This appendix accompanies a report on state vocational rehabilitation agency practices to control for quality and timelines in case management systems. The materials, related to quality assurance and case flagging, are representative of the variety of methods used by 42 states and Puerto Rico. (The states are Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, and Wyoming.) Contents include correspondence describing quality control and case flagging procedures; case record review instruments; a quarterly review report; a caseload inventory; case review schedules; quality evaluation forms; case review forms, documents, questionnaires, and worksheets; administrative review forms; sample action plans; confidential performance reviews and evaluations; casework performance reviews; rehabilitation counselor performance standards; monthly caseload analyses; time-in-status standards reports; Michigan Quality Assurance Review System forms; case review factors and guidelines; processing checklists and quality control reviews; evaluation criteria; client evaluation forms; case quality rating forms; statistical reports; caseload management guides; caseload analyses; and case review summary reports. (YLB)
REVIEW OF STATE VR AGENCY PROCEDURES
FOR CASE FLAGGING:
A QUALITY ASSURANCE ACTIVITY

APPENDIX:
EXAMPLES OF STATE QUALITY ASSURANCE AND
CASE FLAGGING INSTRUMENTS AND PROCEDURES

April 1983

Prepared by:
Berkeley Planning Associates
3200 Adeline Street
Berkeley, California 94703

"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY
TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."
This appendix was originally prepared to accompany a draft report entitled "Review of State VR Agency Procedures for Case Flagging and Quality Assurance," completed in September 1981.

This project has been funded at least in part with federal funds from the Rehabilitation Services Administration, U.S. Department of Education, under contract numbers HEW-105-79-4000 and 300-81-0455. The contents of this publication do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the U.S. Department of Education, nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.
This report reviews the practices implemented by 53 different state VR agencies to address quality assurance concerns. After reviewing the broader spectrum of monitoring practices and evaluation systems used by different state agencies to assess worker and agency performance, the report focuses on the range of procedures utilized to track timeliness, which has been adopted as one of the procedural standards of service quality in the revised Standards Evaluation System. The report also reviews actual findings on the extent of timely versus untimely service in four Model Evaluation Unit (MEU) states, based on data from a small client sample in each state.

The materials included in the Appendix demonstrate the variety of methods employed by states to control for quality and timeliness in their respective case management systems. The names of state agencies that responded to our request to send materials are listed in the table of contents of the next page. The table of contents also lists the code letter and number used to identify the corresponding state agency's materials in the Appendix.
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<td>New Jersey - Blind</td>
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</table>
CASE RECORD REVIEW INSTRUMENT

I. ELIGIBILITY

A. Date of Application:
B. General medical adequate? (diagnosis + prognosis) YES NO N/A
C. Specialist examination adequate? (diagnosis + prognosis) YES NO
D. Disability clearly established?
E. Disability:
F. Counselor rationale clearly describe vocational handicap(s) YES NO
G. Reasonable expectation clearly established by counselor? YES NO
H. Client eligible? YES NO
I. Date eligibility established:

II. INDIVIDUALLY WRITTEN REHABILITATION PROGRAM

A. Vocational goal:
B. Case record information clearly justify vocational goal? YES NO
C. Intermediate objectives clearly stated?
D. Each intermediate objective relate to obtainment of vocational goal? YES NO
E. Services planned reflective of client's documented rehabilitation needs? YES NO
F. Evidence that Similar Benefits investigated? YES NO
G. Evidence that Similar Benefits identified? YES NO
H. Evidence that Similar Benefits used? YES NO N/A
I. Each intermediate objective include evaluation criteria? YES NO
J. Each intermediate objective include time frames? YES NO
K. Does IWRP meet minimum standards? YES NO

III. PLACEMENT/CLOSURE

A. Evidence that counselor directly assisted client in placement? YES NO N/A
B. Placement/closure consistent with IWRP vocational goal? YES NO
C. Occupation:
D. Case followed for 60 consecutive days in employment? YES NO
E. Evidence client advised of availability of Post Employment Services? YES NO
F. Evidence client notified that case was being closed? YES NO
G. Date of closure:

REMARKS:

_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
PLAN OF ACTION
QUARTERLY REVIEW REPORT

DATE: ______________________ AREA _______ QTR _______ FY _______

TO: ________________________ ASSIGNMENT _______________________

FROM: ______________________

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TOTAL ACTIVE CUMULATIVE _________________________________

01 CASE SERVICE ALLOTMENT ______________________________

01 CASE SERVICE ENCUMBRANCES __________________________

EXPENDITURES _______________________

TRAVEL:
PROJECTED __________________________

USED _________________________________

REMARKS: (eligibility documentation, IWRP development, placement, production, CPR's timely, etc.)

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PLAII OF ACTION (corrective) _____________________________

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COUNSELOR'S SIGNATURE ________________________________
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Note: The table contains cases with names, current statuses, dates of last action, dates referred, and numbers present.
Ms. Susan Stoddard  
Berkeley Planning Associates  
3200 Adeline Street  
Berkeley, CA 94703  

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

In your letter to Mike Morgan, dated April 1, 1981, you requested information concerning our case flagging and case review procedures. Accordingly, I can offer the following. With respect to case flagging, this agency has maximum time periods that a client can remain in certain statuses where experience has shown clients can become "lost" without proper monitoring. The statuses and flagging levels are given below.

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<td>06</td>
<td>480 days (asterisked at 16 months to alert counselor of 18 month legal limit)</td>
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<td>90 days</td>
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<td>60 days</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>120 days</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>60 days</td>
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With regard to quality assurance, this is addressed via case reviews using the San Diego State case review scheduled. Case reviews with this instrument are accomplished periodically by district supervisors, and at least once a year by the agency's case review team. This review team accomplishes the overall casework quality control and evaluation function for the agency. It is composed of the Deputy Director, the Fiscal Officer, the Chief and Assistant Chief of Rehabilitation Services, and a district supervisor not having responsibility for the office being reviewed. Offices are normally reviewed on a one year cycle. If significant problems are found these are pointed out, and the team returns in six months to insure that corrective action has in fact been taken.
# ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

## CASE REVIEW SCHEDULE - CLOSURES

### IL. All Closures

#### A. 08 Closures

1. Closure form is signed and includes appropriate justification
   - References: 2-08.B; 2-05 (VR-002B)

2. Sufficient efforts were made to contact client
   - References: 2-08.B

3. Client notified in writing of closure decision including rationale, available recourse, annual review, etc.
   - References: 2-08.B

4. Client was referred to other services when appropriate and other services are necessary and available
   - References: 2-08.B

5. Copy of SSA-853 in case file for all SSI/SSDI beneficiaries
   - References: 6-01; 6-02

6. Referral source notified
   - References: 2-01.C.5

7. Cases closed as too severely disabled were reviewed by consultant
   - References: 2-02.F.3.g

8. Client address updated on CSR at time of closure

#### B. 26 Closures

1. Client has accomplished the intent of services as described in client’s rehabilitation plan (if not, this is noted and explained on certification of closure)
   - References: 2-08.C.1.a

2. Client notified of closure decision

3. Closure includes references to need for post-employment service
   - References: 2-05 (VR-002B)

4. Documentation that client has been employed for a minimum of 60 days
   - References: 2-08.C.1.c.1

5. Substantial services rendered
   - References: 2-08.C.b

6. Placement is suitable (e.g., type, pay, etc.)
   - References: 2-08.C.c

7. Disposal of equipment discussed in progress notes
   - References: 3-02.E.3

8. Copy of SSA-853 in case file for all SSI/SSDI beneficiaries
   - References: 6-01; 6-02

9. Provisions made for annual review of clients placed in sheltered employment
   - References: 2-05.B.11.d

10. Services checked on Certificate of Closure agree with IWRP-Prog. of Services

#### C. Closed - Not Rehabilitated (Statuses 28 & 30)

1. Client notified in writing of closure decision

2. Ineligibility decision is explained and includes reference to the availability of annual review, appeal process
   - References: 2-08.D

