



State Universities & Private Colleges Appropriations Committee

November 3, 2009
1:00 p.m.
12 House Office Building

ACTION Packet

Larry Cretul
Speaker

William Proctor
Chair

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT
State Universities & Private Colleges Appropriations Committee

11/3/2009 1:00:00PM

Location: 12 HOB

Summary: No Bills Considered

Committee meeting was reported out: Tuesday, November 03, 2009 5:26:03PM

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT
State Universities & Private Colleges Appropriations Committee

11/3/2009 1:00:00PM

Location: 12 HOB

Attendance:

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Excused</i>
William Proctor (Chair)	X		
Ronald Brisé	X		
Rachel V. Burgin	X		
Faye Culp	X		
Chris Dorworth	X		
Brad Drake	X		
Luis Garcia	X		
Mia Jones	X		
Kurt Kelly	X		
Seth McKeel	X		
H. Marlene O'Toole	X		
Pat Patterson	X		
Betty Reed	X		
Geraldine Thompson	X		
Totals:	14	0	0

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COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT
State Universities & Private Colleges Appropriations Committee

11/3/2009 1:00:00PM

Location: 12 HOB

Other Business Appearance:

Kathy Mizereck, Executive Director (Lobbyist) - Information Only
Fla. Assoc. of Postsecondary Schools & Colleges
150 South Monroe Street, Suite 303
Tallahassee FL 32301
Phone: 850-577-3139

Willis Holcombe, Chancellor (State Employee) - Information Only
Florida College System, Dept. of Education
325 W. Gaines St.
Tallahassee FL 32399
Phone: 850-245-9455

Ed Moore, President - Information Only
Independent Colleges & Universities of Florida

ABLE Grant
Dr. Arthur Keiser, Chancellor - Information Only
Keiser University

Blind Services Program Overview
Kurt Ponchak, Chief of Operations and Compliance (State Employee) - Information Only
Division of Blind Services, Department of Education
325 W. Gaines St.
Tallahassee FL 32399
Phone: 850-245-9633

Budget Reductions
Linda Champion, Deputy Commissioner Finance & Operations (Lobbyist) (State Employee) - Information Only
Florida Department of Education
325 W. Gaines St.
Tallahassee FL 32312
Phone: 850-245-9633

DVR Update
Bill Palmer, Division Director (Lobbyist) (State Employee) - Information Only
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Department of Education
2002-A Old St. Augustine Road
Tallahassee FL 32301
Phone: 850-245-9399

Schedule VIII B Budget Reductions
Eric Smith, Commissioner (Lobbyist) (State Employee) - Information Only
Florida Department of Education
325 W. Gaines St.
Tallahassee FL 32312
Phone: 850-245-9633

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State Universities & Private Colleges Appropriations Committee

11/3/2009 1:00:00PM

Location: 12 HOB

Schedule VIII B Budget Reductions

Tim Jones, Chief Financial Officer (State Employee) - Information Only

Board of Governors, SUS

325 W. Gaines St., Suite 1614

Tallahassee FL 32399

Phone: 850-245-0466

Committee meeting was reported out: Tuesday, November 03, 2009 5:26:03PM

Department of Education - Higher Education

Schedule VIII B - 10% General Revenue Budget Reduction for 2010-11

Based on 2009-10 Recurring General Revenue Appropriation

Approp Cat Title	Fund Title	2009-10 GR Appropriation	2009-10 Nonrecurring GR Appropriation	Recurring General Revenue	EOG Exemptions	2009-10 Recurring GR for TARGET	Federally Required Match	DOE Hold Harmless	2009-10 RECURRING GR LESS EXEMPTIONS	TOTAL REDUCTION	TOTAL OPERATING FUNDS % REDUCTION
VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION											
SALARIES AND BENEFITS	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	9,255,992		9,269,888		9,269,888	(9,269,888)		0	0	
G/A-ADULT DISABILITY FNDS	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	14,556,949		14,556,949		14,556,949			14,556,949	(1,467,451)	-10.08%
G/A-FL ENDOWMENT/VOC REHAB	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	328,292		328,292		328,292			328,292	(33,094)	-10.08%
CONTRACTED SERVICES	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	444,415		444,415		444,415			444,415	(44,800)	-10.08%
INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICE	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	1,283,337		1,283,337		1,283,337			1,283,337	(129,371)	-10.08%
PURCHASED CLIENT SERVICES	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	26,018,630		26,018,630		26,018,630	(26,018,630)		0	0	
TR/DMS/HR SVCS/STW CONTRCT	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	74,883		74,883	(74,883)	0			0	0	
OTHER DATA PROCESSING SVCS	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	154,316		154,316		154,316	(154,316)		0	0	
TOTAL VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION		52,116,814	0	52,130,710	(74,883)	52,055,827	(35,442,834)	0	16,612,993	(1,674,716)	-10.08%
BLIND SERVICES											
SALARIES AND BENEFITS	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	4,013,127		4,019,445		4,019,445	(748,256)		3,271,189	(329,761)	-10.08%
OTHER PERSONAL SERVICES	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	145,801		145,801		145,801	(22,722)		123,079	(12,407)	-10.08%
EXPENSES	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	422,055		422,055		422,055	(206,378)		215,677	(21,742)	-10.08%
G/A-COMM REHAB FACILITIES	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	846,220		846,220		846,220	(846,220)		0	0	
OPERATING CAPITAL OUTLAY	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	54,294		54,294		54,294	(44,294)		10,000	(1,008)	-10.08%
G/A-CLIENT SERVICES	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	8,522,011		8,522,011		8,522,011	(6,912,695)		1,609,316	(162,231)	-10.08%
CONTRACTED SERVICES	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	56,140		56,140		56,140	(34,140)		22,000	(2,218)	-10.08%
RISK MANAGEMENT INSURANCE	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	7,228		7,228	(7,228)	0			0	0	
LIBRARY SERVICES	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	89,735		89,735		89,735			89,735	(9,046)	-10.08%
TR/DMS/HR SVCS/STW CONTRCT	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	4,336		4,336	(4,336)	0			0	0	
REGIONAL DATA CENTERS-SUS	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	1,127		1,127		1,127			1,127	(114)	-10.12%
TOTAL BLIND SERVICES		14,162,074	0	14,168,392	(11,564)	14,156,828	(8,814,705)	0	5,342,123	(538,527)	-10.08%
PRIVATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES											
G/A-MED TRG/SIMULATION LAB	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	1,644,493		1,644,493		1,644,493			1,644,493	(165,777)	-10.08%
ABLE GRANTS	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	2,552,287		2,552,287		2,552,287			2,552,287	(257,290)	-10.08%
HIST BLACK PRIV COLLEGES	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	6,816,514		6,816,514		6,816,514			6,816,514	(687,157)	-10.08%
G/A-1ST ACC MED SCH-U OF M	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	4,946,237		4,946,237		4,946,237			4,946,237	(498,618)	-10.08%
ACADEMIC PROGRAM CONTRACTS	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	781,832		781,832		781,832			781,832	(78,815)	-10.08%
G/A-REG DIABETES CTR - UM	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	416,685		416,685		416,685			416,685	(42,005)	-10.08%
FLA RESIDENT ACCESS GRANT	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	58,301,709		58,301,709		58,301,709			58,301,709	(5,877,257)	-10.08%
NOVA SE UNIV-HEALTH PROGMS	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	3,466,492		3,466,492		3,466,492			3,466,492	(349,449)	-10.08%
LECOM / FL - HEALTH PROGS	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	785,106		785,106		785,106			785,106	(79,144)	-10.08%
TOTAL PRIVATE COLLEGES AND UNIV		79,711,355	0	79,711,355	0	79,711,355	0	0	79,711,355	(8,035,512)	-10.08%
STUDENT FINANCIAL AID STATE											
PREPAID TUITION SCHOLARSH	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	3,275,611		3,275,611		3,275,611			3,275,611	(330,206)	-10.08%
G/A-MINORITY TCHR SCHLRSH	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	1,263,442		1,263,442		1,263,442			1,263,442	(127,364)	-10.08%
M MCLEOD BETHUNE SCHOLAR	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	372,309		372,309		372,309			372,309	(37,532)	-10.08%

