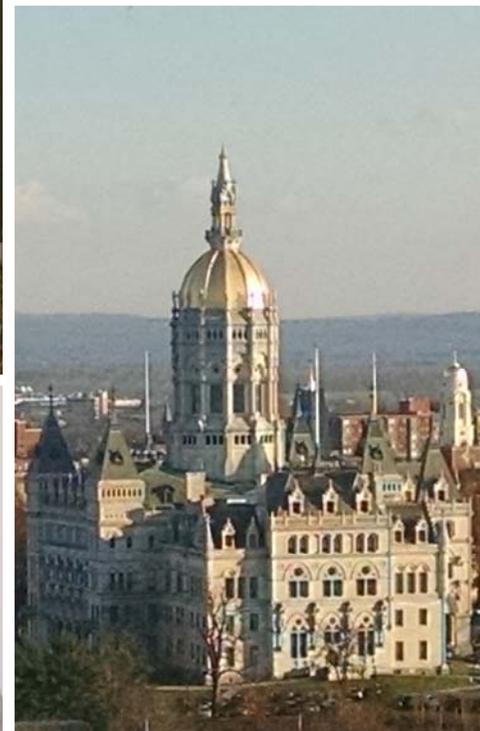


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# *SRC 2014*

## *Annual Report*



The Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS)

*A Division of*

The Department of Rehabilitation Services (DORS)

*Providing employment opportunities to  
Connecticut residents with disabilities.*





*On the cover:*

*Top Left:* Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) Commissioner Janet LaBreck with CT SRC Treasurer Jan Hasenjager.

*Middle Right:* View of the Connecticut Capital in Hartford

*Bottom Left:* Marisel DeCordova, Client Assistance Representative to the SRC.

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## *Message from the SRC Chairperson*

*Dear Friends:*

We continue to have a very successful State Rehabilitation Council (SRC), with the support of Evelyn Oliver Knight, our liaison, and our exceptional members. My time as chair has been enjoyable and fulfilling. This year, with many council members' terms ending, we focused on recruiting new members and I am happy with our success. We also focused on consumer satisfaction, developing a new survey to be implemented in early 2015 by an independent contractor. The responses to this survey will help the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS) and the SRC evaluate the success in achieving the goals set by the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) and our own state plan. These results will also be very useful in future SRC recommendations to BRS.



The relationship we share with our acting director of vocational rehabilitation (VR), Amy Porter, and all of her staff is instrumental to our overall success. For that, I thank all of them. After participating in several National Coalition of State Rehabilitation Council (NCSRC) conference calls, I've come to realize we have many things to be thankful for when looking at the VR program here in Connecticut. It is the right fit for our resources and our consumers. We continue to work hard together to improve wherever we can and insure our Connecticut VR program is the best it can be.

Employment is one of the most important building blocks for true independent living and greatly improves one's overall quality of life.

As always, we encourage anyone interested in serving on the Connecticut SRC to apply. We are always recruiting new members. To apply please complete the application at the end of this report and follow the directions to submit it. You may also share your comments and concerns regarding the VR program by contacting the SRC Liaison. We look forward to hearing from you.

*Jim Quick, Chairperson*

State Rehabilitation Council

# *Mission, Goals, Functions*

## *Mission*

The State Rehabilitation Council (SRC) provides assessment, advice and recommendations to the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS) and others regarding coordination and effectiveness of programs and strategies which promote community-based competitive employment for persons with disabilities.

## *Goals*

- ◆ To assess the effectiveness and delivery of vocational services provided by BRS to individuals with disabilities.
- ◆ To improve the coordination of vocational services among BRS, state agencies and public and private entities for the benefit of BRS job seekers.
- ◆ To make recommendations to BRS, the Governor, the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), and others for developing and improving strategies for the employment of, and vocational services for individuals with disabilities.

## *Functions*

- ◆ To review, analyze, and advise BRS regarding its performance in carrying out its responsibilities as the state agency designated to administer the public Vocational Rehabilitation Program.
- ◆ To provide input to BRS in preparing the State Plan for Vocational Rehabilitation and Supported Employment, as well as other plans, reports, needs assessments and evaluations.
- ◆ To provide input to BRS regarding the Bureau's coordination of activities with Connecticut's workforce investment system.
- ◆ To review the effectiveness of, and consumer satisfaction with, the performance of the Bureau and other public and private agencies in providing vocational rehabilitation services to Connecticut residents with disabilities.
- ◆ To prepare and submit an annual report to the Governor of Connecticut and the Commissioner of RSA.
- ◆ To coordinate with other advisory councils in the state which oversee services to individuals with disabilities.
- ◆ To perform other functions as appropriate to the mission of the Council.

## *Business Partnership Committee*

### *Purpose:*

To foster collaboration among all the related service providers and employers (public and private, for-profit and nonprofit.) To encourage coordinated training and orientation of employers, employees and co-workers and to determine and address the employment needs of business and industry.

*Chairperson:* Roberta Hurley

*Members:* Sharon Denson, Ellen Econs and Michele Fontaine

### *Review of 2014 Accomplishments:*

- ◆ Members of the Business Partnership Committee presented to three area Chamber meetings and continued to educate business owners about the state vocational rehabilitation program and the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC).
- ◆ Members of the Business Partnership Committee also continued efforts to recruit new members to the SRC; three people expressed an interest in joining the SRC.

### *Goals for 2015:*

- ◆ Continue to educate employers and community rehabilitation providers about the benefits of working with BRS.
- ◆ Recruit more business and community providers to serve on the SRC.

# Consumer Satisfaction Committee

## ***Purpose:***

To assess consumer satisfaction with vocational rehabilitation services and the effectiveness of the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS) to assist consumers in obtaining and maintaining competitive employment.

***Chairperson:*** Jim Quick

***Members:*** Tom Boudreau, Marisel DeCordova, Ellen Econs, and Jan Hasenjager

## ***Review of 2014 Accomplishments:***

- ◆ Under the leadership of the Consumer Satisfaction Committee, SRC members continued to follow up with BRS to monitor the progress made regarding the outcomes of the office visits and surveys conducted in 2012.
- ◆ Encouraged members to attend at least one BRS regional office staff meeting to gain better knowledge and understanding about the state vocational rehabilitation (VR) program and the issues encountered by BRS counselors on any given day.
- ◆ Collaborated with BRS on the Public Meetings and the State Plan.
- ◆ Recruited three new members to this committee.

## ***Goals for 2015:***

- ◆ The Consumer Satisfaction Committee will work with an independent vendor to develop and implement a survey to gather feedback about consumers' interaction with BRS. This information will be used by the SRC and BRS to help direct the State Plan and provide better service to consumers. Particular attention will be given to outcomes achieved by BRS on the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) Standards and Indicators.
- ◆ Continue to monitor BRS action to address SRC findings from the 2012 office surveys.

## *Intercouncil Coordination/Nominations Committee*

### *Purpose:*

To provide linkage with agencies and councils that oversee or have input/knowledge regarding the provision of rehabilitation services to individuals with disabilities. Assist in training State Rehabilitation Council (SRC) members to foster effective council teamwork. Recruit potential members.

*Chairperson:* Mary Pierson Keating, Esq.

*Members:* Victor Xavier

### *Review of 2014 Accomplishments:*

- ◆ Recognized the dedication of five active members on the successful completion of their appointments to the SRC; each of them served the SRC for six years. Both members of this committee are included among those who are resigning due to term limits.
- ◆ Screened and recommended four potential members for appointment to the SRC from the Governor.
- ◆ Continued efforts to seek potential candidates of diverse backgrounds in accordance with Title I, Section 105 of the Rehabilitation Act 1973, as amended by sharing recruitment flyers at the Federal Opportunities Career Fair hosted by the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS) and the Endless Possibilities: Real Employment for People with Disabilities Conference hosted by the Connecticut Council on Developmental Disabilities and BRS.
- ◆ Interacted with the SRC to the Bureau of Education and Services for the Blind (BESB) regarding vocational rehabilitation concerns in Connecticut.

### *Goals for 2015:*

- ◆ Recruit new members; target specific outreach to fill historically vacant categories of membership on the SRC.
- ◆ Recruit new members to the Intercouncil Coordination/Nominations Committee.
- ◆ Participate with orientation of new members and the ongoing learning process of being active and involved SRC members.