3. All purchased equipment has been recovered
   - References: 3-02.E.3

4. Copy of SSA-853 in file for all SSI/SSDI beneficiaries
   - References: 6-01; 6-02

5. Consultation was effected for client closed as too severely disabled
   - References: 2-02.F.3.g

6. Services checked on Certificate of Closure agree with IWRP-Prog. of Services

**DISCUSS ITEMS MARKED “NO” AND QUALITATIVE ASPECTS OF CASE**

---

**References**: VR Manual

**Re-Review**: Yes | No
### ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY
CASE REVIEW SCHEDULE – STATUSES 06, 12-24 & 32

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<tr>
<td>1. IWRP Program of Services is dated and shows all required dates and signatures</td>
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<td>2-07.C.11.a; 2-05.A.6; 2-05.B.9; 2-08.C.1.d.iv</td>
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<td>2. Vocational objective is stated (not required for an IWRP for Extended Eval alone)</td>
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<td>2-05.B.7.c</td>
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<td>3. Program of Services is complete (contains all services necessary to achieve vocational goal, whether sponsored by VR or not)</td>
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<td>4. Type and name of training specified</td>
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<td>5. Projected ending dates (for intermediate goals) with anticipated outcomes are specified</td>
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<td>6. Performance criteria (specific to individual services being provided) are specified</td>
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<td>2-05.B.7.d; 2-05 (VR-002)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Similar Benefit Review (VR-001A) is completed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2-05 (VR-001A)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Use of all available similar benefits is documented on Program of Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2-05.B.7.d; 3-03.B</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Amount of client's financial participation is specified. (Applies only when there is no economic need and services other than training and counseling were provided.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3-03.A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. All amendments are recorded on IWRP</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2-02.F.3.c</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Reviews of progress accomplished (IWRP) at least annually</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2-05.B.8.b</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>E. Provision of Services</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Service Provider Contracts in file and signed. (For restoration services there must be a new contract for each 3-month segment.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3-02.D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. If special funds were used</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Referral forms in file</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6-01; 6-02.C.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Verification in file</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6-01; 6-02.C.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Assignment sheet completed and in file</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6-01; 6-02.C.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. If equipment was purchased, file contains bid quotations for purchases over $500, and equipment contracts (VR-015) for purchases over $100.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3-02.E</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. If client is/was on Status 06, services stayed within 18-month limitation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2-03</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. If services are being provided in Status 14, there are counseling notes in file</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2-07.B</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. If restoration services are provided, continuing medical-psychological consultation accomplished on VR-004A (a minimum of every 3 months for ongoing restoration)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2-02.F.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. In-service statuses used appropriately (06, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CSR Manual</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. All purchases for services were made in accordance with IWRP or IWRP amendments. (If &quot;NO&quot; check either a, b, or c, below)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3-02.D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Discrepancies between totals on IWRP and Client Case Cost Record more than $200 but less than $750</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2-05.B.7.d</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Discrepancies between totals on IWRP and Client Case Cost Record more than $750 but less than $1,500</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Discrepancies between totals on IWRP and Client Case Cost Record over $1,500</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Client Income Statement is completed and signed (not required if only counseling or training is provided)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2-05 (VR-006)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. If basic or relocation maintenance was provided, the maintenance worksheet (VR-008) is completed and adequate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2-07.E</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>11. Justification for travel and supplemental maintenance is provided and adequate (explain the need and rationale for $ amount)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2-07.E</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12. PES were provided in accordance with policies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2-07.K</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

#### CASE REVIEW SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLIENT NAME</th>
<th>CLIENT NO.</th>
<th>CASE STATUS</th>
<th>DISTRICT NO.</th>
<th>DATE OF REVIEW</th>
<th>RE-REVIEW DATE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>REVIEWER</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### I. Timeliness of Services — Case Movement

1. Referral received in office (Status 00)
2. Application signed (Status 02)
3. Client certified for extended evaluation (Status 06)
4. Case closed in Status 08
5. Client certified for regular services (Status 10)
6. IWRP completed (Status 12)
7. Case closed in Status 30
8. Program of services initiated (Statuses 14, 16 or 18)
9. Final program of services completed (Final Status 20)
10. Client began employment (Final Status 22)
11. Case closed as rehabilitated (Status 26)
12. Case closed in Status 28

#### II. Content Review

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>N/A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

A. Initial interview and application.

1. Initial interview notes include:
   a. Identifying information
   b. A statement of problems in terms of reason for referral to agency
   c. Information including personal and social data, medical and/or disabling aspects, educational and vocational background
   d. Client expectations
   e. Action steps

For clients in 02, stop here. If closed in 08 from 02, complete section IV-A.

B. Med/Psych/Voc Study

1. Pre-Certification Medical Review accomplished 2-04 (VR-004)
2. Record of a complete physical examination, no older than three months prior to application 2-02.C.1
3. All specialist exams required by regulations were acquired 2-02.C and D
4. Disabilities coded are consistent with reports and RSA coding structure CSR Manual
5. Severe disability properly coded and explained when necessary 3-07 Attachment A
6. Necessary and appropriate consultation accomplished prior to acquiring specialist exams other than those required (See B. 3.) 2-02.F

C. Certification

1. Certification is signed and dated 2-04 (VR-004)
2. Explanation for use of extended evaluation provided on VR-004 and adequate 2-04.A.4
3. Explanation for certification of eligibility provided on VR-004 and adequate 2-04.A.3.b
4. The substantial employment handicap (SEH) is adequately explained on VR-004 2-04.A.3.a

DISCUSS ITEMS MARKED NO. AND QUALITATIVE ASPECTS OF CASE

For clients in Status 10, stop here. Clients closed in Status 30, skip to section IV-C.
April 17, 1981

Susan Stoddard
Project Director
Berkeley Planning Associates
3200 Adeline Street
Berkeley, California 94703

Dear Susan:

In regard to your inquiry of April 1, 1981, about case flagging procedures, I find that we have no highly structured formalized process for case flagging other than that contained in the San Diego Case Review System. However, our program administrators and first line supervisors may employ informal processes at their discretion.

Our agency uses the San Diego System as the basic quality control instrument for our internal case reviews and audit procedures.

Thank you for your interest.

Very truly yours,

E. Russell Baxter, Commissioner

/dgp
April 15, 1981

Ms. Susan Stoddard  
Berkeley Planning Associates  
3200 Adeline Street  
Berkeley, CA 94703

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

In reply to your letter of April 1, 1981, I am enclosing information on the California Department of Rehabilitation's Quality Evaluation Forms (QEF) and flagging of cases in plan statuses. For over a year, the Department has used the QEF to evaluate the quality of each case attaining an open status of 06 (extended evaluation) or above. A copy of the current and proposed new QEF is attached. The QEF method is used not only as a supervisory aid, but also for evaluation purposes at the case-carrier and district levels.

Flagging of cases to identify where there might be undue delays is not done in California. Instead, each case reaching in-plan status (14, 16, or 18) is required to be reviewed every twelve months by a supervisor. The flag is printed in the "PLAN REVIEW" column of the counselor's Caseload Activity Listing. A "YES" means the case should be reviewed by the counselor and supervisor. Three months before the estimated date of plan completion, the completion date is printed in the appropriate "COMPL DATE" column. This second flag remains until either the plan is completed or there is a major plan revision. A sample page from the Caseload Activity Listing is attached showing the use of both columns.

Recently, the Department has taken action to review all cases with overdue plan completion dates. Computer lists of all cases with overdue completion dates have been sent to the counselors. Through this process the number of cases with overdue plan completion dates has declined by nearly 50 percent.

Please keep the Department informed as to your project's progress. If I can be of any further assistance, please call me at (916)322-0723.

Sincerely,

Takao Iwasa, Assistant Chief  
Program Evaluation and Statistics Section

TI:ch  
Attachments

cc: Thomas E. Rietz  
    Paul F. C. Mueller
INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING QEF

Employee Status

Probationary employee: Complete QEF on all cases.

Permanent employee: For those employees whose last evaluation was rated below standard, complete QEF on all cases.

For those employees whose last evaluation was rated standard or above, complete QEF when case being rated is rated as "exceeds standard" or "improvement needed".