Department of Education - Higher Education											
Schedule VIII B - 10% General Revenue Budget Reduction for 2010-11											
Based on 2009-10 Recurring General Revenue Appropriation											
Approp Cat Title	Fund Title	2009-10 GR Appropriation	2009-10 Nonrecurring GR Appropriation	Recurring General Revenue	EOG Exemptions	2009-10 Recurring GR for TARGET	Federally Required Match	DOE Hold Harmless	2009-10 RECURRING GR LESS EXEMPTIONS	TOTAL REDUCTION	TOTAL OPERATING FUNDS % REDUCTION
STUDENT FINANCIAL AID	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	78,870,830		78,870,830		78,870,830			78,870,830	(7,950,781)	-10.08%
JOSE MARTI SCH CHALL GRANT	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	61,431		61,431		61,431			61,431	(6,193)	-10.08%
TRANSFER/FL EDUCATION FUND	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	1,987,181		1,987,181		1,987,181			1,987,181	(200,323)	-10.08%
TOTAL STUDENT FINANCIAL AID - STATE		85,830,804	0	85,830,804	0	85,830,804	0	0	85,830,804	(8,652,399)	-10.08%
WORKFORCE EDUCATION											
PERFORMANCE BASED INCENTIV	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	5,286,953	159,956	5,126,997		5,126,997			5,126,997	(516,840)	-10.08%
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	348,993,297	9,357,706	339,635,591		339,635,591			339,635,591	(34,237,857)	-10.08%
G/A-SKILL ASSESSMENT/TRNG	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	7,000,000	4,000,000	3,000,000		3,000,000			3,000,000	(302,423)	-10.08%
TOTAL WORKFORCE EDUCATION		361,280,250	13,517,662	347,762,588	0	347,762,588	0	0	347,762,588	(35,057,120)	-10.08%
COMMUNITY COLLEGES											
G/A-COMM COLLEGE PRG FUND	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	841,579,351	29,124,808	812,454,543		812,454,543			812,454,543	(81,901,613)	-10.08%
G/A - COMM COLL BAC PROGS	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	8,804,929	257,530	8,547,399		8,547,399			8,547,399	(861,643)	-10.08%
COMM ON COMMUNITY SERVICE	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	589,845		589,845		589,845			589,845	(59,461)	-10.08%
G/A-DISTANCE LEARNING	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	324,668		324,668		324,668			324,668	(32,729)	-10.08%
TOTAL COMMUNITY COLLEGES		851,298,793	29,382,338	821,916,455	0	821,916,455	0	0	821,916,455	(82,855,446)	-10.08%
TOTAL HIGHER EDUCATION		1,444,400,090	42,900,000	1,401,520,304	(86,447)	1,401,433,857	(44,257,539)	0	1,357,176,318	(136,813,720)	-10.08%
TOTAL PREK-12 EDUCATION		8,072,182,368	0	8,072,259,202	(978,504)	8,071,280,698	0	(31,633,403)	8,039,647,295	(810,457,736)	(0)
GRAND TOTAL EDUCATION		9,516,582,458	42,900,000	9,473,779,506	(1,064,951)	9,472,714,555	(44,257,539)	(31,633,403)	9,396,823,613	(947,271,456)	-10.08%

Department of Education - Higher Education								
Schedule VIII B - 10% Trust Fund Budget Reduction for 2010-11								
Based on 2009-10 Recurring State Trust Fund Appropriations								
Approp Cat Title	Fund Title	2009-10 TF Appropriation	Recurring Trust Funds	State Exemptions *	DOE Hold Harmless	2009-10 RECURRING TF LESS EXEMPTIONS	TOTAL REDUCTION	% REDUCTION OVER RECURRING TF
VOCATIONAL REHAB								
SALARIES AND BENEFITS	WORKERS' COMP ADMIN TF	4,538,516	4,538,516			4,538,516	(453,852)	-10.00%
OTHER PERSONAL SERVICES	WORKERS' COMP ADMIN TF	125,742	125,742			125,742	(12,574)	-10.00%
EXPENSES	WORKERS' COMP ADMIN TF	941,142	941,142			941,142	(94,114)	-10.00%
OPERATING CAPITAL OUTLAY	WORKERS' COMP ADMIN TF	49,601	49,601			49,601	(4,960)	-10.00%
CONTRACTED SERVICES	WORKERS' COMP ADMIN TF	3,213,708	3,213,708			3,213,708	(321,371)	-10.00%
RISK MANAGEMENT INSURANCE	WORKERS' COMP ADMIN TF	34,330	34,330	(34,330)		0	0	
EDU TECH/INFORMATION SRVCS	WORKERS' COMP ADMIN TF	3,894	3,894			3,894	(389)	-10.00%
SOUTHWOOD SRC	WORKERS' COMP ADMIN TF	240,474	240,474			240,474	(24,047)	-10.00%
TR/DMS/HR SVCS/STW CONTRCT	WORKERS' COMP ADMIN TF	33,259	33,259	(33,259)		0	0	
TOTAL VOCATIONAL REHAB		9,113,077	9,113,077	0	0	9,113,077	(911,307)	-10.00%
BLIND SERVICES								
OTHER PERSONAL SERVICES	GRANTS AND DONATIONS TF	10,047	10,047			10,047	(1,005)	-10.01%
EXPENSES	GRANTS AND DONATIONS TF	44,395	44,395			44,395	(4,440)	-10.00%
G/A-CLIENT SERVICES	GRANTS AND DONATIONS TF	252,746	252,746			252,746	(25,274)	-10.00%
LIBRARY SERVICES	GRANTS AND DONATIONS TF	100,000	100,000			100,000	(10,000)	-10.00%
VEND STANDS-EQUIP & SUPP	GRANTS AND DONATIONS TF	595,000	595,000			595,000	(59,500)	-10.00%
TOTAL BLIND SERVICES		1,002,188	1,002,188	0	0	1,002,188	(100,219)	-10.00%
STUDENT FINANCIAL AID - STATE								
G/A-FL BRIGHT FUTURES/PROG	EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENT TF	418,878,452	418,878,452			418,878,452	(41,887,845)	-10.00%
FGIC-MATCHING GRANT PROG	EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENT TF	6,848,120	6,848,120			6,848,120	(684,812)	-10.00%
M MCLEOD BETHUNE SCHOLAR	ST ST FIN ASSIST TF	226,442	226,442			226,442	(22,644)	-10.00%
STUDENT FINANCIAL AID	EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENT TF	28,500,696	28,500,696			28,500,696	(2,850,070)	-10.00%
JOSE MARTI SCH CHALL GRANT	ST ST FIN ASSIST TF	98,667	98,667			98,667	(9,867)	-10.00%
TOTAL STUDENT FINANCIAL AID - STATE		454,552,377	454,552,377	0	0	454,552,377	(45,455,238)	-10.00%
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT								
	EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENT TF	3,828,526	3,828,526			3,828,526	(382,853)	-10.00%
G/A-COMM COLL LOTT FUNDS								
	EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENT TF	116,959,158	116,959,158			116,959,158	(11,695,916)	-10.00%
TOTAL HIGHER EDUCATION		585,455,326	585,455,326	0	0	585,455,326	(58,545,533)	-10.00%
TOTAL PREK-12 EDUCATION		538,547,024	503,847,024	(209,440)	0	503,637,584	(50,363,758)	-10.00%
GRAND TOTAL		1,124,002,350	1,089,302,350	(209,440)	0	1,089,092,910	(108,909,291)	-10.00%
* State Exemptions include all Federal Trust Funds								