## *Legislation, Policy & Planning Committee*

### *Purpose:*

To assist in developing the state and strategic plans for vocational rehabilitation services. To stay updated on federal and state regulations related to employment of persons with disabilities.

*Chairperson:* Ellen Econs

*Members:* Thomas Boudreau, Marisel DeCordova, Gary Prushko, Larry Robinson, and Miriam Torres-Thorburn

### *Review of 2014 Accomplishments:*

- ◆ To ensure continued support and active participation for this committee, the Vice Chair of the SRC will now chair this committee.
- ◆ Reviewed and provided recommendations for the State Plan.
- ◆ Monitored changes to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) to see how changes will impact the vocational rehabilitation program.
- ◆ Continued discussion on “Bill of Rights” to be posted in BRS waiting rooms for consumers & applicants.

### *Goals for 2015:*

- ◆ Review and provide recommendations for the State Plan.
- ◆ Publish “Bill of Rights” posters in BRS waiting rooms.
- ◆ Continue to monitor changes to WIOA.

## State Rehabilitation Council Scholarship

The Connecticut Youth Leadership Project (CTYLP) empowers high school students with disabilities to realize their leadership potential. Through self-awareness and team building activities, young adults explore leadership styles and develop and implement team and personal leadership plans.

The goal is to help youth with disabilities meet the challenges of the future, overcome obstacles and become leaders so that they can make a positive difference in their communities and for others with disabilities.

This leadership project sponsors the Connecticut Youth Leadership Forum (YLF), a week-long training program for high school sophomores and juniors, held on the campus of the University of Connecticut, Storrs. The SRC has helped to fund this training and provided a \$1,000 scholarship yearly since 2009. Former YLF delegates pursuing their education beyond high school are eligible to apply for the State Rehabilitation Council Scholarship.



*Amy Porter, Lea Novotny & Kathy Novotny*

*Lea Novotny* is the recipient of the *2014 State Rehabilitation Council Scholarship*. Lea graduated in 2013 from Fairfield Warde High School, in Fairfield, CT. While in high school, Lea volunteered as manager of the Boys Swim Team and also served on the Student Advisory for four years. During 2013, Lea was active with MADD CT Teen Influencer Group, to raise awareness of the dangers of underage drinking.

Lea participated in the YLF in 2012 and is currently enrolled at Norwalk Community College majoring in Early Childhood Education. During the summer, Lea works at the Jewish Community Center with elementary and preschool children as a camp counselor leading recreational activities.

The SRC wishes Lea continued success as it looks forward to continued collaborations with the YLF and the CTYLP.

## National Coalition of State Rehabilitation Councils

The State Rehabilitation Council (SRC) for the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS) is a member of the National Coalition of State Rehabilitation Councils (NCSRC). The NCSRC strives to cultivate the strengths and necessary expertise of local SRCs so they become effective, viable partners in the vocational rehabilitation (VR) program. While SRCs in each state collaborate with their local VR program to address state issues, members of the NCSRC share best practices and strategies to address common concerns. The NCSRC gives a national voice to jobseekers with disabilities as it works on issues that impact the VR program on the national level.

**Mission:** On behalf of people with disabilities, our national membership coalition will advocate for and work in partnership with the national public vocational rehabilitation system's continual quest for excellence.

**Vision:** NCSRC will be the premiere national organization of the consumer voice to enhance the employment opportunities of persons with disabilities through the public vocational rehabilitation system.

The NCSRC currently consists of 50 SRCs of states and territories that provide public VR services. In addition to conference calls every two months, the NCSRC hosts two training conferences each year that coincide with the national meetings of the Council of State Administrators for Vocational Rehabilitation (CSAVR) in collaboration with the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA). SRC Liaison Evelyn Oliver Knight attended the Spring Training Conference in Bethesda, MD. SRC Treasurer Jan Hasenjager attended the Fall Training Conference with Evelyn in Miami, FL.

For more information about the NCSRC, please go to [www.ncsrc.net/node/21](http://www.ncsrc.net/node/21).



*Janet LeBreck, RSA Commissioner,  
& Jan Hasenjager*

## State Rehabilitation Council Photo Journal



*Dr. Patricia Anderson, Consultant for BRS and the State Department of Education, shares details on the Transition Program.*



*Jan Hasenjager, Jim Quick, David Morgana*



*Gary Prushko, Warren Stamp, Bruce Stovall*



*Kate Travis, Michele Fontaine, Kristen Winkle, Ellen Econs*



*1st Row: Sharon Denson, Esq.; Jim Quick; David Morgana*

*2nd Row: Patricia Anderson, Jan Hansenjager, Marisel DeCordova; Kristen Winkle; Ellen Econs*

*3rd Row: Bruce Stovall; Evelyn Oliver Knight; Dave Doukas; Roberta Hurley; Gary Prushko; Michele Fontaine; Kate Travis*

# Message from the BRS Acting Director

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to share the 2014 Annual Report of Connecticut's State Rehabilitation Council (SRC). This report is a great opportunity to highlight the accomplishments of our Vocational Rehabilitation program within the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS) and the role of the SRC in those accomplishments.



Our strong partnership with the SRC continues. We have worked together to cover a lot of new ground. The following are some examples of this alliance:

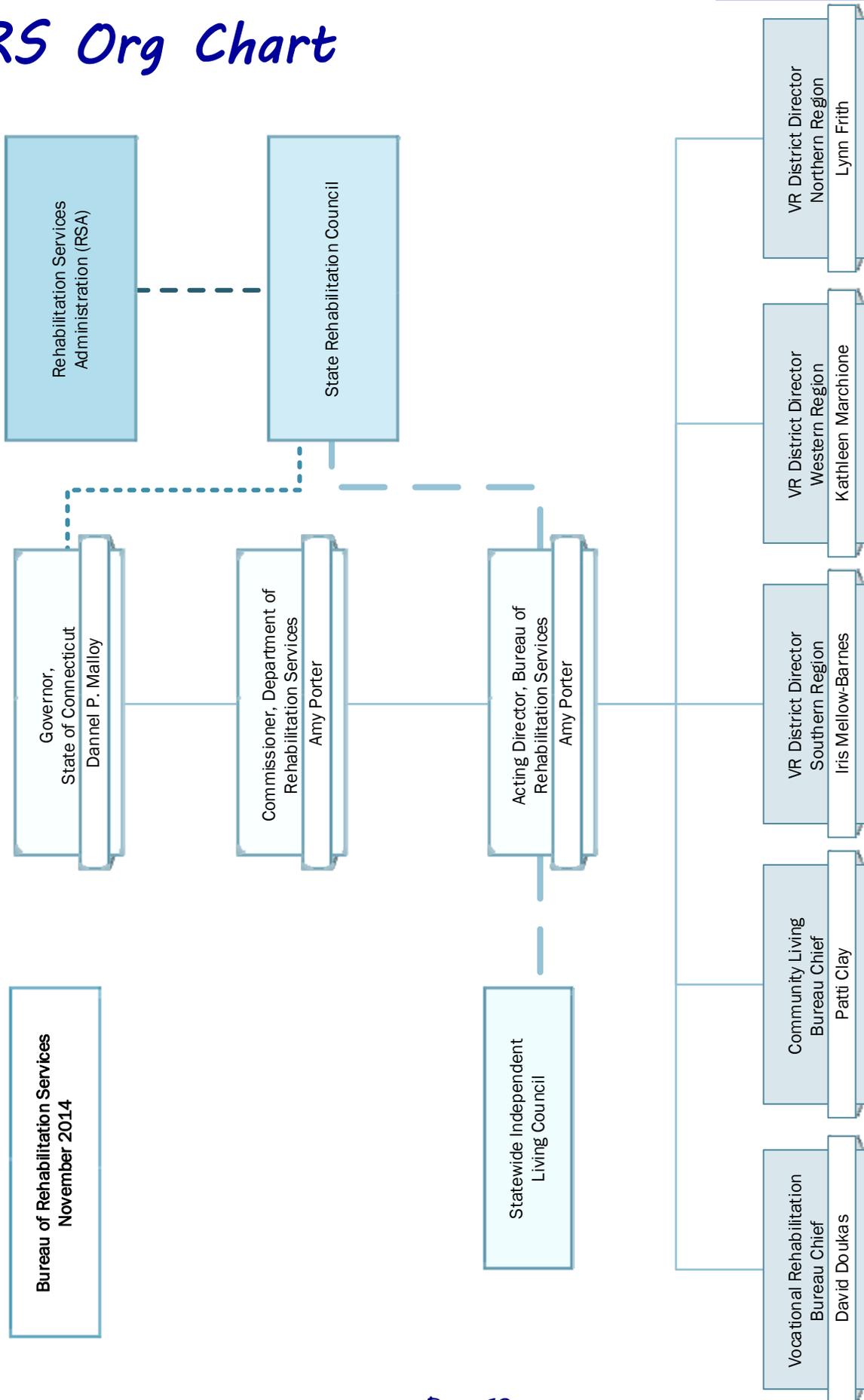
- ◆ **Relationship Building and Collaboration:** The SRC understands that through collaboration, we can be more effective. They formed a working relationship with the Governor's newly appointed Liaison to the Disability Community. This liaison clearly has employment on his agenda and has committed to a continued relationship with BRS and the SRC. The SRC continued to build business relationships by presenting information about the assistance available from our program to a number of Chambers of Commerce. The SRC participated in our first Federal Hiring Event targeted at businesses that contract with the federal government. And finally, they strengthened their relationship with the National Council of State Rehabilitation Councils (NCSRC) in order to bring promising practices from other SRCs back to Connecticut.
- ◆ **Data Review and Collection:** We reviewed outcome data related to our program's standards and indicators. We identified any areas of concern relative to counselor vacancies or geographical areas where the program may be under-represented. We examined existing customer satisfaction data and also considered new methods of collecting satisfaction data in a more defined, standardized process; we will be implementing a new approach moving forward.
- ◆ **State Plan Development:** We continue to work together to conduct public meetings throughout the state, analyze the input, and modify the State Plan goals and strategies accordingly. We also work together to understand our external environment, such as policy changes within our partner agencies. We do this to assess any potential impacts on our own agency and our services for individuals with disabilities.
- ◆ **Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA):** The SRC is participating in national information events such as webinars, teleconferences and national conferences to better understand the impact of this new legislation on our agency. We will continue to work together as we roll out changes to our program or services.