When Each Section Should Be Completed

Section I when client is placed into new extended evaluation plan.
Section II if Status 08 closure from 06 or at plan approval.
Section III at plan approval.
Section IV at time of Status 26 or 28 closure.

How To Complete Form

1. Complete identifying information.

2. Check appropriate box for each section as "exceeds standard", "standard", or "improvement needed". If section is rated as "exceeds standard" or "improvement needed" check appropriate reason(s) listed below. Reasons checked should be consistent with overall rating.

3. Use the comment space if "reason" is other than listed.

4. Comment if necessary or appropriate.

5. Initial and date only sections completed.

Definitions

Exceeds Standard: Definitely exceeds standard expectations in specific, identifiable areas.

Standard: Average or fully meets expectations.

Improvement Needed: Definitely below standard expectations in specific, identifiable areas.
QUALITY EVALUATION FORM

I. APPROPRIATE EXTENDED EVALUATION PLAN
☐ EXCEEDS STANDARD* ☐ STANDARD ☐ IMPROVEMENT NEEDED*
☐ Timely decisions and services delivered from referral to extended evaluation.
☐ Evidence that eligibility determination cannot be made without extended evaluation.
☐ Extended evaluation plan will be sufficient to determine eligibility.

COMMENTS:

__________________________________________
PS Initials: __________ Date: __________

II. APPROPRIATE ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION
☐ EXCEEDS STANDARD* ☐ STANDARD ☐ IMPROVEMENT NEEDED*
☐ Timely decisions and services delivered from referral to acceptance/closure (08-06).
☐ Adequate case recording describes client's situation from ref. to acceptance or 03/06.
☐ Appropriate examinations (e.g., medical evaluations and consultation obtained).
☐ Accurate and realistic interpretation of diagnostic data.
☐ Appropriate eligibility decision demonstrated through legal documentation (e.g., statement of eligibility, medical and specialty exams, psych. tests).

COMMENTS:

__________________________________________
PS Initials: __________ Date: __________

III. APPROPRIATE REHABILITATION PLANNING
☐ EXCEEDS STANDARD* ☐ STANDARD ☐ IMPROVEMENT NEEDED*
☐ Appropriate data obtained to develop client's plan.
☐ Accurate and realistic interpretation of data (medical, social, psych, economic).
☐ Cooperation and involvement of client secured.
☐ Appropriate vocational objective selected.
☐ Sufficient plan services provided for in IWRP.
☐ Similar benefits considered and provided where appropriate.

COMMENTS:

__________________________________________
PS Initials: __________ Date: __________

IV. SUFFICIENT SERVICES
☐ EXCEEDS STANDARD* ☐ STANDARD ☐ IMPROVEMENT NEEDED*
☐ Timely decisions and services delivered from plan to closure.
☐ Adequate case recording to describe client's progress from plan to closure.
☐ Sufficient services provided or arranged during plan.
☐ Records demonstrate that client received placement assistance.
☐ Closure appropriate considering the client's level of achievement.

COMMENTS:

__________________________________________
PS Initials: __________ Date: __________

*CHECK APPROPRIATE REASON(S) IF CASE RATED AS EXCEEDS STANDARD OR IMPROVEMENT NEEDED
I. Appropriate Extended Evaluation Plan

Timely Decisions and Services Delivered from Referral to Extended Evaluation: Decision to place client into extended evaluation plan and initiation of extended evaluation services made without undue delay.

Evidence that Eligibility Determination cannot be made without Extended Evaluation: Case recording provides an analysis showing reasons why counselor cannot determine feasibility. Extended Evaluation Plan will be Sufficient to Determine Eligibility: Case recording provides a description of what services are necessary, along a prescribed timeline, to determine client's rehabilitation potential.

II. Appropriate Eligibility Determination

Timely Decisions and Services Delivered from Referral to Acceptance/Closure: Significant decisions were made regarding eligibility; and diagnostic services were authorized within appropriate time limits or otherwise explained by case recording.

Adequate Case Recording to Describe Client's Situation and Progress from Referral to Acceptance/Closure: The collected and recorded information in the client's case folder provides a mental path to describe client's situation and progress.

Appropriate Examinations and Consultation Obtained: Required medical and specialty exams were obtained, e.g., current or waiver, specialty exams needed to certify blindness, deafness, mental retardation, etc., and appropriate consultation obtained.

Accurate and Realistic Interpretation of Diagnostic Data: Diagnostic reports and testing accurately interpreted and utilized to determine eligibility.

Appropriate Eligibility Decision: Decision to accept or reject client for services is consistent with information in the case folder and is based on documented evidence of a disability, vocational handicap, and feasibility, certification of eligibility is complete.

III. Appropriate Rehabilitation Planning

Appropriate Data Obtained to Develop Client's Plan: All medical, social, psychological, financial, educational, and vocational information necessary to develop the IWAP was obtained.

Accurate and Realistic Interpretation of Data: Data collected was assessed accurately and realistically utilized in plan development with inconsistencies between data and vocational objective explained.

Cooperation and Involvement of Client Secured: Vocational objective was arrived at through vocational counseling and there is an indication of mutual agreement between the client and counselor.

Appropriate Vocational Objective Selected: Vocational objective is consistent with the client's interests, capabilities, limitations, and economic circumstances as well as the Department's resources.

Sufficient Plan Services Provided for in IWAP: Adequate services, such as, training, tools, transportation, supplies, etc., authorized and provided to insure successful completion of IWAP.

Similar Benefits Considered and Provided Where Appropriate: Client's eligibility for benefits such as VA, education grants, medical, welfare, and Food stamps have been considered and used as a client resource during plan development (where appropriate).

IV. Sufficient Services

Timely Decisions and Services Delivered from Plan to Closure: During plan status, any problems were identified early and decisions were made or services delivered without delay.

Adequate Case Recording to Describe Client's Situation and Progress from Plan to Closure: The collected and recorded information in the client's case folder from plan initiation to case closure, provides a mental path to describe client's situation, progress, and rationale for counselor decisions.

Sufficient Services Provided or Arranged During Plan: Client's needs for counseling and additional support services during plan status were evaluated and provided where appropriate.

Records Demonstrate that Client Received Placement Assistance: Records clearly describe what efforts have been made by the counselor to help client in his placement endeavor.

Appropriate Case Closure: Rehabilitated or non-rehabilitated (Status 28) closures were appropriate considering criteria set forth in the RSH for Status 28 or 26 closures.
### QUALITY EVALUATION SUMMARY FORM

#### I. APPROPRIATE EXTENDED EVALUATION PLAN

1. Number of new extended evaluation plans
2. Number of cases rated Exceeds Standard
3. Number of cases rated Improvement Needed
4. Number of cases rated Standard (A1 - A2 & A3)
5. Sum of values (C2 + C3 + C4)
6. Average rating for appro ext eval plan (C5 + A1)

#### II. APPROPRIATE ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION

1. Number of cases rated 08 from 06 plus new plans
2. Number of cases rated Exceeds Standard
3. Number of cases rated Improvement Needed
4. Number of cases rated Standard (A1 - A2 & A3)
5. Sum of values (C2 + C3 + C4)
6. Average rating for appro eligibility (C5 + A1)

#### III. APPROPRIATE REHABILITATION PLANNING

1. Number of new plan cases rated
2. Number of cases rated Exceeds Standard
3. Number of cases rated Improvement Needed
4. Number of cases rated Standard (A1 - A2 & A3)
5. Sum of values (C2 + C3 + C4)
6. Average rating for rehab planning (C5 + A1)

#### IV. SUFFICIENT SERVICES

1. Number of 28 + 26 cases rated
2. Number of cases rated Exceeds Standard
3. Number of cases rated Improvement Needed
4. Number of cases rated Standard (A1 - A2 & A3)
5. Sum of values (C2 + C3 + C4)
6. Average rating for sufficient services (C5 + A1)

#### V. OVERALL RATING

1. Total number of cases rated
2. Total value of cases rated (sum of values)
3. Overall rating (A2 + A1)

---

**KEY:**
- 3.00 - 2.16 Exceeds Standard
- 2.15 - 1.85 Standard
- 1.84 - 1.00 Improvement Needed
District Code: ___________________________ Client's Name: ___________________________
Caseload Code: ___________________________ Client's SS#: ___________________________
Rater's Name: ___________________________ Case Status: ___________________________

I. APPROPRIATE EXTENDED EVALUATION PLAN *

a. Timely decisions and services delivered from referral to extended evaluation.

b. Evidence that eligibility determination cannot be made without extended evaluation.

c. Extended evaluation plan is sufficient to determine eligibility.