Division of Vocational Rehabilitation



Mission of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

To provide services to eligible individuals with ***physical and/or mental impairments*** that will enable an individual to achieve an employment goal and/or enhance their independence.



Federal Program Administered by the States and Territories

- Authorized by the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended
- State is required to match the federal Vocational Rehabilitation grant award at a 21.3% state to a 78.7% federal ratio
- Chapter 413, Florida Statutes
- Policy follows federal Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)



Vocational Rehabilitation

Three Guiding Principles:

1. Full inclusion and participation in the mainstream for people with disabilities
2. Right to pursue a meaningful career, not just work
3. Respect for self-determination and informed choice



Main Programs

- Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)

- State/Federal Partnership
- Federal Pays Approximately \$4 to every \$1 Florida Invests

- Bureau of Rehabilitation & Reemployment Services (BRRS) aka Injured Worker Program

- Helps Workers Injured on the Job to Return to Employment
- Worker's Compensation Trust Fund



Pass Through Programs

- Adults with Disabilities (AWD)—Operated in 50 School Districts and Community Colleges
- Independent Living
 - 16 Centers for Independent Living (CILS)
 - Florida Independent Living Council
- Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology (FAAST)
- Able Trust - High School/High Tech

Impact on Florida's Economy 2008-09

Program	Individuals Placed or Retained in Employment	Average Annual Salary	Projected Annual Earnings in One Year
Vocational Rehabilitation	8,077	\$20,485	\$165,457,345
Injured Worker	1,310	\$26,246	\$ 34,381,960

Projected salaries earned by customers employed in their first year of employment. Data compiled from RIMS, the data system used for both state and federal reporting and from ARAMIS, the data system for the Injured Worker program.



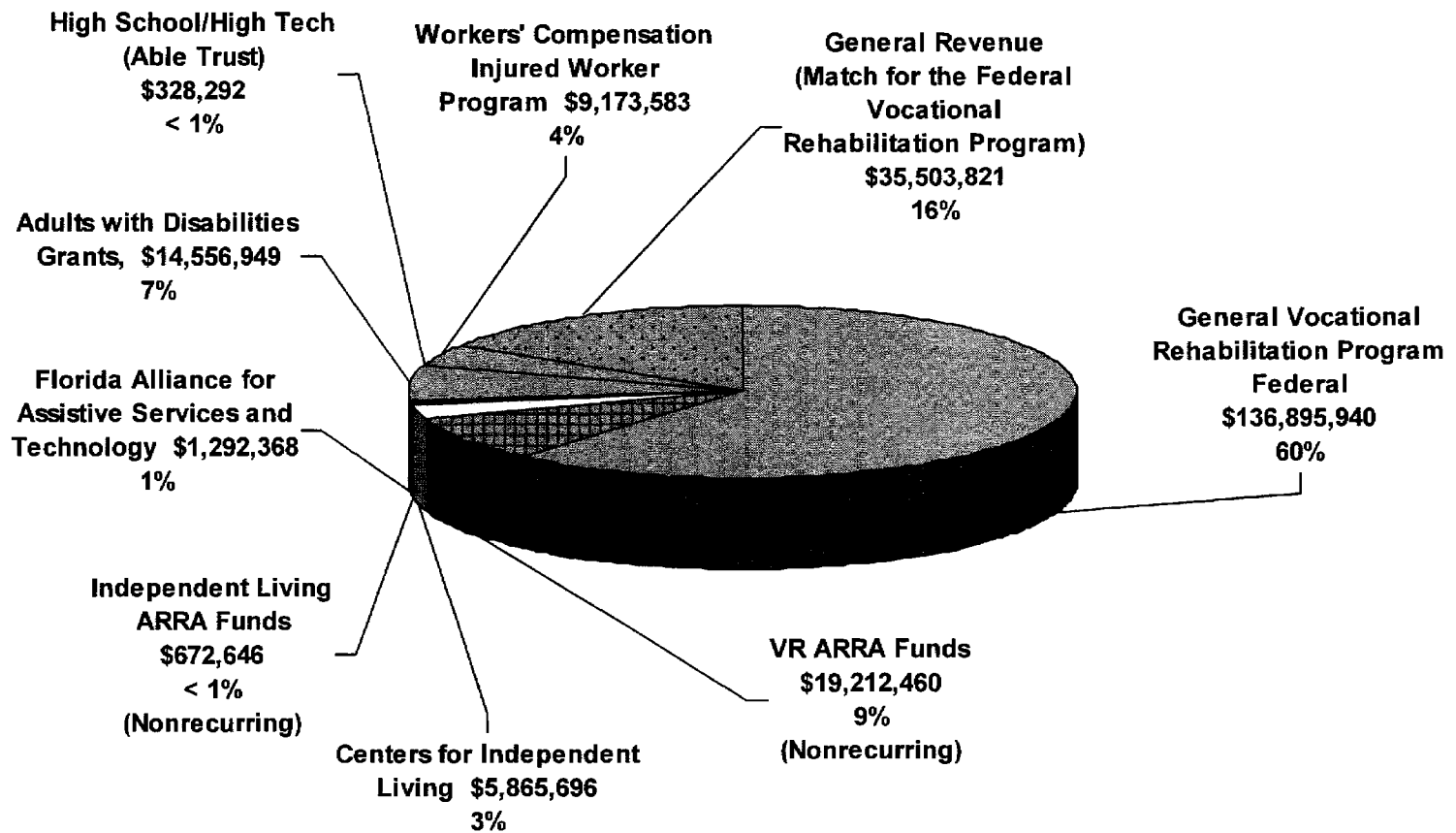
Policy Issues

- ❑ American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA)
- ❑ Priority of Services for Individuals with the Most Significant Disabilities (Order of Selection)
- ❑ Priority to Transition Youth with Disabilities From School to Work
- ❑ Priority for Social Security Income Recipients and Social Security Disability Insurance Beneficiaries
- ❑ Federal Measures Focus on Number of Customers Served and Employed
- ❑ Comprehensive System of Personnel Development
- ❑ Financial Means Testing
- ❑ DVR Chapter 413, F.S., Update



