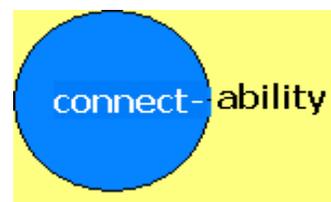


**Objective:** Technical Assistance Workgroup

**Meeting Date:** March 5, 2008

**Meeting Place:** UCE, Farmington



**Attendees:** Quincy Abbot, Larry Carlson, Kerri Fradette, Terry Nowakowski, Amy Porter, Noreen Shugrue, Margarita Torres, Robin Wood

### **Media Campaign:**

- Kerri presented a brief overview of the media campaign, providing handouts on media coverage.
- CO is geared up for the anticipated phone calls from the commercials.
- Based on past experience, technical assistance calls into our toll-free line increase when the TV ads are running. We will monitor and keep the group posted.

### **State as a Model Employer:**

- Amy reported on the initial meeting held with the Department of Administrative Services to begin exploring ways to make the State of Connecticut a model employer. The short term and long term goals are being reviewed by DAS, and will be incorporated into an agency-specific work plan. Possible short-term goals included connecting the agency website with Connect-Ability, exploring training components in existing trainings, and disseminating a survey to state employees about their experience with disability and state employment. Longer-term strategies might include joint development of training materials and expansion of existing internship programs.
- In response to the survey to state employees, Robin mentioned AZ may have some really good information for us to review, she will look into it

### **Local-Level Initiatives:**

- The group talked about the possible TA needs from the Local-level pilots and we will have to wait until the contracts are fully developed. This needs to be a discussion at the next meeting.

### **TA Statistics:**

- Larry reported on the data from the TA tracker, and he and Kerri walked the group thru the current TA process, the group had questions about people being available to take calls. We also realized that staff needs training on how to data enter the forms, some of the fields are not being utilized. Margarita stated that 1 out of 15 older tracker forms did not have a working telephone number and emphasized that the person taking the call needs to record the correct info. More research is needed. A copy of the current TA tracker form should be given to the group for review.

### **State Agency Visits:**

- Beyond the DAS visit, the next state agency visit is with DMR on March 7, 2008. The workgroup also suggested that we explore connections with DSS Programs such as Behavioral Health Partnership, HUSKY and other DSS Waivers.

### **Project Plan:**

- The workgroup went through the proposed work plan and assigned dates to the major milestones.