I am grateful for the time and energy that SRC members put into their work and into the relationship with our agency. The SRC was created to provide the voice of the consumer and our partners. This voice is so critical to our growth and is a vital part of our planning process. I extend my thanks to the SRC, to the BRS staff, and to our partners in other state agencies, businesses and communities for their role in maximizing employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

*Amy Porter, Acting Director*

Bureau of Rehabilitation Services

# BRS Org Chart



## BRS Success Stories

Employment is the ultimate goal of vocational rehabilitation (VR). In order to achieve the best employment outcome, jobseekers, staff, community rehabilitation providers and employers have to work together. In Federal Fiscal Year 2014, 1,408 jobseekers entered or maintained jobs with the help of BRS. Some of the *BRS Success Stories* are highlighted here.



*Lowe's Distribution Center (ISTPP - Award) Alvin Ferrouillet, Krystal LaBombard, Anuke Shifman, Richard Philbrick, Sharon Frazier*

### *Lowe's Distribution Center, Plainfield, CT*

This distribution center supplies Lowe's stores from Connecticut to Maine. *Sharon Fraizer*, Lowe's Outreach Coach, connects directly with *Megan Provost*, BRS Employment Consultant, to fill a variety of positions under the Industry Specific Training and Placement Program (ISTPP) funded by BRS. Through BRS, Lowe's hired 14 jobseekers in permanent positions. The Plainfield distribution center has been named one of the top five centers in the Lowe's network for speed and is at the top for inventory effectiveness.



*Leah Dean, Frank Adamo, John Dean*

### *John Dean Custom Cabinetry, LLC, Bolton, CT*

Co-owners *John and Leah Dean* design, build and install custom cabinetry. They worked with Michael (Mick) Posner, BRS Employment Consultant and TJ LaVoi, BRS Senior Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor, to hire *Frank Adamo*, who is deaf, as a sander/installer.

## *State Farm Insurance, Branford, CT*

Sanjiv Chaturvedi, BRS Employment Consultant, reached out to State Farm's *Michael Amatrudo*, Owner and Agent, to find a position for *Roberta Esposito* who was adjusting to life after losing her right leg. Roberta was hired and regained her license as a property and casualty agent.



*Michael Amatrudo and Roberta Esposito*

## *Rotair Industries, Inc., Bridgeport, CT*

Rotair Industries, Inc. makes helicopter replacement parts that meet industry standards for customers like Bell Helicopter and Sikorsky Aircraft. *Wayne Wallberg*, Rotair IT Supervisor, connected with Holly Heaven, Senior Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor to hire *John Maher*, who lives with Autism, and is now a Senior Programmer.



*John Maher and Wayne Wallberg*

## *Arthur H. Howland & Associates, PC, New Milford, CT*

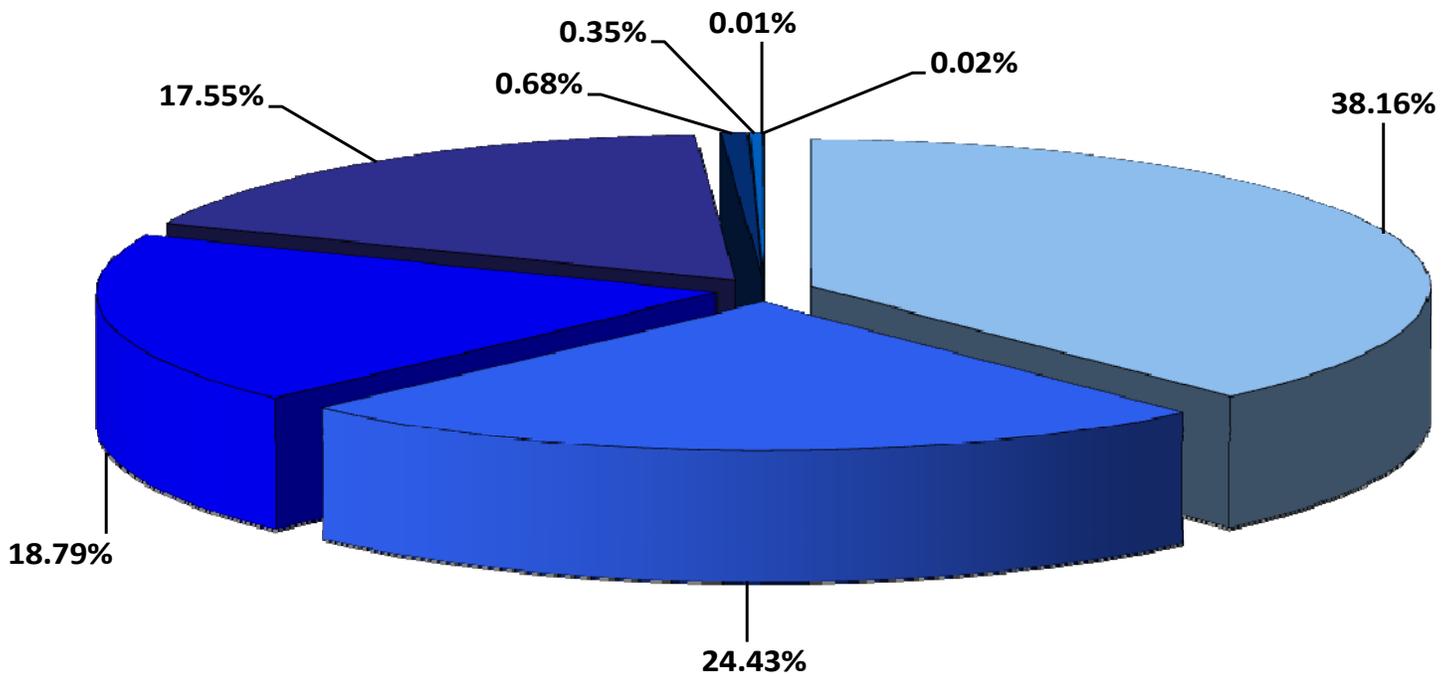
*Sean Quigg* has muscular dystrophy and uses a wheelchair. *Paul Szymanski*, President of A. H. Howland saw an enthusiastic job seeker. Though he had no open positions, Paul worked with Lauren McAulay, BRS Employment Consultant to find a way to get Sean hired. Sean is now a Search Engine Optimization (SEO) Strategist, creating online marketing opportunities for A. H. Howland and Associates.