Budget

Division Budget by Program 2009-10 Base Budget



Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Budget 2009-10 Base Budget

	General Revenue	Workers Comp TF	Rehab TF **	Total All Funds
Salaries and Benefits*	9,255,992	4,531,717	36,045,778	49,833,487
Other Personal Services		125,742	2,994,763	3,120,505
Expenses		941,142	10,490,022	11,431,164
Adults with Disabilities Grant	14,556,949			14,556,949
Florida Endowment for VR	328,292			328,292
Operating Capital Outlay		49,601	616,986	666,587
Contracted Services*	444,415	3,213,708	8,072,039	11,730,162
Independent Living	1,283,337		5,255,005	6,538,342
Purchased Client Services*	26,018,630		96,987,847	123,006,477
Risk Management		34,330	386,922	421,252
TR/DMS/SVCS/STW Contract*	74,883	33,259	281,690	389,832
Data Processing Services*	154,316		765,762	920,078
Southwood Shared Resource Center		240,474		240,474
Ed/Technology Info Services		3,610	314,544	318,154
Totals	52,116,814	9,173,583	162,211,358	223,501,755

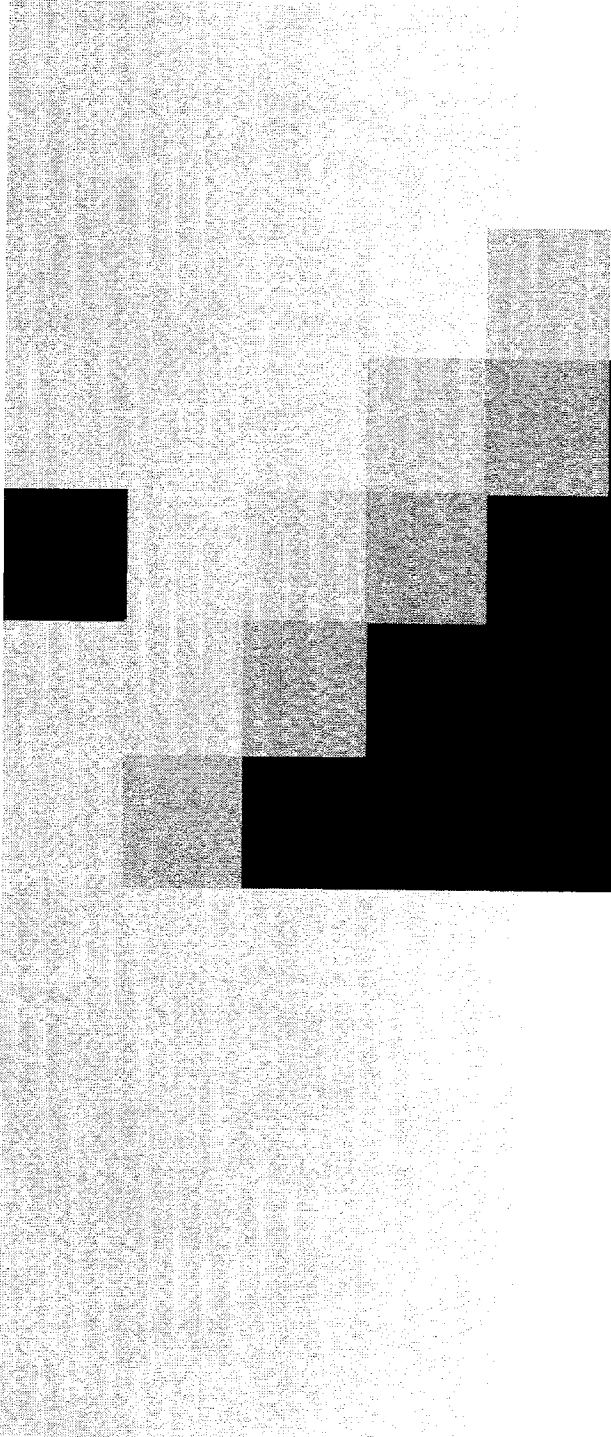
* Items shaded in green are match categories for Voc Rehab federal funds.

** Note: \$19,885,107 of the Rehab Trust Fund is from American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), and is non-recurring. **Rehab TF items shaded in blue** contain ARRA funds.



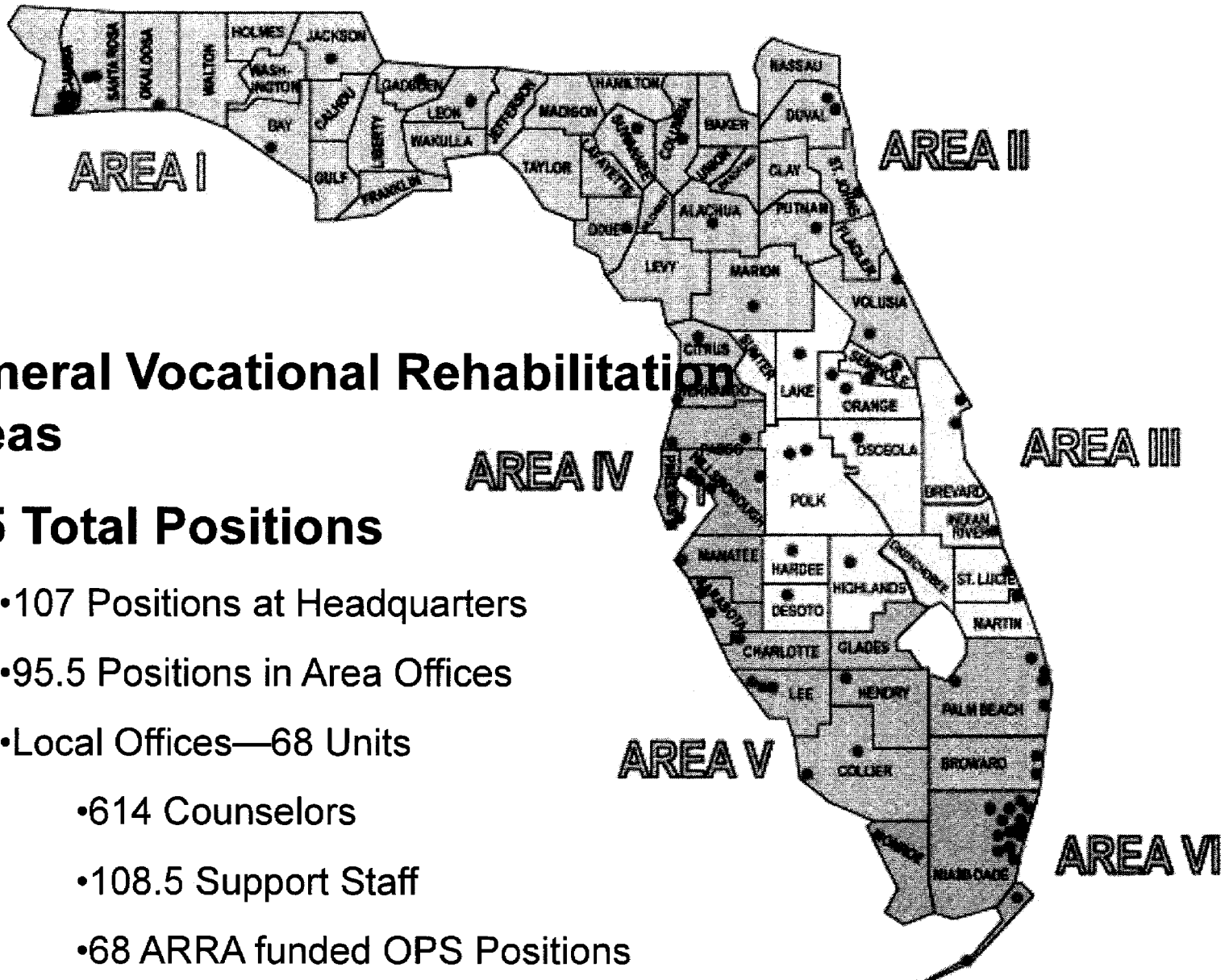
ARRA – Initiatives to Invest Federal Stimulus Funds