COMMENTS:
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

II. APPROPRIATE ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION

a. Timely decisions and services delivered from referral to acceptance (10)
or closure (08-06).

b. Appropriate examinations and consultation obtained.

c. Accurate and realistic interpretation of diagnostic data.

d. Legal documentation complete.*

e. Adequate information in case to certify eligibility.

COMMENTS:
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

*If all appropriate check-off boxes, and counselor or P.S. signature blocks are not complete, do not drop the level of the overall item rating, but document every instance where this occurred under the comments section (DR 229A, DR 229AA, DR 229B, Medical Jacket).

KEY: ES - Exceeds Standard
      S - Standard
      IN - Improvement Needed

Revised 2/81
III. APPROPRIATE REHABILITATION PLANNING *

a. Appropriate data obtained to develop client's plan.

b. Accurate and realistic interpretation of data (medical, social, psych, economic).

c. Cooperation and involvement of client secured, as indicated on DR 229A.

d. Appropriate vocational objective selected.

e. Conflict(s) between vocational objective and other information in case record resolved.

f. Sufficient services provided for in IWRP.

g. Similar benefits considered and provided where appropriate.

COMMENTS:

IV. SUFFICIENT PLAN TO CLOSURE DOCUMENTATION *

a. Timely decisions and services delivered from plan to closure.

b. Adequate information to describe client's situation and progress from plan to closure.

c. Sufficient services provided for during plan.

d. Sufficient placement assistance provided.

e. Closure appropriate, according to RPM criteria.

f. Closure timely.

COMMENTS:

V. CAUSALITY: APPROPRIATE CLOSURE

a. Job placement appropriate and commensurate with client's capabilities (Status 26).

b. Adequate effort made to contact client before closing case (Status 28).

c. DR services had a significant impact on removing/reducing client's vocational handicap.

COMMENTS:
INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING QEF

Employee Status

Probationary employee: Complete QEF on all cases.

Permanent employee: For those employees whose last evaluation was rated below standard, complete QEF on all cases.

For those employees whose last evaluation was rated standard or above, complete QEF when case being rated is rated as "exceeds standard" or "improvement needed".

When Each Section Should Be Completed

Section I when client is placed into new extended evaluation plan.
Section II if Status 06 closure from 06 or at plan approval.
Section III at plan approval.
Section IV at time of Status 26 or 28 closures.

How To Complete Form

1. Complete identifying information

2. Check appropriate box for each section as "exceeds standard", "standard", or "improvement needed". If section is rated as "exceeds standard" or "improvement needed" check appropriate reason(s) listed below. Reasons checked should be consistent with overall rating.

3. Use the comment space if "reason" is other than listed.

4. Comment is necessary;
   a. If any legally required information is missing
   b. If there is conflicting information which has not been satisfactorily resolved.
   c. If information in case is not adequate to describe client's situation or progress.

5. Initial and date only sections completed.

Definitions

Exceeds Standard: Definitely exceeds standard expectations in specific, identifiable areas.

Standards: Average or fully meets expectations.

Improvement Needed: Definitely below standard expectations in specific, identifiable areas.
I. Appropriate Extended Evaluation Plan

Timely Decisions and Services Delivered from Referral to Extended Evaluation: Decision to place client into extended evaluation plan and initiation of extended evaluation services made without undue delay.

Evidence that Eligibility Determination cannot be made without Extended Evaluation: Case recording states reason feasibility cannot be determined.

Extended Evaluation Plan is Sufficient to Determine Eligibility: Case recording provides a description of what services are necessary, along a prescribed timeline, to determine client's rehabilitation potential.

II. Appropriate Eligibility Determination

Timely Decisions and Services Delivered from Referral to Acceptance/Closure: Appropriate decisions were made regarding eligibility; diagnostic services were authorized within acceptable time limits or otherwise explained by case recording.

Appropriate Examinations and Consultation Obtained: Required medical and specialty exams were obtained, e.g., current WOC or waiver, specialty exams needed to certify blindness, deafness, mental retardation, etc., and appropriate consultation obtained.

Accurate and Realistic Interpretation of Diagnostic Data: Diagnostic reports, such as GM specialty exams and psychological testing, accurately interpreted and utilized to determine eligibility.

Local Documentation Complete: Decision to accept or reject client for services is consistent with information in the case folder and is based on documented evidence of a disability, vocational handicap, and feasibility; certification of eligibility is complete. All required legal documentation in case record.

Adequate Information in Case to Certify Eligibility: The collected and recorded information in the client's case folder is sufficient to support the basis for eligibility. Any questions regarding the client's eligibility for services are resolved in case notes.

III. Appropriate Rehabilitation Planning

Appropriate Data Obtained to Develop Client's Plan: All medical, social, psychological, financial, educational, and vocational information necessary to develop the IWRP was obtained.

Accurate and Realistic Interpretation of Data: Data collected was assessed accurately and realistically utilized in plan development; inconsistencies between data and vocational objective are explained.

Cooperation and Involvement of Client Secured (Indicated on DR 220A): There is evidence that the vocational objective was arrived at by mutual agreement between the client and counselor.

Appropriate Vocational Objective Selected (Indicated on DR 220A): Vocational objective is consistent with the client's interests, capabilities, limitations, and economic circumstances. Objective is consistent with the Department's policy on the order for selection of services.

Conflict(s) Between Vocational Objective and Other Information in Case Record Resolved: Any conflicts between vocational objective and information such as medical reports, psychological reports, school transcripts, etc., are resolved in case notes.

Sufficient Services Provided for in IWRP: Adequate services, such as, training, tools, transportation, supplies, etc., authorized and provided to insure successful completion of IWRP.

Similar Benefits Considered and Provided Where Appropriate: Similar benefits check list complete, DR 348.

IV. Sufficient Plan to Closure Documentation

Timely Decisions and Services Delivered from Plan to Closure: During plan status, problems were identified early; decisions were made or services delivered without delay.

Adequate Information to Describe Client's Situation and Progress from Plan to Closure: The collected and recorded information in the case folder from plan initiation to case closure is sufficient to describe client's situation, progress, and rationale for counselor decisions.

Sufficient Services Provided for During Plan: Client's needs for counseling and additional support services during plan status were evaluated and provided where appropriate.

Sufficient Placement Assistance: Recording indicates that appropriate efforts have been made to help client obtain suitable employment.

Closure Appropriate: Rehabilitated (Status 26) or non-rehabilitated (Status 20) closures were appropriate considering criteria set forth in the RPM.

Closure Timely: Rehabilitated (Status 26) or non-rehabilitated (Status 20) cases closed in a timely manner.
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<th>CURRENT STATUS 18</th>
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<td>-54-7205</td>
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June 2, 1981

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

In response to your letter requesting materials on case flagging and quality assurance, enclosed are a number of items currently in use in our agency. In some cases below, a description of a procedure is provided in lieu of an attachment.

Case Flagging:

(a) The agency's computerized services notify counselor and supervisor a year after closure for cases closed because of severity of handicap, so that the such cases may be reviewed.

(b) Counselor and supervisor are also notified annually for three (3) years following closure for all cases where the client was placed in sheltered employment.

(c) The computer provides a number of interrelated reports which help identify delay in case movement and point up their caseload characteristics (attached):

1. SD Summary - (monthly) shows numbers and percents of severely disabled, compared to counselors' total caseloads for statuses 00-24 and 10-24.

2. Master File - (monthly) a management tool which indicates case status movement, case-by-case, for each counselor.

3. Counselor Status Count - (monthly) provides total number of clients for each status, for each counselor.

4. Cumulative Monthly Report - (monthly) contrasts selected status counts with counts for the same time in the previous fiscal year, by district.
5. **Summary Report** - (monthly) keeps a running total on referrals, acceptances and 26 closures.