*Arthur H. Howland & Associates (picture taken from their website)*

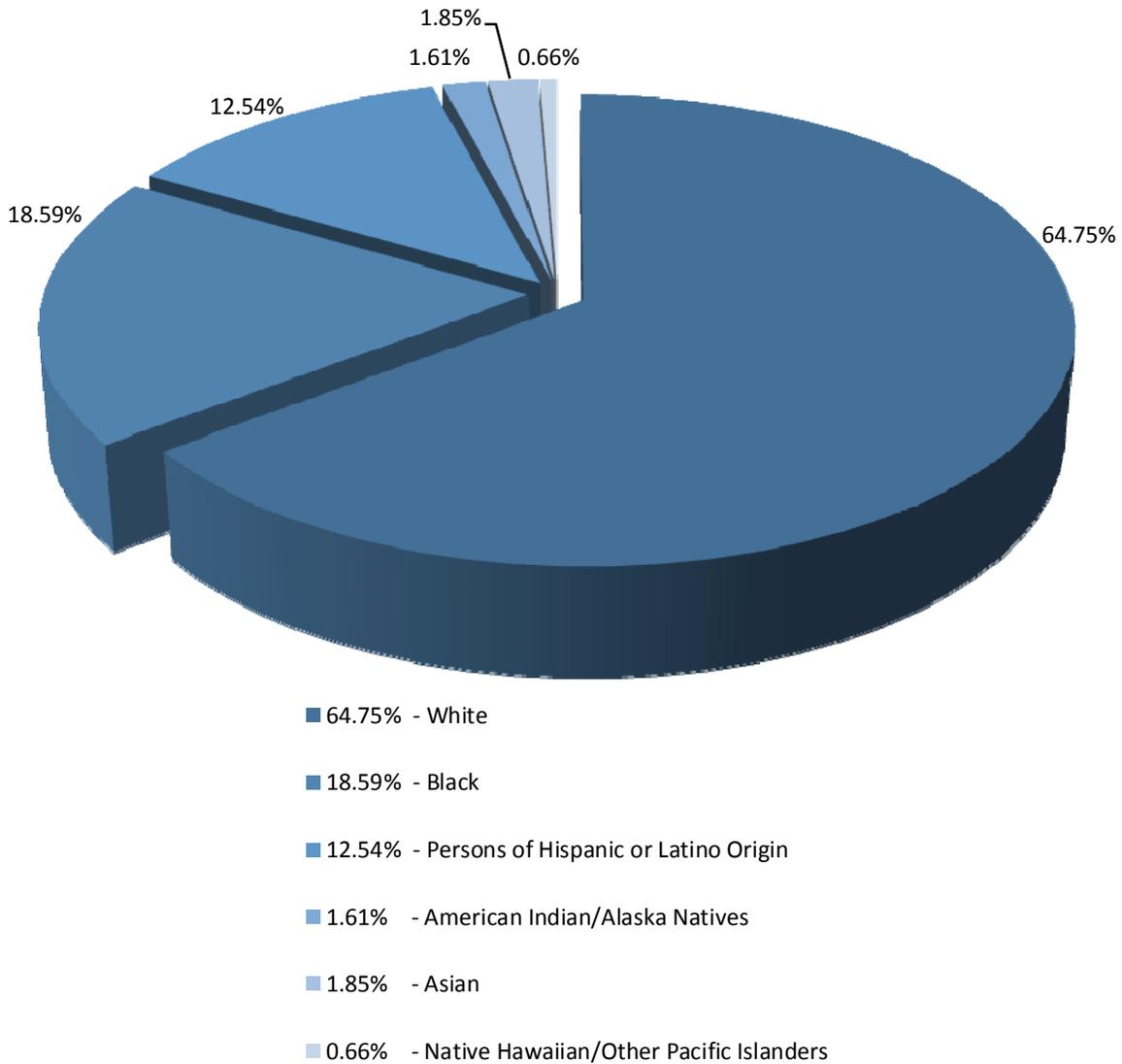
# BRS Statistics

*Primary Disability Type of BRS Job Seekers  
BRS assisted 8,781 Job Seekers with various disabilities  
in Federal Fiscal Year 2014*



- 38.16% Mental and Emotional Disabilities
- 24.43% Cognitive Disabilities
- 18.79% Hearing Disabilities
- 17.55% Physical Disabilities
- .68% Communicative Disabilities
- .35% Visual Disabilities
- .02% No Disabilities
- .01% Unknown

## Race/Ethnicity of BRS Job Seekers Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2014

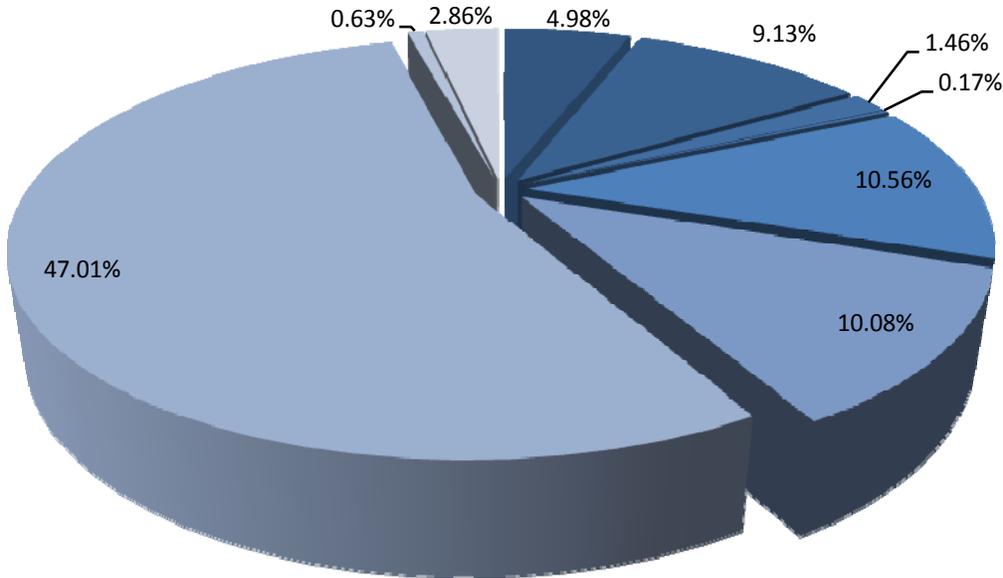


### Race/Ethnicity of Consumers Served in FFY 2014

White	3,222	64.75%
Black or African American	925	18.59%
Persons of Hispanic or Latino Origin	624	12.54%
American Indian/Alaska Natives	80	1.61%
Asian	92	1.85%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islanders	33	0.66%
<b>Total Served</b>	<b>4,976</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

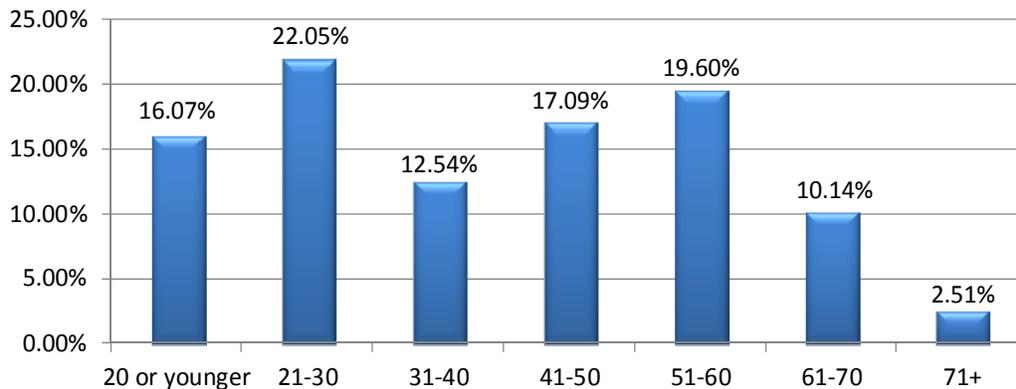
## Referral Sources

*BRS received 3,628 applications for services in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2014.*



