



Vocational Rehabilitation Transfers to Centers for Independent Living

Report to the Legislature
as required by Minnesota Session Law Chapter 135, Section 2, Subd 3 (f)

March 15, 2010

Author: Kimberly Peck

Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development

Total cost of salaries, printing, and supplies in
developing/preparing this report is \$ 252.00
(reported as required by Minn. Stat. 3.197)

Department of Employment and Economic Development

1st National Bank Building ■ 332 Minnesota Street, Suite E200 ■ Saint Paul, MN 55101-2146 USA

www.positivelyminnesota.com

Toll Free: 800-657-3858 ■ Phone: 651-259-7114 ■ Fax: 651-296-4772 ■ TTY: 800-296-3900

An Equal Opportunity Employer and Service Provider

Minnesota Session Law Chapter 135, Section 2, Subd 3 (f) requires that the Commissioner report on transfers to Centers For Independent Living specified in the section and any other transfer to Centers for Independent Living made by the department by March 15, 2010.

Three separate transfers were specified in the section. The legislative language is:

(1) transfer \$115,000 of federal independent living Part B rehabilitation services funds to the Minnesota Centers for Independent Living each year contingent upon the availability of federal funds under Title VII, Part B, of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended under United States Code, title 29, section 711(c), and approved by the Statewide Independent Living Council;

(2) replace federal Part B funds in the State Independent Living Council budget transferred under clause (1) with \$115,000 of Social Security Administration program income funds each year; and

(3) provide an additional \$185,000 each year from the Social Security Administration program income to the Minnesota Centers for Independent Living to be allocated equally among the eight centers.

Funds were encumbered and contracts let for these three provisions effective October 1, 2009 for the third year of funding.

In addition, the language specifies a report on any other transfer being made to Centers for Independent Living. In 2008 and 2009, the department made available funding for local collaborations between Minnesota's Center for Independent Living and Vocational Rehabilitation Services. In 2010, the department granted a total of \$1,349,262 in eight contracts with Centers to provide independent living services to clients of local Work Force Centers and Vocational Rehabilitation Services teams. The third year contracts were given out for January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010. The purpose of these grants is to leverage the services available through Minnesota's Centers for Independent Living to ensure that Vocational Rehabilitation Services customers have the requisite independent living skills necessary to be successful in competitive employment.

The contracts went to all eight CILs providing service in Minnesota. The services being provided by the Centers were developed collaboratively with the vocational rehabilitation offices in the Work Force Centers in the service area of the Center. The results of the first and second year contracts are now being evaluated for their effect on increasing the number of successful employment outcomes for individuals receiving services from Vocational Rehabilitation Services.

The Department agreed to make these funds available each year for three years, depending on the availability of Social Security reimbursement income available for program use. The projects will be evaluated for their effectiveness during the third year of funding which ends December 31, 2010.

If you have further questions, please feel free to contact me at 651 259-7345 or Kim.Peck@state.mn.us.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Peck', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kimberley Peck
Director, Vocational Rehabilitation Services
Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development