6. **RSA-13** - (submitted quarterly) includes a narrative which analyzes statewide performance in relation to annual goals.

**Quality Assurance:**

(a) The most recent report on the secretary's general standards is included.

(b) **Assumption College RRCEP, Case Review and Caseload Review Process**

This instrument (attached), developed by Region I RRCEP, was adapted for Connecticut by staff of DVR and Assumption College and is currently being used as part of the counselor evaluation. Also used is the Individual Performance Objectives Plan (IPOP) (attached), which is used for counselor goal setting and evaluation.

(c) In order to insure that appropriate services are planned and delivered, the following reviews are made:

- all Individual Written Rehabilitation Plans (IWRP's) are received and approved by the counselor's supervisor.

- all IWRP's which include physical restoration services are reviewed and approved by the District Medical Consultant.

- all cases which require psychological reports as part of the evaluation process are reviewed and approved by the Agency's Chief Psychological Consultant or the District Psychiatric Consultant.

For clarification on these reviews, see Chapter 62.141 of the Counselor's Manual, "Required Specialists Evaluation", is attached.

(d) Materials from the counselor's manual are attached which cover the following procedural matters:

- Certification of eligibility for SSDI/SSI Fund Expenditures (Chapter 61.162)

- Certification of Homemaker Eligibility (Chapter 63.110)
Susan Stoddard
June 2, 1981

- Feasibility of a small business project (self-employment) for the client; a series of questions and other planning materials from Chapter 66.660 are attached.

- Feasibility of college training; guidelines for determining whether planning for college is desirable are attached (Chapter 66.320)

We hope these materials will be useful to you in your efforts.

Very truly yours,

Arlene E. Bole
Rehabilitation Consultant

AEB:11
attachments

cc: Judy Richter
Ms. Susan Stoddard  
Project Director  
Berkeley Planning Associates  
3200 Adeline Street  
Berkeley, CA 94703

Dear Susan:

This is in response to your letter dated April 1, 1981 to Mr. Barker, our Director, requesting material we use in our Agency for case flagging and quality assurance.

We have enclosed the following:

1. Delaware VR Casework Manual page 106 on flagging and other pages of the Manual regarding quality assurance; and

2. A sample of our EDP-produced reports with some flagging data highlighted.

Our Casework Supervisors review cases routinely at statuses 06, 10, 12, time of IWRP amendments and at closure (all statuses).

Our SSDI/SSI Coordinator conducts a review of those cases at the same statuses (less 08 closures) and also for post-employment services where SSDI/SSI funds are utilized.

Sincerely,

Earl C. Tuberson, Program Evaluator  
ECT/lj  
Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation Unit

Enclosures  
cc. B. Barker  
G. Veach  
letter only
SUBJECT: Instructions for Implementation of Performance Review

TO: District VR Program Supervisors

The Vocational Rehabilitation Program has built its participation in the Performance Review System upon the use of the Case Review Record and existing statistical reports such as the VR 100 and Casework Consultants report. Twelve standards are included in the Performance Review Manual for VR. The District will report on three of the standards (8A-1, 8A-2, 8A-3) and the Program Office will report on the remaining nine standards (8A-4 through 8A-12). The District Program Supervisor will now transfer the totals on the Case Review Record into another reporting format. This will be the only major change from the current Quality Review Process.

The Supervising Counselors will continue to complete the Case Review Record on each case at acceptance and closure. For this reason, our sample size is 100 percent.

The Supervising Counselors will submit monthly the carbon copy of each Case Review Record completed for the month to the District Program Supervisor. A cover sheet which totals the "yes", "no", and "N.A." column for each item on the Case Review Record should be submitted. A monthly narrative report is no longer required. A narrative report should be sent whenever the case reviews indicate problems, trends or other information that should be brought to the attention of the District Program Supervisor.

The District Program Supervisor will take the information received from the Supervising Counselors and transfer the totals to the attached forms entitled "Performance Review Agreement Summary", and "Performance Review Report." This should be done in the District Program Office and not by the VR Supervising Counselors. The completion of these reports will be discussed at the meeting of the VR Program Supervisors on April 1-3, 1981.

The items on the Case Review Record that reflect the quality of services are numbers 1,3,5,9,10,11,13,15,16,18,19,24,27,29 and 30. The total, raw numbers, for the month should simply be transferred. In other words, if your district has a total of 30 cases checked "yes" and 5 cases checked "no" on item #1 of the case review record which reads: "Client scheduled for an initial interview in a timely manner;" then you should write in under item 88-1 on the Performance Criteria Agreement Summary under "Totals" the number 30 in the blank space for #+ and the number 5 for the blank space #-. There is also space for the unit totals.

The items on the Case Review Record that pertain to compliance are numbered 2,4,6,7, 8,12,14,17,20,21,22,23,25,26,28,31, and 32. A case will meet the standard when all items are checked either "yes" or "NA." If the file is reviewed at acceptance or closure and an item checked "no" can be corrected by the counselor, the item can be changed to "yes" after that item has been corrected and noted by the Supervising Counselor. The total number of cases in which all items are checked either "yes" or "NA" will go in the #+# space for standard 8A-1 on the "Performance Review Report" and the cases with items checked "no" will go in the #-> space.
The information for standard 8A-3 will be obtained from item #28 on the Case Review Record.

The Program Supervisor will complete Section 4 (corrective action) when indicated by the results of the case reviews.

The peer review will continue as a validation and training session. Because Districts are going to be phasing-in the Performance Review System, no peer review will be required for the quarter ending March 31, 1981. The only report on the peer review will be a narrative report by the Program Supervisor. This will simply be an assessment of the cases and analysis by the Program Supervisor.

In summary, the VR Supervising Counselor will have no additional duties in order to implement the Performance Review system. The District Program Supervisor will be completing a report that requires transferring totals from the Case Review Record to the attached forms. We will cover this at our Program Supervisors meeting in April. Please call Marshall Kelley at S.C. 278-7301 if you have questions concerning this process.

J. David Sellars  
Program Staff Director  
Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

JDS:Kj  
Attachment  
cc: District Performance Review Coordinators
### PEIWORM PERFORMANCE CRITERIA AMENDMENT

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- **Counselor did all that was reasonably expected to assist the Client toward rehabilitation before closing unembalmed.**
- **Summary of benefits and impact of services on the Client is documented.**

---

**PRIMARILY CAUSES AVOIDED**

- **Counselor did all that was reasonably expected to assist the Client toward rehabilitation before closing unembalmed.**
- **Summary of benefits and impact of services on the Client is documented.**

---

**B. PERFORMANCE CRITERIA AGREEMENT SUMMARY**

- **Counselor did all that was reasonably expected to assist the Client toward rehabilitation before closing unembalmed.**
- **Summary of benefits and impact of services on the Client is documented.**
<table>
<thead>
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<th>STANDARD</th>
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### U. PERFORMANCE CRITERIA AGREEMENT SUMMARY

**CLIENT/COUNSELOR/UNIT OR NETWORK IDENTIFICATION**

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<tr>
<th>SERVICE PROVISION</th>
<th>PROBABLE CAUSES/NEEDS</th>
<th>TOTALS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Counseling provided and documented</td>
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<td>Client received adequate scope of services needed to meet substantial employment</td>
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<td>Services initiated promptly and provided without unwarranted delays</td>
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<td>Job readiness evaluated</td>
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**Notes:**
- "+" indicates a positive outcome.
- "-" indicates a negative outcome.
- "NA" indicates not available or not applicable.