- 4.98% - Community Rehabilitation Programs
- 9.13% - Educational Institutions (elementary/secondary)
- 1.46% - Educational Institutions (post-secondary)
- 0.17% - One-stop Employment/Training Centers
- 10.56% - Other sources
- 10.08% - Physician or other Medical Personnel or Medical Institutions (public or private)
- 47.01% - Self-referral
- 0.63% - Social Security Administration (Disability Determination Service or District office)
- 2.86% - Welfare Agency (State or local government)

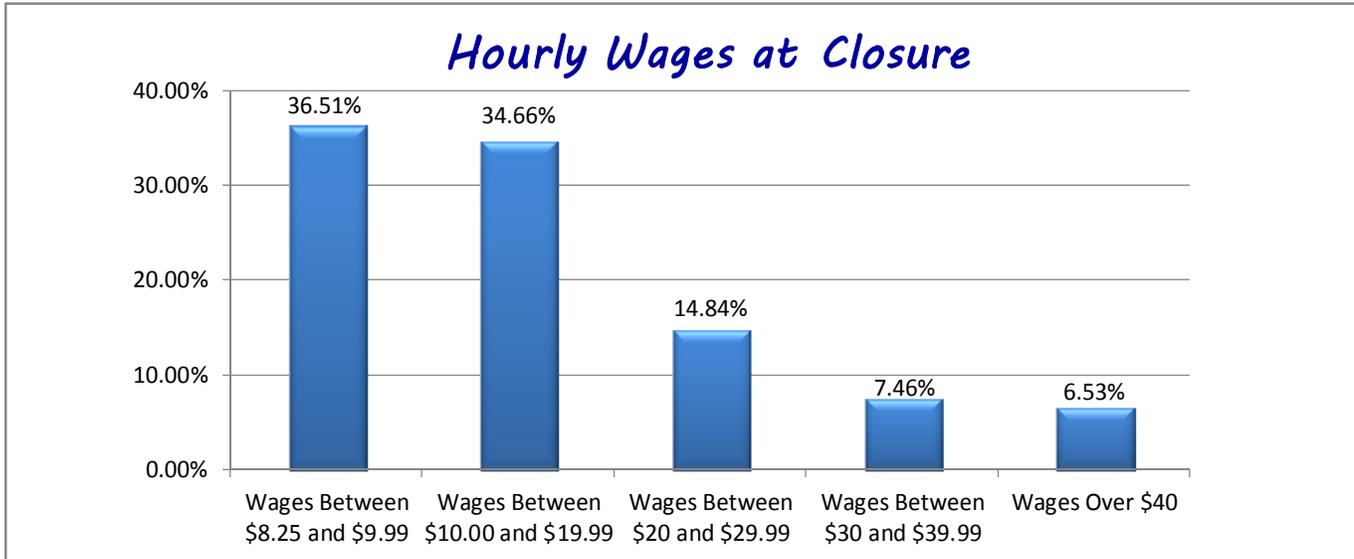
## Applicants by Age at Application - FFY 2014



## Competitive Employment Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2014

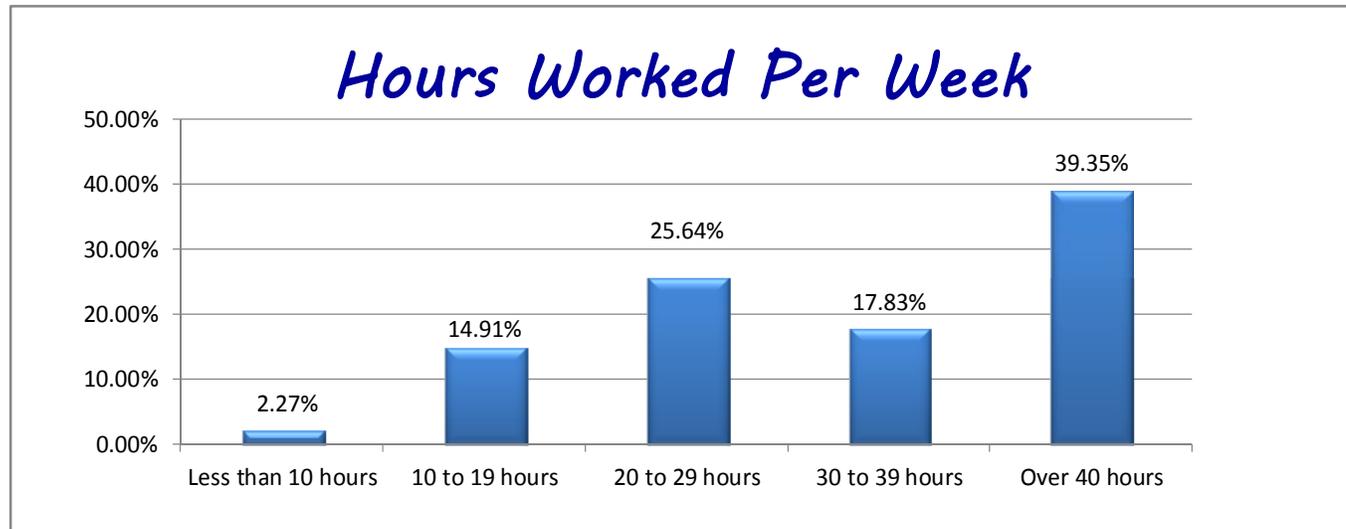
BRS Assisted 1,408 Job Seekers to enter or maintain employment in FFY 2014

Hourly Wages at Closure - FFY 2014	# of Job Seekers	% of Job Seekers		
Wages Between \$8.25 and \$9.99	514	36.51%	<b>Avg Hourly Wages</b>	<b>\$17.87</b>
Wages Between \$10.00 and \$19.99	488	34.66%	<b>Avg Annual Salary</b>	<b>\$31,470.00</b>
Wages Between \$20 and \$29.99	209	14.84%		
Wages Between \$30 and \$39.99	105	7.46%		
Wages Over \$40	92	6.53%		
<b>Total Job Seekers closed competitive</b>	<b>1408</b>	<b>100.00%</b>		



### Hours worked per week at closure - FFY 2014

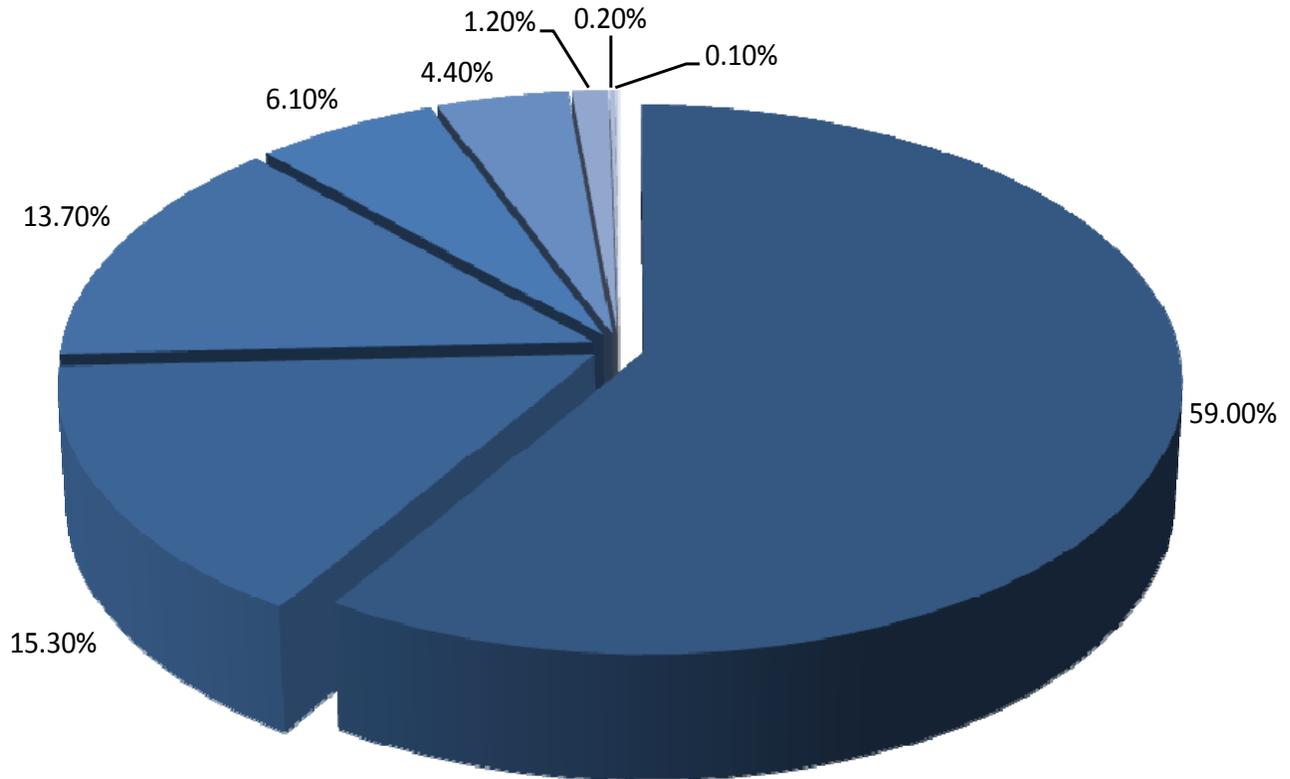
Hours	# of Job Seekers	% of Job Seekers		
Less than 10 hours	32	2.27%	<b>Avg # of hours per week</b>	<b>30.64</b>
10 to 19 hours	210	14.91%	<b>% of Job Seekers working F/T (&gt;35hrs)</b>	<b>49.08%</b>
20 to 29 hours	361	25.64%	<b>% of Job Seekers w/medical benefits from Employers</b>	<b>40.63%</b>
30 to 39 hours	251	17.83%		
Over 40 hours	554	39.35%		
<b>Total Job Seekers</b>	<b>1408</b>	<b>100.00%</b>		