- Invite more individuals from the waiting list
- Invest in On-the-Job Training
- Hire 68 temporary employees – one at each VR Office



General Vocational Rehabilitation Program Overview

*An employment program for
individuals with disabilities*



General Vocational Rehabilitation Areas

925 Total Positions

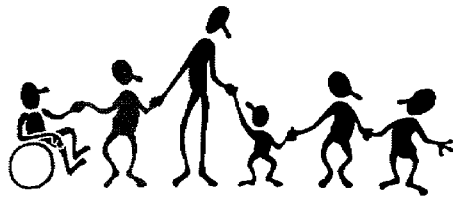
- 107 Positions at Headquarters
- 95.5 Positions in Area Offices
- Local Offices—68 Units
 - 614 Counselors
 - 108.5 Support Staff
 - 68 ARRA funded OPS Positions



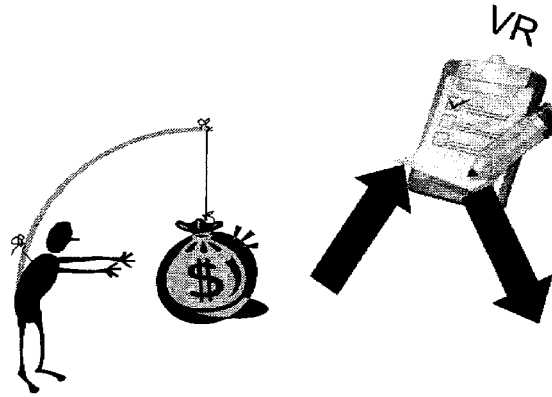
Eligibility for the General Vocational Rehabilitation Program

- The presence of a physical or mental impairment
- Which constitutes or results in a **substantial impediment to employment;** and
- The individual requires VR services to **obtain, regain or retain employment.**

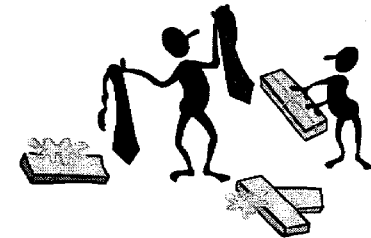
VR Process



Floridian with Disability Wants to Work and Comes to VR



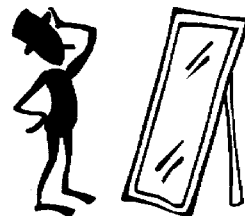
Counselor and Customer Evaluate Skills and Barriers
Counselor Determines Eligibility and Degree of Disability



Customer and Counselor Develop a Plan for Services Leading to Employment



Customer Receives Services to Overcome Barriers to Employment



Counselor Assists Customer Prepare for Employment

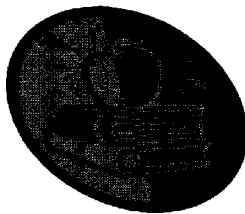


Counselor Helps Customer Obtain Employment

Primary Services

Examples of Services Written into the Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE) That Can Directly Benefit the Individual Going to Work