**Client:**
- Job readiness evaluated...
### B. PERFORMANCE CRITERIA AGREEMENT SUMMARY

**CLIENT/COUNSELOR/UNIT OR NETWORK IDENTIFICATION**

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<th>SERVICE PLANNING</th>
<th>PROBABLE CAUSES/NEEDS</th>
<th>TOTALS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Client has participated in the development and signing of the Client Services Program and has been given a copy</td>
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<tr>
<td>All the services needed for the client's vocational rehabilitation appear on the Client Services Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interim objectives are written to relate to the vocational goal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Counseling objective (if any)</td>
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**Interim Objectives**

1. **Expected Outcomes**: Detailed goals related to the client's vocational rehabilitation.
2. **Short-Term Objectives**: Specific steps to be taken to achieve the interim goals.
3. **Performance Metrics**: Indicators to measure progress towards achieving objectives.
4. **Probable Causes/Needs**: Identification of factors that may impact the client's progress and strategies to address them.

**Client/Unit/Network Identification**:

- **Client ID**: Unique identifier for the client, ensuring confidentiality.
- **Counselor ID**: Identifier for the professional involved in the counseling process.
- **Unit/Network ID**: Identifier for the organization or network providing the services.

**Additional Information**:

- **Performance Criteria Agreement Summary**: Summary of agreements and objectives set forth between the client, counselor, and unit/network.
- **Probable Causes/Needs**: Analysis of potential causes that might hinder the client's progress and strategies to mitigate these issues.
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<th>STANDARD</th>
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CHECK HERE IF FORMAL CORRECTIVE ACTION (SECTION 4) IS NEEDED.
### B. PERFORMANCE CRITERIA AGREEMENT SUMMARY

CLIENT/COUNSELOR/UNIT OR NETWORK IDENTIFICATION

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<th>PHASE/INTAKE</th>
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#### PHASE/INTAKE

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<th>Agreement of understanding signed</th>
<th>Medical, psychological and vocational information is sufficient to plan for the scope of VR services needed to attain the vocational goals</th>
<th>If ineligible, client notified in writing and notified of appeals process</th>
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#### PHASE/3

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<th>If ineligible, client notified in writing and notified of appeals process</th>
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June 2, 1981

Ms. Susan Stoddard  
Project Director  
Berkeley Planning Associates  
3200 Adeline Street  
Berkeley, California 94703

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

In response to your request for materials used by this agency for case flagging and quality assurance, it should be mentioned first that we use two systems. The first is standard procedures which are routinely followed and the second is special efforts to solve particular problems or to improve performance in a particular area.

Some of the routine procedures are outlined in the attached excerpt from our unit supervisors' manual. Samples of the described data reports which are sent to the field offices on a monthly or quarterly basis will be provided on request. They are probably typical of client data reports used by most agencies. In addition to these written procedures we routinely conduct the following reviews for quality assurance purposes:

a) A monthly follow-up on cases closed from active status. Our area directors review the closure reports and mail a questionnaire (copy attached) to each client. These are returned to the area directors for any action needed and then forwarded to the VR program office along with the closure documentation. They are reviewed and a monthly summary is sent back to the field.

b) Quarterly review of IWRP's. After IWRP's are approved by the unit supervisors a copy is sent to the VR program office. These are reviewed and a quarterly summary of comments and suggestions is sent out to the districts.

c) Authorizations for purchase of services are routinely checked and a quarterly report sent out to area directors. This provides a check on fiscal procedures as well as a means of assuring that vendors are paid promptly.
d) Undue delays in statuses are monitored at the state level as well as locally. The one-page case review form (copy attached) which is used routinely by unit supervisors and state staff records dates for various steps in the VR process.

In addition to these on-going procedures we review client data periodically to spot problem areas and develop a means of determining causative factors as a basis for corrective action. Recent examples include a review of eligibility decisions, and a review of cases closed not-rehabilitated. Copies of the review forms are attached.

If you have any further questions please feel free to contact us.

Cordially,

DIVISION OF BLIND SERVICES

[Signature]

Donald H. Wedewer
Director

DHW/CM/EF/pk

Attachments
AS A FORMER CLIENT OF THE DIVISION OF BLIND SERVICES, YOU CAN HELP US TO ENSURE THAT WE ARE PROVIDING SATISFACTORY SERVICES. WILL YOU PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS; ADD ANY COMMENTS YOU WISH, AND RETURN THIS QUESTIONNAIRE IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE? YOUR REPLY WILL HELP US IMPROVE OUR SERVICES AND WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR COOPERATION.

1. PLEASE CHECK THE STATEMENT THAT BEST DESCRIBES YOUR PRESENT ACTIVITIES.
   - I WORK 35 HOURS OR MORE A WEEK AND EARN $_________________ A WEEK.
   - I WORK LESS THAN 35 HOURS A WEEK AND EARN $_________________ A WEEK.
   - I AM NOT WORKING.
   - I AM A HOMEMAKER AND DO NOT WORK OUTSIDE THE HOME.
   - OTHER. PLEASE EXPLAIN

2. WHEN YOU WERE RECEIVING SERVICES FROM THE DIVISION OF BLIND SERVICES YOU HAD A COUNSELOR. WAS YOUR COUNSELOR WILLING TO LISTEN TO YOUR IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS?
   - YES
   - NO
   - SOMETIMES

3. DID YOUR COUNSELOR EXPLAIN WHAT THE DOCTOR'S REPORTS SAID AND MEANT?
   - YES
   - NO
   - SOMETIMES

4. ARE YOU SATISFIED WITH THE MEDICAL SERVICES YOU RECEIVED?
   - YES
   - NO

5. DID YOU RECEIVE SERVICES QUICKLY?
   - YES
   - NO
   - SOMETIMES

6. DID YOU RECEIVE TRAINING?
   - YES
   - NO

7. DID YOU AGREE WITH YOUR COUNSELOR THAT YOU SHOULD NOT CONTINUE TO RECEIVE SERVICES AS A VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION CLIENT?
   - YES
   - NO

8. DO YOU NEED EYE MEDICAL CARE FOLLOW-UP?
   - YES
   - NO

9. DID YOUR COUNSELOR REFER YOU TO THE MEDICAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES PROGRAM OF THE DIVISION OF BLIND SERVICES FOR EYE MEDICAL CARE FOLLOW-UP?
   - YES
   - NO

10. WOULD YOU TELL A BLIND FRIEND WHO NEEDS HELP TO GO TO THE DIVISION OF BLIND SERVICES?
    - YES
    - NO

PLEASE ADD ANY COMMENTS YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE, GOOD OR BAD, ON THE REVERSE SIDE.

THANK YOU.

[Signature]
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<tr>
<th>Status</th>
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<td>Client Seen (date)</td>
<td>Eye Exam (date)</td>
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<td>Application, VR4 &amp; Treatment Agreement, Diagnostics (Comments)</td>
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<td>Cert. of Elig. or Ext. Eval. (Date)</td>
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<tr>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>N/A</th>
<th>1. Does the diagnostic study to establish eligibility include:</th>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>1a. An appraisal of the current general health status of the client, and if his/her disabling condition necessitates:</td>
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<td>1b. An evaluation of pertinent medical, psychological, vocational, educational and other related factors describing how the client's disability constitutes or results in a substantial handicap to employment.</td>
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<td>2. Is there sufficient documentation in the case record:</td>
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<td>2a. To establish the presence of a physical or mental disability which for the individual constitutes or results in a substantial handicap to employment?</td>
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<td>2b. To substantiate a reasonable expectation that vocational rehabilitation services may benefit the individual in terms of employability?</td>
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</table>
CLIENT NAME  

LAST COUNSELLER  

AGE MAJOR DISABILITY 122 SECONDARY XXX  

REFERRAL—DISABILITY 149 REFERRAL—DATE 1179 TIME IN REF-XXXX 

TIME IN STATUS:  
EXTENDED EVAL. 60  
STATUS 10/12 GOOD  
IN SERVICE GOOD  
IN STATUS 20 90  
IN STATUS 22 70  
IN STAYS 24 70  

*************************** CLOSURE DATA ****************************

REASON FOR CLOSURE: WAS UNABLE TO LOCATE IF THIS IS INCORRECT INSERT PROPER CODE HERE  

WAS THIS CLOSURE REVIEWED BY A SUPERVISOR? YES NC  

HOW WAS THE CLIENT ADVISED? IN PERSON BY PHONE LETTER  

WAS THE REFERRAL SOURCE NOTIFIED? YES NO  

PLR CASES CLOSED UNABLE TO LOCATE WERE EFFORTS REASONABLE AND APPROPRIATE? YES NO  

HOW MANY V.R. COUNSELORS SERVED THIS CLIENT?  