## *Purchased Traditional Goods and Services*

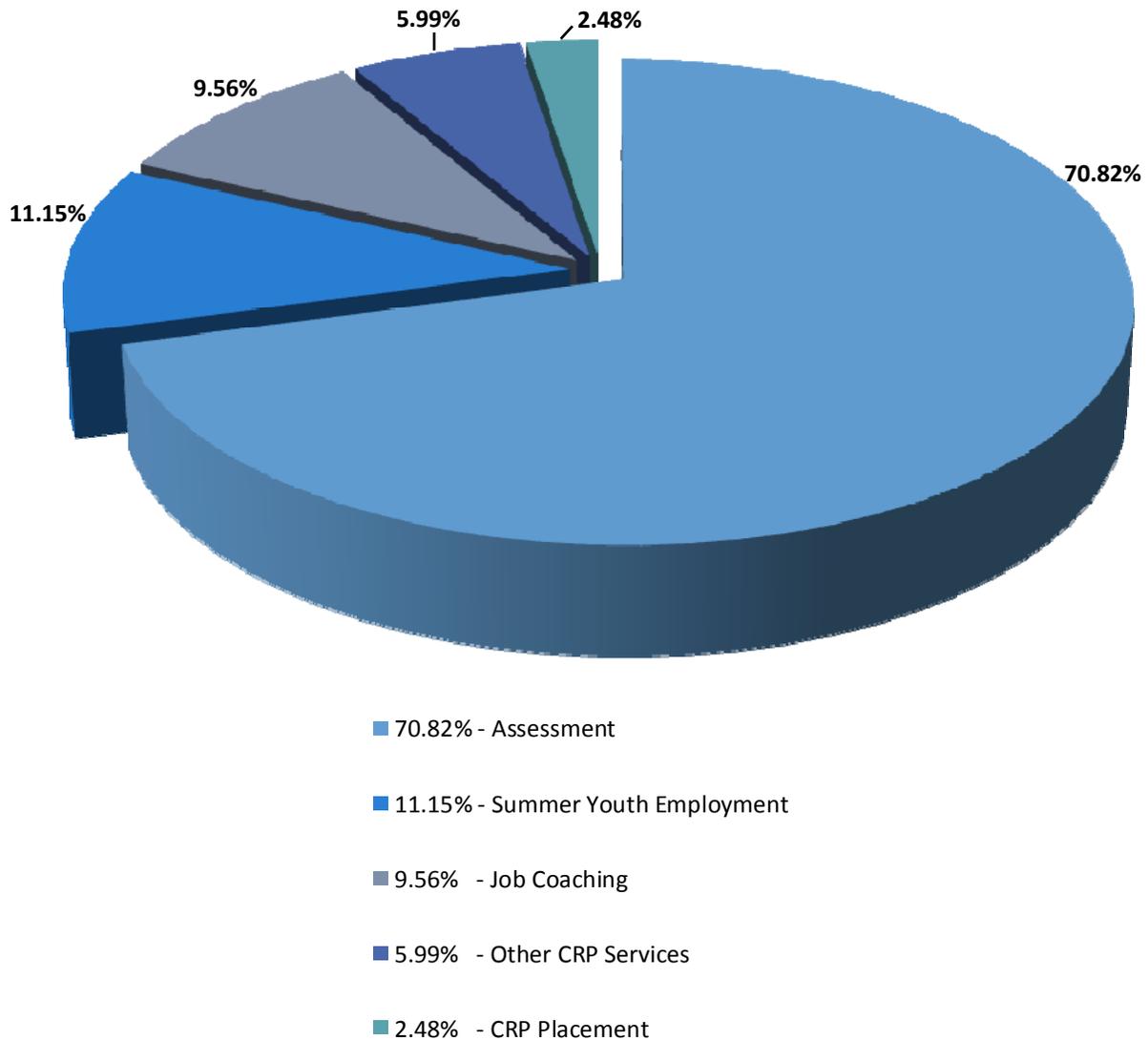
*Total Expenditures = \$11.9 Million*

*Federal Fiscal Year 2014*



- 59% - CRP Services: All services purchased from Community Rehabilitation Providers
- 15.30% - Training: All Proprietary School Programs, College Tuition/Fees, On-the-Job Training, Related Supplies
- 13.70% - Appliances: Prosthetic, Orthotic, Hearing Aids or other Assistive Devices
- 6.10% - Adaptive Tech and Services: Rehabilitation Technology and Devices, Vehicle and Home Modifications
- 4.40% - Medical & Psych: All Evaluation/Treatment for Physical, Psychological, and Psychiatric Conditions
- 1.20% - Other: All other services not otherwise categorized
- 0.20% - Equipment and Supplies: All goods purchased for consumers, excluding training-related fees
- 0.10% - Maintenance: Monetary support for goods/services that exceed normal consumer expenses

*Services Purchased From  
Community Rehabilitation Providers (CRP)  
Total Expenditures \$7.0 Million  
in Federal Fiscal Year 2014*



**CRP Service Categories**

**Assessment:** Evaluation of consumers in individual and competitive work situations in their communities.

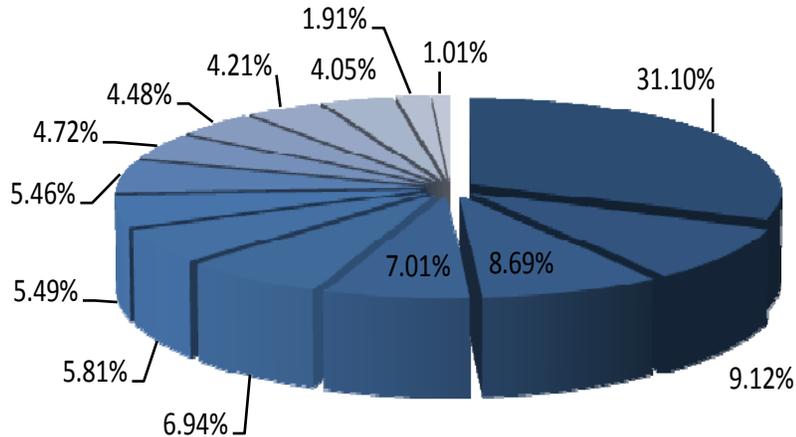
**Summer Youth Employment:** Individual work experiences in the community over the summer for transition-aged youth.