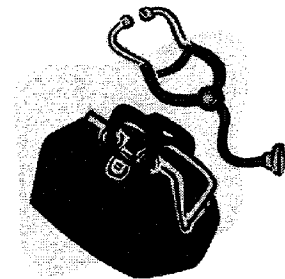
Education and Training



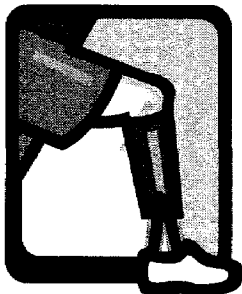
Mental Health Services



Medical Services



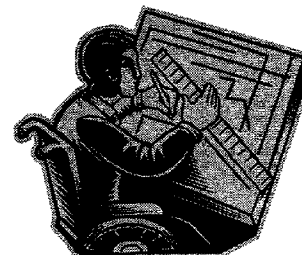
Prosthetics and Orthotics



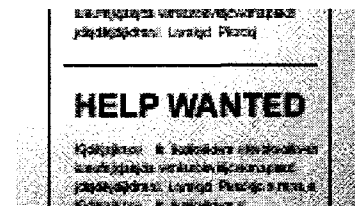
Job Coach



Rehabilitation Technology



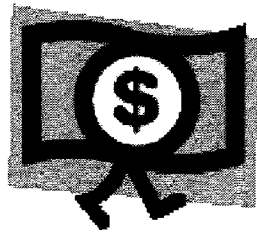
Job Placement



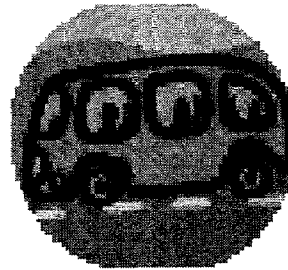
Support Services

Examples of Services That May be Provided to Support Primary Services

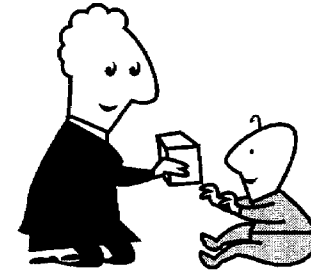
Maintenance



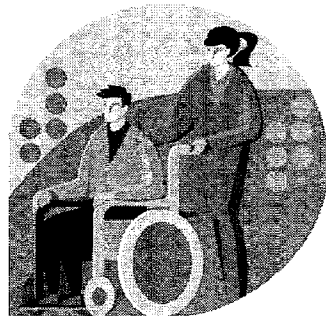
Transportation



Child Care



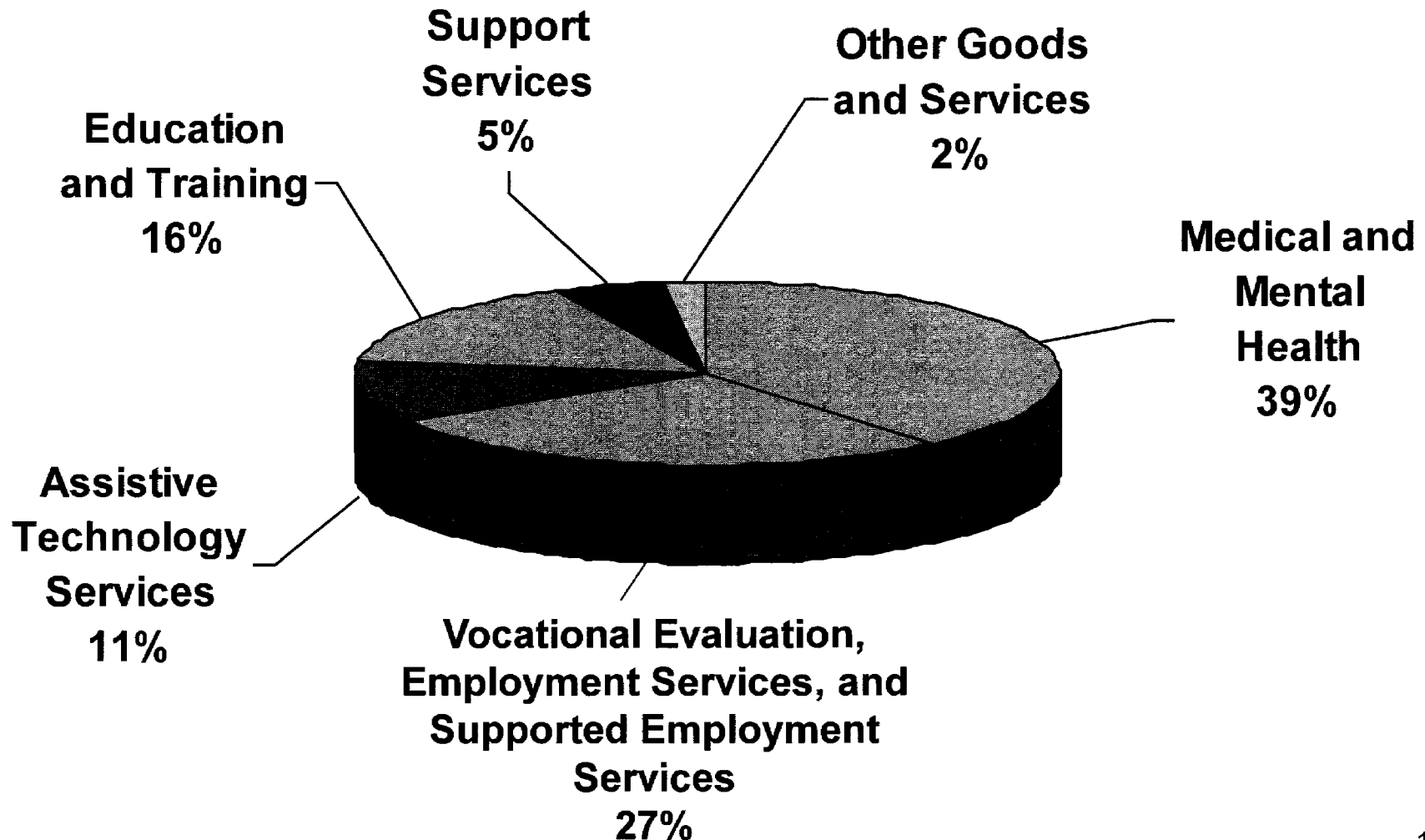
**Personal Care
Assistant**



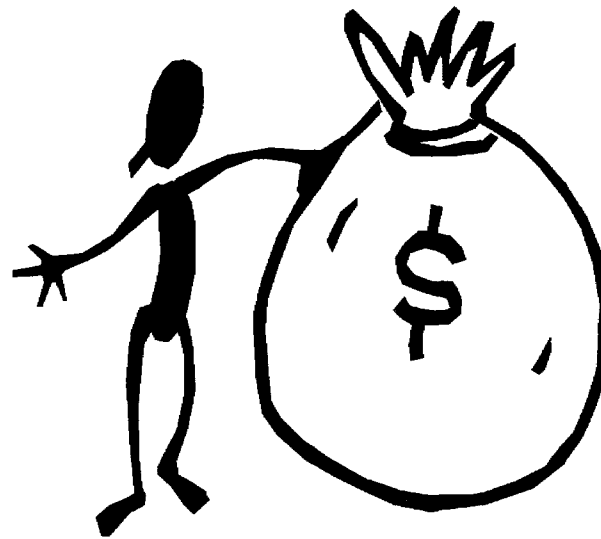
**Home Health
Care**



Purchased Client Services



Employment Outcome



Customer is Employed for a
Minimum of 90 Days to be
Considered a Successful Outcome



Order of Selection

- An Order of Selection system is required when the state vocational rehabilitation agency is unable to provide rehabilitation services to ***all eligible*** individuals in the State who apply for services.
- The Order of Selection process establishes the order to be followed in selecting eligible individuals to be provided vocational rehabilitation services.

(Legal basis: 34 CFR, Part 361.36)



Order of Selection

Category 1 (Most Significant Disabilities)	Three or more severe functional limitations and requiring three or more primary services for at least 12 months
Category 2 (Significant Disabilities)	One or two functional limitations and requiring two or more services for at least 6 months - OR Receiving SSDI or SSI
Category 3 (Not Significantly Disabled)	No serious functional limitation or does not require multiple services. Services are expected to last less than 6 months

Order of Selection Priorities

Functional Capacities

Limitations with Regard to Employment

Mobility



Communications



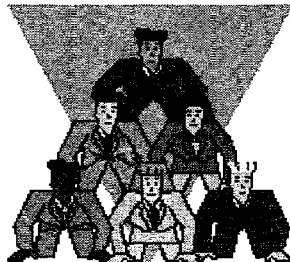
Self-Care



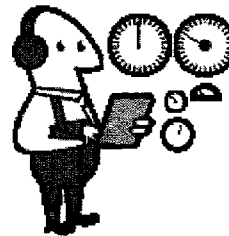
Self-Direction



Interpersonal Skills



Work Tolerance



Work Skills





Ombudsman's Office

Responds to Customer Inquiries and Complaints

- In FY 2008-09, the Ombudsman's Office:
 - Responded to 1,961 total Requests for Assistance
 - 1,095 of these were Requests for Information
 - 866 of these were Customer Complaints – represents slightly more than 1% of the total number of individuals receiving VR services during the 2008-09 FY (73,733 customers)
 - 841 of 866 Customer Complaints were resolved by the Ombudsmen, in cooperation with local VR Field Office staff; only 25 of that 866 were referred on for fair hearings



Florida Rehabilitation Council

- Required by Federal Law
- Members Appointed by the Governor
- Represents the Consumer's Interests in the Development of the Federal State Plan
- Evaluates the Effectiveness of the Program (FSU Customer Satisfaction Survey)