**************** SERVICE DATA *************

WERE PLANNED SERVICES PROVIDED? YES NO  

DATES CLIENT SEEN DURING LAST YEAR WERE  

**** QUALITY ****

COUNSELLING  
GODD **CIRCLE ONE** POOR  
1 2 3 4 5  
FULLC-UF CN SERVICES  
DiAGNOSTIC INFORMATION  
USE OF DIAG. IN IWRP  
INFORMATION PROVIDED TO CLIENT  
PLACEMENT EFFORT  
1 2 3 4 5  

**** ACCEPTANCE DATA ****

THE ELIGIBILITY DECISION WAS CORRECT INCORRECT QUESTIONABLE  
GODD **CIRCLE ONE** POOR  
ATTENTION TO SECONDARY DISABILITIES  
CLIENT INVOLVEMENT IN PLANNING  
CASE STUDY ANALYSIS  
COMMENTS:  

48
STATUS 00

1. R-4 completed properly?  __Yes__ No
   Contacts timely or on-going?  __Yes__ No

STATUS 02-32

1. Were forms completed properly?
   R-4  __Yes__ No
   R-300 __Yes__ No
   R-3  __Yes__ No
   R-41 __Yes__ No
   R-52 __Yes__ No
   R-37 __Yes__ No
   Other __Yes__ No

2. Were timely contacts maintained?  __Yes__ No

CONTENT:

3. Were diagnostics for mental/physical disability adequate?  __Yes__ No

Specialist  Psychological  Psychiatric

Did specialist synthesize information adequately?  __Yes__ No

4. Was client informed of their rights, confidentiality, appeal?  __Yes__ No

5. Was case movement timely?  __Yes__ No

6. Appropriate use of Status 06?  __Yes__ No

7. Documentation to support SD?  __Yes__ No

8. Eligibility statement presents evidence that client meets eligibility criteria?  __Yes__ No

9. Certificate of eligibility signed and dated?  __Yes__ No
f. Was client contacted during job placement?
   ___Yes___No

g. Was RCR closure information complete?
   ___Yes___No

h. Was Post-Employment box on IWRP checked appropriately?
   ___Yes___No

17. Post Employment Services:
   a. Were they given appropriately?
      ___Yes___No

   b. Forms completed correctly? ___Yes___No

18. Was the case supervised appropriately?
    ___Yes___No

19. Were fiscal matters handled adequately?
    ___Yes___No

20. Was clerical support adequate? ___Yes___No

21. Were RCR entries neat, concise, and complete enough to support services being provided or recommended?
    ___Yes___No
SECTION VI

Time In Status Guidelines

The counselor is responsible for assuring that each case moves through the rehabilitation process in an appropriate manner and that referrals, applicants and clients are served in an adequate and timely fashion. The following chart indicates the maximum amount of time which could reasonably be expected for a case to remain in any one status, under usual circumstances:

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<th>Status</th>
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(Chp. 6, p. 13)

Counselors should review the Caseload Report Summary on a monthly basis to determine whether any case has remained in a particular status for longer than the number of months shown on the chart. If so, the counselor should review the casefile to see whether the case is proceeding satisfactorily with no additional or corrective action needed at this time. Any needed actions are to be taken as soon as possible, in order to prevent inappropriate delay in provision of services to the individual. Hopefully, this monthly review will help the counselor to provide effective and expeditious services to each person on the caseload.

The Counselor Work Record and other documentation in the casefile should always reflect current activity and rationale for a case being in a particular status, regardless of whether the "time-in-status" guidelines are exceeded. Cases which remain in a given status for an excessive period of time will be reviewed by the Area Supervisor to determine whether there are problems involved in the management of those cases, and if so, what corrective actions are needed.
Random Sample

Action Plan

1. **OBJECTIVE:** To improve consultation services in relation to diagnostic study and certification.

**METHOD:** Area Supervisor will provide training to A.M.C. utilizing the recently developed training materials.

Dottie Rice will present the mini training sessions on "Utilization of Medical Consultation" to counseling staff and AMC.

Area Supervisor will review written consultation provided by the AMC for at least 3 months following training and provide guidance as needed.

**EVALUATION:** Q.A. specialist will review the diagnostic study and certification on a sample of cases in which medical consultation was provided, following the training and assess whether improvements have been made since the last review.

2. **OBJECTIVE:** To evaluate the effectiveness of work evaluation/WAT programming provided to VR clients in XYZ Facility.

**METHOD:** Q.A. specialist will review a sample of cases on clients who have been clients of XYZ Facility and provide a written report to the Area Supervisor.

Area Supervisor will meet with facility personnel and together they will outline any needed corrective actions.

**EVALUATION:** Q.A. specialist will return after an appropriate length of time and will review a new sample of cases that have gone through either work evaluation or WAT.

3. **OBJECTIVE:** To improve the quality of the written rehabilitation plans.

**METHOD:** Mini-session on plan writing to be presented by Dottie Rice to counseling staff.

Counselor X working with Counselors 1-6
Counselor Y working with Counselors 7-13 to assist with plan writing.

Lead Counselor review of plans for 4 months.

**EVALUATION:** Q.A. specialist will review a random sample of cases in status 12 since plan writing sessions.
Action Plan

1. **OBJECTIVE:** To improve general case management of caseload #999.

   **METHOD:** Q.A. Specialist to review entire caseload and provide report to counselor and area supervisor.

   Area Supervisor and counselor devise corrective action plan with time frames established.

   **EVALUATION:** Q.A. Specialist to review a random sampling and assess extent of improvement since full caseload review.

2. **OBJECTIVE:** To improve written certifications by counseling staff.

   **METHOD:** Dottie Rice to present "Diagnostic Study and Certification" mini sessions to counseling staff at area meeting.

   **EVALUATION:** At the end of three months, Q.A. Specialist returns to review random sample of recently certified cases to evaluate effectiveness of training and review.

3. **OBJECTIVE:** To better utilize TF/SF money.

   **METHOD:** TF/SF Supervisor will present refresher training on TF/SF procedures.

   TF/SF Liaison will review a random sample of TF/SF cases on each caseload for a period of six month following training.

   **EVALUATION:** Q.A. Specialist and TF/SF Supervisor will review a random sample of TF/SF cases.
I. Case Processing

A. Application/Diagnostic Study

- Check for signature of applicant.
- Check reported disability.
- Check time in statuses 00 and 02. Is case moving on a timely basis?
- Are inappropriate services, such as job placement services, being provided in status 02?
- For cases opened after March 1, 1980, was the client informed of the confidentiality of his case record?

B. Certification

Disability/Substantial Handicap to Employment -

- Check against CSR and back-up data. Is disability confirmed?
- Is the diagnosis provided by the "appropriate" doctor, e.g., is a mental disability confirmed by a psychologist or a psychiatrist.
- Are functional limitations either specified or obvious?
- Is there an assessment of the applicant's current health?
- Are necessary reports no more than 12 months old (3 months, now for general medical exam) prior to application?
- Are secondary disabilities addressed? Were recommended exams obtained? Or was there an explanation on CWR for not obtaining them?
- Is substantial handicap for that individual confirmed?

Reasonable Expectation -

- Check medical/psychological prognosis and double-check any other factors mentioned.
- Assess logic for certification into 06 or 10 (check review date on 06).

SD/NSD -

- Check certification against CSR coding.
- If SD, is it explained in RSA's terms and is this "backed up"?
- Was the accurate 3-digit code number used on CSR?
- If NSD, is this correct?

Check date and status on CSR/CWR to match with Certification.

C. Plans

1. Written plan

- Note the time lapse between Certification and initial Plan of Service.
- Check CWR for plan development sessions and explanation of vocational goal chosen.

Is a Review date scheduled? Is it correct?
Vocational goal - Rehabilitation/Extended Evaluation. Is goal feasible?
(Is goal for Extended Evaluation "To be determined") Check CWR, psychometrics, high school transcripts, etc. plus explanation of substantial handicap on Certification. Does the vocational goal take into account such things as current labor market situations? If client is interested in self-employment, have SBE procedures been followed?