**Job Coaching:** One-on-one vocational support to assist job seekers in learning a skill or remediating for a deficit.

**Job Placement:** Finding and securing permanent job opportunities for job seekers in a competitive labor market.

**Other CRP Services:** Examples include interview preparedness.

## Jobs Acquired or Maintained in Competitive Employment in Federal Fiscal Year 2014



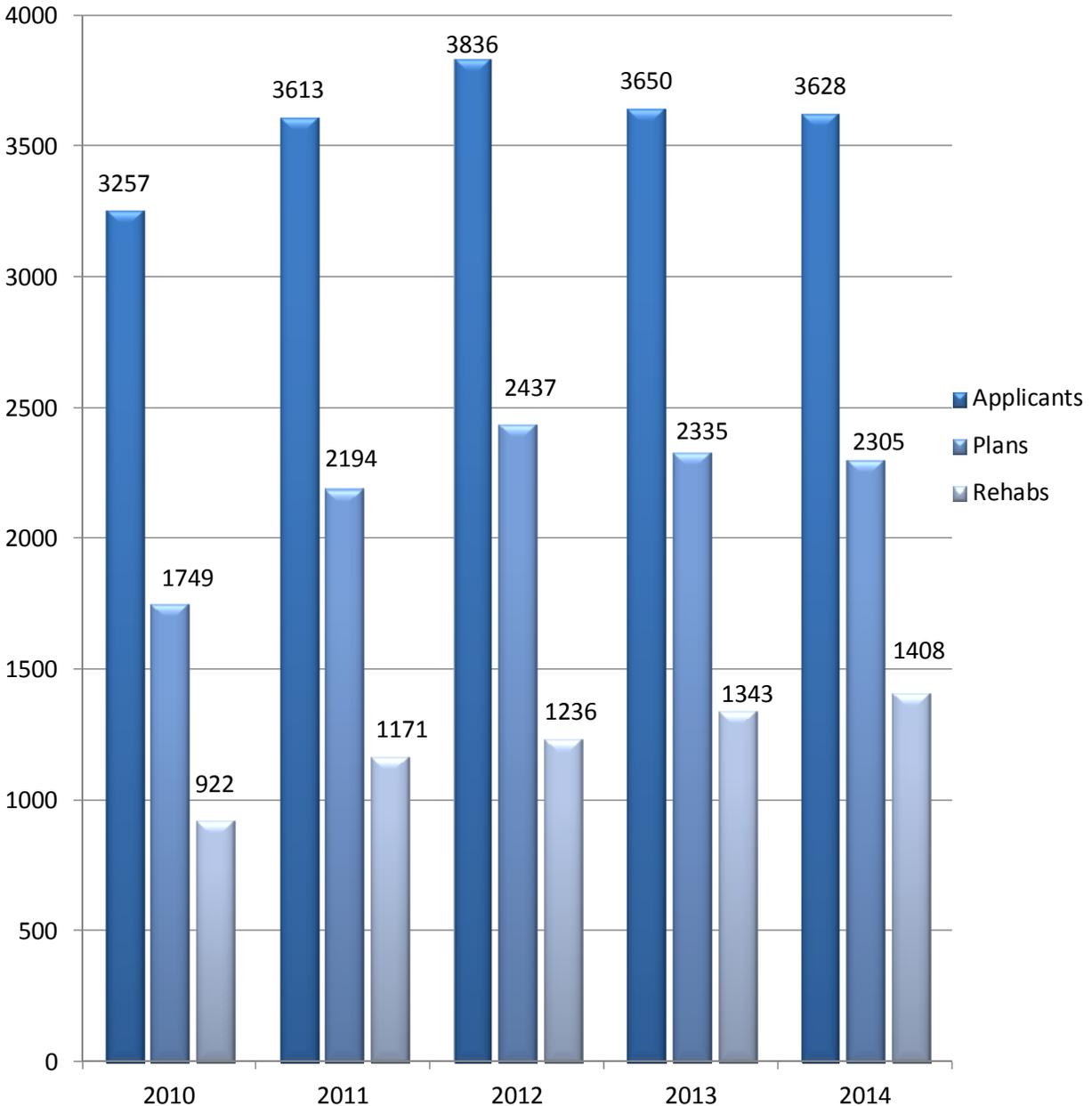
### Standard Occupational Classification (SOC)

#### Major Occupational Groups:

- 31.1% Business and Financial Operations Occupations
- 9.12% Sales and Related Occupations
- 8.69% Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance
- 7.01% Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations
- 6.94% Other \*
- 5.81% Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations
- 5.49% Construction and Extraction Occupations
- 5.46% Transportation and Material Moving Occupations
- 4.72% Personal Care and Service Occupations
- 4.48% Community and Social Service
- 4.21% Production Occupations
- 4.05% Education, Training, and Library
- 1.91% Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations
- 1.01% Management Occupations

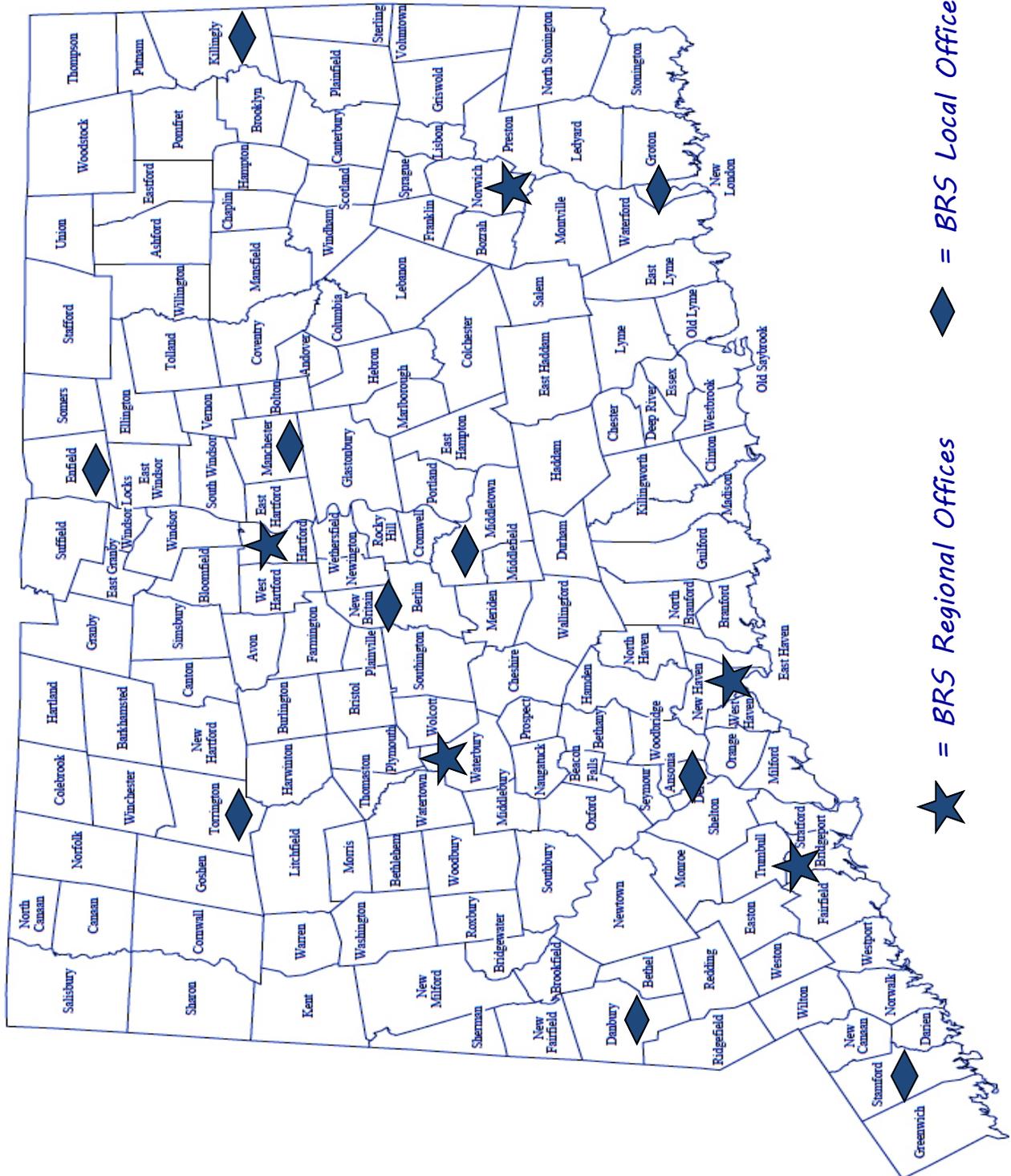
\* Other includes occupational groups with percentages that total less than 1%