Bureau of Rehabilitation &
Reemployment Services –
Injured Worker Program

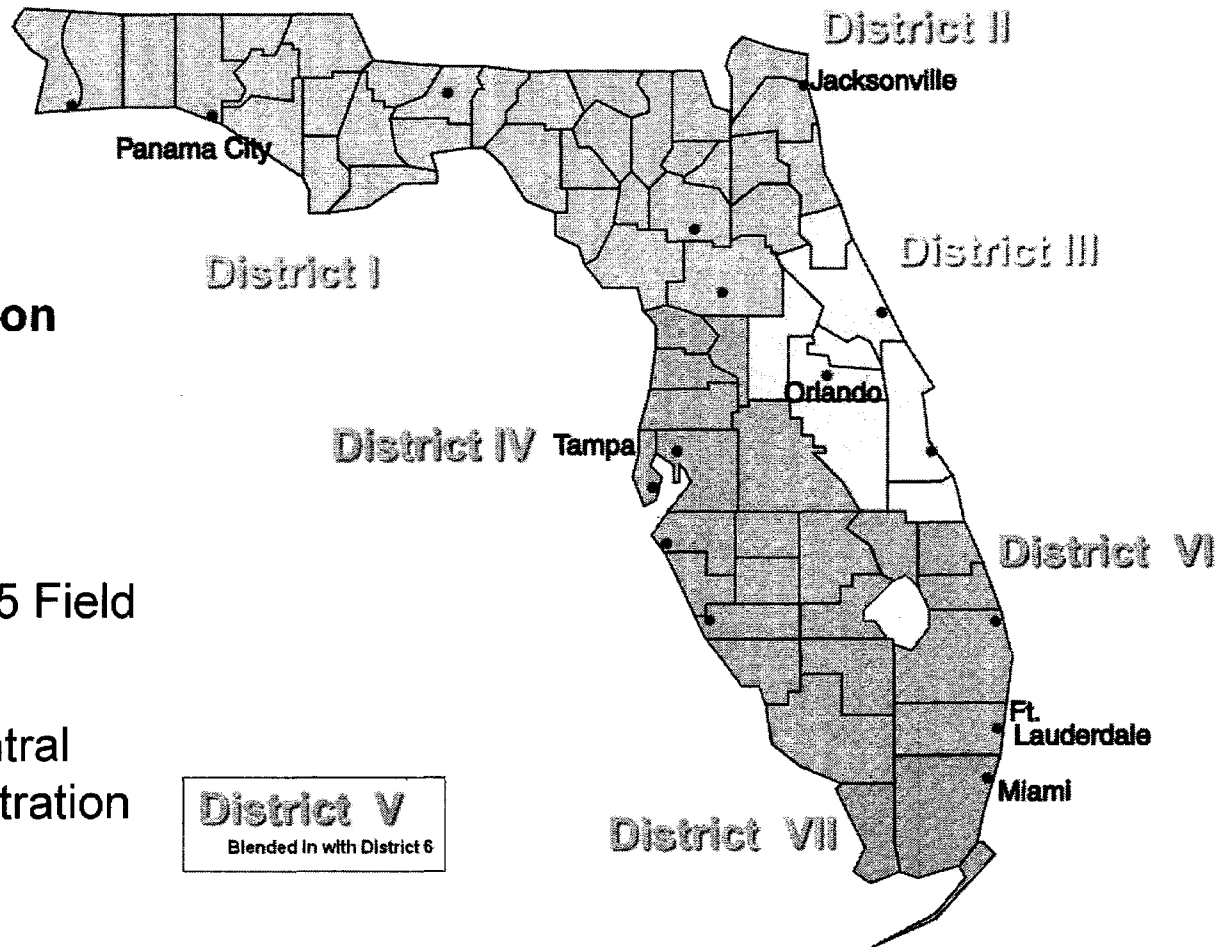
*Funded from the Workers'
Compensation Administration
Trust Fund*

**Bureau of Rehabilitation
and Reemployment
Services**

82 Employees

70 Employees in 15 Field
Offices

12 Employees Central
Office and Administration





The Bureau of Rehabilitation and Reemployment Services (Injured Worker Program):

- Provides Florida's injured workers with reemployment services to return them to suitable gainful employment
- Maintains a list of qualified rehabilitation providers
- Monitors carriers' provision of medical care coordination, reemployment assessments, and reemployment services
- Educates carriers and qualified rehabilitation providers
- Collects and manages reemployment services data



Reemployment Services

- Job Seeking Skills Training
- Transferable Skills Analysis
- Job Development
- Job Placement
- Vocational Evaluation
- On the Job Training
- Formal Training and Education
- Counseling
- Vocational Testing

BRRS Policy Issues

Educational Limitations

- 2003 Workers' Compensation Amendments Restricted Training and Education for New Participants
- Injured workers may already have a two-year degree, but it is difficult to pursue a four-year degree
- Training and education for injured workers is restricted to Florida Community Colleges under s. 100.21(3) and Career Centers under s. 1001.44, F.S.
- Training and Education benefits are included in the overall limitation of 104 weeks of temporary total disability benefits

Policy Issues – Cont'd

Inadequate Enforcement Authority

- 2003 Workers' Compensation Amendments Do Not Provide Enforcement Authority
- Insurance Carriers Are Not in Compliance with State Law
- Insurance carriers are ignoring requirements designed to protect injured workers
- The carriers frequently:
 - Neglect responsibilities for providing timely and appropriate referrals and services (including referrals to BRRS)
 - Refer injured workers to providers who have not been authorized to provide services
 - Use the same provider for assessment and rehabilitation services
 - Complete a rehabilitation plan without the involvement of the customer



Pass Through Programs



Pass Through Programs

- Adults with Disabilities (AWD) Grant Program
- Centers for Independent Living (CIL)
- Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology (FAAST)
- Florida Endowment for Vocational Rehabilitation (The Able Trust) - High School/High Tech Program