## *Comparison of Applicants, Plans, and Successful Closures Over Last 5 Years: 2010 to 2014*



<i>Status</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2011</i>	<i>2012</i>	<i>2013</i>	<i>2014</i>
Applicants	3257	3613	3836	3650	3628
Plans	1749	2194	2437	2335	2305
Rehabs	922	1171	1236	1343	1408

# Map of Connecticut



# **BRS Office Telephone Numbers**

## **Central Office**

55 Farmington Avenue, 12th floor  
Hartford, CT 06105  
Telephone: 860-424-4844; Fax: 860-424-4850  
Toll-Free in Connecticut: 800-537-2549  
Video Phone: 860-920-7163

**Northern Regional Office:** 3580 Main Street, **Hartford**, CT 06120  
Telephone: 860-723-1400 Fax: 860-566-4766  
Video Phone: 860-920-7172

**Local Offices:** Danielson (*Killingly*): 860-412-7070  
Enfield: 860-899-3567  
Manchester (*East Hartford & Willimantic*): 860-647-5960;  
Video Phone: 860-288-4870  
New Britain: 860-612-3569

**Southern Regional Offices:** 414 Chapel Street, Suite 301, **New Haven**, CT 06511  
Telephone: 203-974-3000 Fax: 203-789-7850  
Video Phone: 203-584-9840

113 Salem Turnpike, Suite 200, **Norwich**, CT 06360  
Telephone: 860-859-5720; Fax: 860-859-5733  
Video Phone: 860-237-3525

**Local Offices:** Ansonia: 203-732-1667  
Middletown: 860-704-3070  
New London: 860-439-7686

**Western Regional Offices:** 1057 Broad Street, **Bridgeport**, CT 06604  
Telephone: 203-551-5500 Fax: 203-579-6903  
Video Phone: 203-416-6761

249 Thomaston Avenue, **Waterbury**, CT 06702  
Telephone: 203-578-4550; Fax: 203-578-4590  
Video Phone: 203-577-5319

**Local Offices:** Danbury: 203-207-8990  
Stamford: 203-251-9430  
Torrington: 860-496-6990

# State Rehabilitation Council – 2014

## Officers:

### *Chairperson*

James Quick	Bristol	Former VR Consumer
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### *Vice Chairperson*

Ellen Econs	Durham	Disability Advocacy Group
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### *Secretary*

Thomas Boudreau	Coventry	State Department of Education
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### *Treasurer*

Jan Hasenjager	New Britain	Disability Advocacy Group
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## Voting Members:

Marisel DeCordova	Hartford	Client Assistance Program (CAP)
Sharon Denson	West Hartford	Former VR Consumer
Michele Fontaine	Woodstock	Community Rehabilitation Provider
Roberta Hurley	Ivoryton	Community Rehabilitation Provider
Mary Pierson Keating, Esq.	Norwalk	Business
Tanisha Minnis	Mashantucket (Groton)	Section 121 – Native American
Gary Prushko	Shelton	Family Member
Larry D. Robinson	Bridgeport	Disability Advocacy Group
Bruce Stovall	Burlington	Business
Miriam Torres-Thorburn	Norwich	Business
Victor Xavier	Stratford	Disability Advocacy Group

## Non-Voting Members

Amy Porter	Ex-Officio	BRS Acting Director
Warren Stamp	Newtown	Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor

## *SRC 2015 Meeting Dates*

- ♦ January 21 – Webinar
- ♦ March 18
- ♦ May 20
- ♦ June 17
- ♦ September 16
- ♦ November 18

With the exception of the January 21<sup>st</sup> Webinar, meeting locations rotate around the state and will be announced once they are scheduled.

The SRC meetings will occur 1:00 – 3:30 PM and **are open to the public**. Please contact the SRC Liaison listed below to register your attendance and to request accommodations. **Accommodations must be requested four weeks prior to the date of the meeting.**

## *How to Become a Member of the SRC*

Members of the State Rehabilitation Council are appointed by the Governor of Connecticut for a term of three years. They represent BRS jobseekers, business and industry, community-based providers of vocational rehabilitation services, advocacy organizations, and state agencies that serve persons with disabilities. A majority of the SRC members have physical and/or mental disabilities.

If you would like to be considered for appointment to the SRC, please complete and mail or fax the completed SRC application (found on the next page) along with your current resume to the SRC Liaison listed below.

### *SRC Liaison*

Evelyn Oliver Knight , Liaison

State Rehabilitation Council

c/o the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services

55 Farmington Avenue

Hartford, CT 06105

Voice: 860-424-4871; Toll-free: 800-537-2549; Video Phone: 860-920-7163

E-mail: [evelyn.knight@ct.gov](mailto:evelyn.knight@ct.gov) ; Website: [www.ct.gov/brs](http://www.ct.gov/brs)

# *Notes*

# Application for Appointment to the SRC

Name of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address/City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Address/City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Nominator (if different than nominee): \_\_\_\_\_

Address/City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Day E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please identify your race/ethnicity (voluntary)?

*African-American*      *Asian*      *Caucasian*      *Hispanic/Spanish Speaking*  
*Multi-Racial*      *Native American/Alaskan*      *Other* \_\_\_\_\_

The SRC membership must include representatives of the following categories:

- ◆ at least one representative each of the **Statewide Independent Living Council, the Parent Training and Information Center, the Client Assistance Program - CAP** (Section 112), **Community Rehabilitation Program service providers, the State Education Department, the State Workforce Investment Board, and Section 121** (Vocational Rehabilitation [VR] for Native Americans);
- ◆ a qualified vocational rehabilitation counselor;
- ◆ four representatives of **business, industry and labor**;
- ◆ **representatives of disability advocacy groups** representing physical, cognitive, sensory, and mental disabilities and individuals who have difficulty representing themselves; and
- ◆ **current or former applicants or recipients** of VR services.

Which membership category is the most appropriate match for you? \_\_\_\_\_

## SRC Application (Page 2)

Please feel free to add extra pages to answer the following questions.

1. Why are you interested in serving on the State Rehabilitation Council?
2. What is your interest in vocational rehabilitation and the employment of persons with disabilities?
3. Please list any organizations in which you have held leadership positions, and your accomplishments while holding such positions:
4. Have you ever done legislative advocacy? If so, please describe your activities.
5. Do you have a disability? If so, please describe.
6. Have you ever been enrolled in the Bureau's Vocational Rehabilitation Program?
7. If you are employed, does your supervisor support your application for appointment to the State Rehabilitation Council?

## Statement of Commitment

"I, the undersigned, understand that the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC) is a working council which meets at least six times per year for the full Council and others times as needed for the committees. I also understand that I must work on a SRC committee, support legislative and public awareness campaigns as needed, participate in the process to complete the Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment (CSNA) when scheduled and the annual BRS State Plan, and attend at least one public meeting per year. If appointed to the SRC, I will meet these commitments."

Signed,

\_\_\_\_\_  
(your name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

**IN ORDER FOR YOUR APPLICATION TO BE CONSIDERED, YOU MUST INCLUDE A RESUME.**

You may attach any other information you feel would be valuable in evaluating your application. You may mail all information to **Evelyn Oliver Knight, Bureau of Rehabilitation Services, Department of Rehabilitation Services, 55 Farmington Avenue, 12th Floor, Hartford, CT 06105. You may fax all information to Evelyn at 860-424-4850.**

Remember to submit your updated resume and any attachments along with your completed application for consideration of your appointment to the SRC.

# *SRC 2014 Annual Report Credits*

## *Statistical Data:*

David Doukas, BRS Bureau Chief

David Johnson, BRS Consultant

Jeff Ogren, IT Consultant

## *Success Stories:*

Connect-Ability

## *CT Youth Leadership Forum Information:*

Karen Stigliano, Executive Director, CT Youth Leadership Project (CT-YLP)

## *Editing, Layout Design and SRC Photos:*

Evelyn Oliver Knight, BRS Consultant and SRC Liaison

The Department of Rehabilitation Services (DORS) is an Equal Opportunity Affirmative Action Employer and offers its programs regardless of race, color, national origin, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, religion, age, sex, or marital status.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, this report is available upon request in large print, Braille, or on audiocassette. If you need this report in an alternate format, please use the contact information listed on page 27.