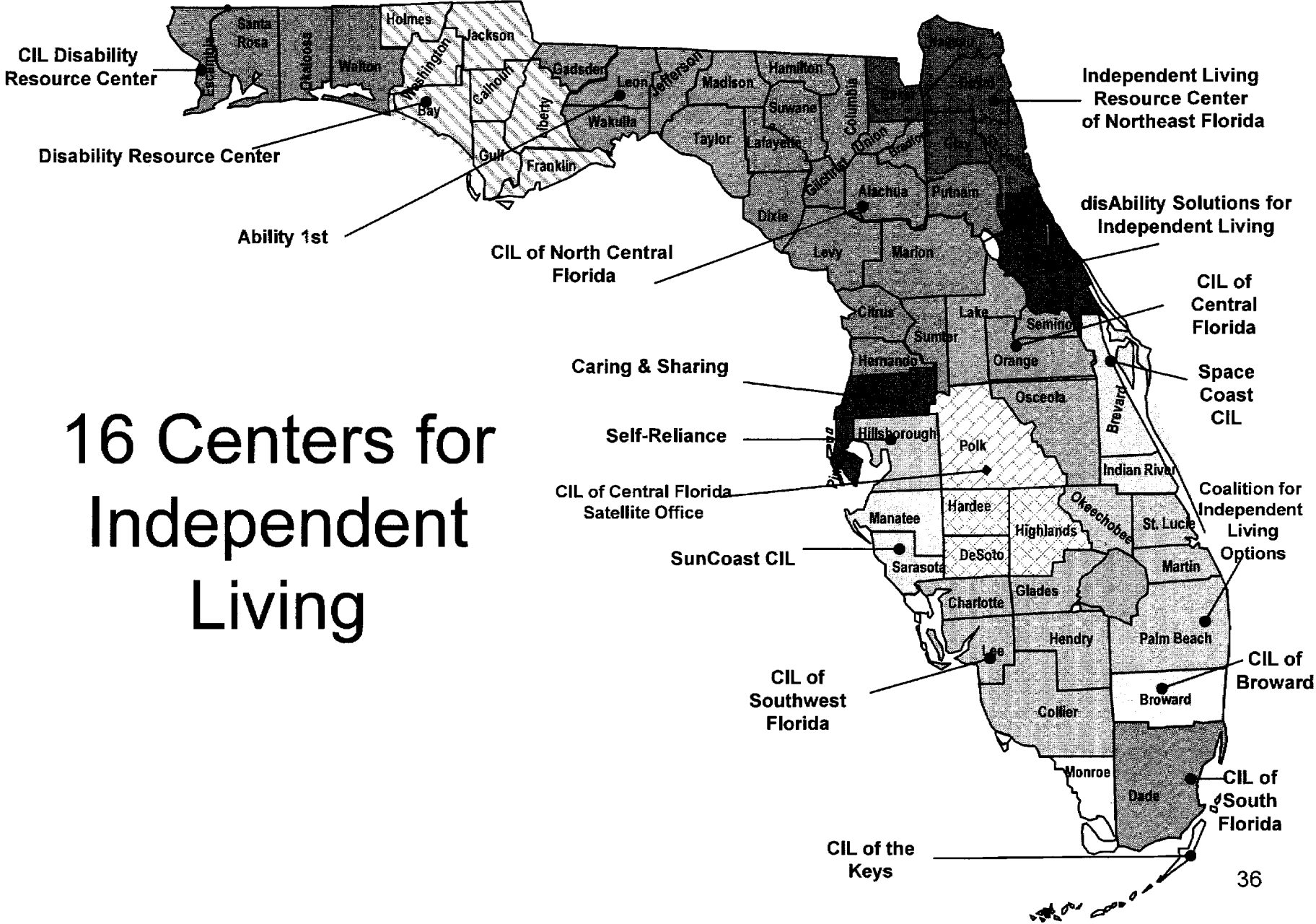
Adults with Disabilities

- Goal is to provide adults with disabilities and senior adult learners the opportunity for enhancement of skills that is consistent with their abilities and needs
- Funds Distributed to 40 school districts and 10 community or state colleges
- Primarily for individuals who are not pursuing an employment goal
- In 2008-09, 14,200 students were enrolled
- Funded by General Revenue



Independent Living

- Authorized by Title VII of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended
- Sections 413.371 – 413.401, Florida Statutes
- The purpose of the program is to promote a philosophy of independent living, including consumer control, peer support, self-help, self-determination, equal access, and individual and system advocacy.
- Services are provided to maximize the leadership, empowerment, independence and productivity of individuals with disabilities. The services are intended to lead to the integration and full inclusion of individuals with disabilities into the mainstream of American society.
- Four Core Services
 - Information and Referral
 - Advocacy
 - Peer Counseling
 - Independent Living Skills Training
- In FY 2008-09, the Centers provided:
 - Independent Living Services to 20,460 individuals with disabilities
 - Information and Referral to almost 30,000



16 Centers for Independent Living



Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology (FAAST)

- Authorized by the federal Assistive Technology Act of 1998
- Section 413.407, Florida Statutes
- FAAST is a not for profit corporation established to facilitate cost-effective access to and acquisition of assistive services and technology for Floridians with disabilities and their families.
- FAAST also supports assistive technology demonstration centers where children and adults with disabilities in communities across the state receive individualized technology instruction.



FAAST Cont'd.

In FY 2008-09, FAAST:

- Provided specific training to 3,455 individuals with disabilities
- Conducted 3,134 assistive technology device demonstrations and services for consumers
- Provided **access** to Assistive Technology services to 4,215 individuals with disabilities
- Assisted with the **acquisition** of Assistive Technology for 388 individuals with disabilities
- Loaned Assistive Devices to 1,113 individuals with disabilities



Florida Endowment for Vocational Rehabilitation— The Able Trust

- High School/High Tech Program is a nationally recognized program that focuses on the transition of high school students with disabilities to postsecondary education and work
- In 2008-09 the High School/High Tech program served 1,469 students in 35 counties and 107 schools and alternative educations centers
- The Vocational Rehabilitation line item is distributed to programs in 35 counties
- General Revenue Funding of \$328,292



Efficiencies
Initiatives
Challenges

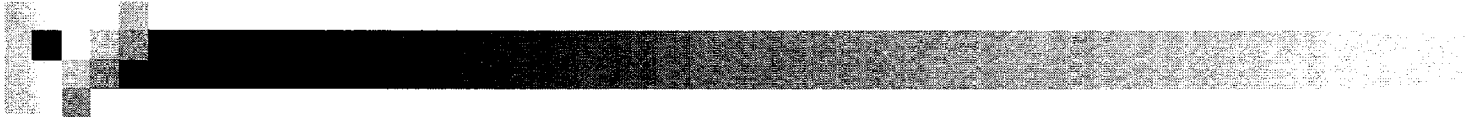
Efficiency Saving Measures

■ FY 2008/09

- Implemented a Financial Means Test for Vocational Rehabilitation Customers
- Implemented Order of Selection
- Reduced all Travel by 31%
- Reduced Out-of-State Travel by 64%
- Restricted Shipping and Mailing Costs
- Implemented Activities to Support Paperless Case Management

■ FY 2009/10

- Reduced all Travel by 14%
 - First Quarter Comparison, 80/09 to 09/10
- Contract Reductions
 - \$103,176 Reduction in Contracted Services
 - \$370,980 Reduction in Data Processing Services
 - Elimination of Network Support Contract
 - \$98,406 Savings for FY 2009/10
 - \$127,800 Total Annual Savings
 - Reduction in Computer Programming Contract
 - \$144,774 Savings for FY 2009/10
- Restructuring
 - Reclassification of FTE in order to build Programming Capacity
 - Planned Future Reductions in Computer Programming Contract



Initiatives: Future Opportunities to Enhance Efficiencies

- Automation of:
 - Authorizations for Purchases of Services for Customers
 - Vendor Reports and Billing and Payment Processes
 - Travel Approval and Reimbursement

- Process Improvement Project on Purchases of Rehabilitation Technology Equipment

- Evaluation of functions that have previously been outsourced



Continued Challenges:

- Living Within Our Funding
 - Financial Participation Determination
 - Order of Selection
- Staying Focused on Serving Individuals with the Most Significant Disabilities
- Recruiting and Retaining Qualified Counselors