Intermediate Objectives - Are appropriate objectives identified?

Services - Are nature of services specified, along with dates/duration? Are all recommended services included? If not, is there an explanation on the CWR?

- Do services match objectives?
- Do services match diagnostic information and recommendations?
  If not, check for explanation (usually on CWR).

Criteria - Do they match objectives and services? Are they understandable?

Signatures - Are appropriate signatures on the plan? (NOTE: Remove any signed, blank plan forms, FPA's, Employment Questionnaires and explain to counselor.)

2. Follow-Through

- Were criteria applied? (Progress or grade reports, medical/psychological reports, counselor/client contact, etc.)
- Does CWR show review done as scheduled? 90 days for extended evaluation plans and certifications.
- Were plans amended when needed and at least every 12 months?
- If amended plan says "Same as previous plan", does this make sense?
- Is there a current plan? One is needed even if services are not being purchased, unless case is in status 24.
- Are placement services being provided when appropriate?
- For cases in status 14, were "counseling and guidance" sessions recorded on CWR?

NOTE: Again, check status and dates --- 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, and 24. CSR status should match current activity. This is extremely important if caseload management is being done via statuses and length in status as shown on computer print-out.

D. Fiscal Documents

- Are past fiscal year's transactions reconciled?
- Is present Fiscal Recap Sheet current? Are there any outstanding authorizations that could be reconciled? Is vendor contact needed?
- Check nature and date of service with plans to see that we are not purchasing services not included on plan (usually maintenance/transportation and incidentals like glasses, calculator, etc.) Okay to buy short term diagnostics without being on plan.
- Check verification for supportive services (maintenance and transportation, etc.) prior to Claim Vouchers for DMS. On more recent ones, check claim vouchers and statements on RS-1. Also, is "maintenance/
transportation" being used for other things (tools, tuition, medical services, etc.) to avoid time factors and paperwork?
- Have proper procedures been followed for oral authorizations?
- Match written reports from Drs., Psychologists, hospitals, etc. with billings, claim vouchers, and RS-1's and double-check dates of respective documents.
- Match prescriptions/recommendations for physical and mental restoration with RS-1's.
- Check for client receipts, when needed.
- Proper signatures on RS-1's --- Area Supervisor/State Office, when needed.
- Excessive back-dates? If so, is there a common reason? Are there justification memos?
- TF/SF/Title I --- Is program appropriate? (See below).
- Have appropriate chargebacks been done?
- Has BEOG, State Scholarship and other similar benefits been pursued, when appropriate?

E. Trust Fund/Security Fund

- Check counselor survey form and TF/SF section regarding Social Security disability benefits. If not receiving SSDI/SSI, just make sure RS-1's are for program 1 and that CSR Line C is current.

If receiving SSDI/SSI,

- Check Line C of the CSR to see that it is current.
- Check request for verification on 1407 or 1408 (allowances only). If DD referral, is packet in file; has 1407 been completed?
- If beneficiary, and case is in status lower than 12, check to see that TF/SF money is being utilized. All beneficiaries are eligible for D&E out of TF/SF, unless SGA has been eliminated as possible vocational goal.
- If TF/SF is being used, check for strong likelihood document.
- Check TF/SF Entitlement coding on CSR. "S" if TF/SF is being spent below status 12 and "P" if no TF/SF is being spent.
- If beyond 12, check to see if entitlement code reflects case service funding status: 0-Not Allowed SSDI/SSI, B-Beneficiary during VR process but not currently eligible for TF/SF, no supportive documentation or does not meet SSD, S-Eligible for TF/SF under Strong Likelihood, C-Eligible, certified, meets SSC verification is in file. (C is not changed, but "term" can be entered.)
- There should be official SSA verification in file by status 12, but if not, strong likelihood can still be used if desirable. If so, entitlement code should remain "S" on CSR.
- Check Statement of Conformance and whether all 4 criteria are completed and appropriate if case is in status 12 or above and vocational goal is SGA. NOTE: All SSDI/SSI beneficiaries must be certified if their does not meet SSC and Statement of Conformance must be signed and approved. (Certifying a client as meeting SSC does not necessarily imply that TF/SF is being spent.)

II. Common Observations of counselor/area practices/problems after review of several cases.

- Check for proper utilization of medical consultation.
- Check for utilization of particular vendors.
- Check for the use or effectiveness of facility services.
- Check the amount of client contact. If this is a problem, is it related to a particular status or at points when client/vendor is to make next move. Note the nature of client contact --- phone, office, home, training site, form letters, employment questionnaires, etc.
- Can general findings be combined with computer print-out information for direction in caseload management?
- Is there inappropriate use of statuses (e.g. status 14 with no recorded counseling and guidance sessions.)
- Note the use of any "unofficial" forms or form letters.
## WORK ACTIVITY/PLANNING REPORT

### I. IWRF Monitoring

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<th>Type</th>
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### II. R-519 Report

#### A. "00" (30 plus days)

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#### B. "02" (90 plus days)

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#### C. "10" (60 plus days)

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#### D. "22" (60 plus days)

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#### E. Other Work Activity Plans

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>What</th>
<th>563 Date</th>
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<tbody>
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<tr>
<td>COUNSELOR NAME &amp; ASSIGNMENT:</td>
<td>REPORTING OFFICE:</td>
<td>REPORTING PERIOD:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<th>CASE LOAD</th>
<th>TRANSFERS</th>
<th>ASSIGN</th>
<th>ELIG</th>
<th>CLOSURES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>+1 mo</td>
<td>+3 mo</td>
<td>+18 mo</td>
<td>+3 mo</td>
<td>+18 mo</td>
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<tr>
<td>+6 mo</td>
<td>+3 mo</td>
<td>+6 mo</td>
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| TOTALS |          |        |      |          |
| R-510  | (Rev. 7-79) |      |      |          |

GU
DURING THE REVIEWING PERIOD, ATTACH NOTES OR COMMENTS HERE

NOTE: Please Type or print

STATE OF IOWA
CONFIDENTIAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW/EVALUATION
(Managers, Supervisors and Non-Supervisors)

SECTION A
RESPONSIBILITIES AND STANDARDS/RESULTS EXPECTED

INSTRUCTIONS: Section A is to be completed at the BEGINNING of the evaluation period. It MUST be discussed with and signed by the individual being evaluated. Employee's copy is given to the individual IMMEDIATELY following the conference. Other copies are HELD by the Supervisor until the END of the evaluation period when they are ATTACHED to Section B. See separate Instruction Sheet and Manual for detail.

12. Responsibilities: From job description and classification specification or other.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES</th>
<th>STANDARDS/RESULTS EXPECTED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>To explain vocational rehabilitation services and client rights and responsibilities for each referral soon after assignment so that referrals have sufficient information about VR services to choose whether or not to become an applicant.</td>
<td>A. VR services have been explained to referrals soon after the assignment date. Method: Records will be maintained of calendar days elapsed from date of assignment thru date of R-413 entry verifying that services were explained. Mean elapsed days per case to be computed. Exception: For transfers in (Status 00), date of transfer will be substituted for date of 00. Rating:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
12. Responsibilities: From job description and classification specification or other.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Status 06, 08, or 10 in a timely manner and in accord with the Client Service Manual and Procedural Handbook so that applicants are appropriately advised regarding their eligibility and the decisions are supported by documentation in the case record.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

13. Standards and Results Expected: (Conditions which will exist when the job is done satisfactorily. Several Standards for each responsibility)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STANDARDS/RESULTS EXPECTED</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>been processed in accord with the RESB Procedural Handbook.</td>
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Method: Supervisor to apply review form to a sample of cases. Review findings to be shared with counselor.

Rating: Percentage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adequate to Total</th>
<th>Scale</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>98 - 100</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>96 - 97</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>94 - 95</td>
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<td>90 - 93</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>0 - 89</td>
<td>1</td>
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</table>

II. Determinations of eligibility, acceptability for extended evaluation and ineligibility are made reasonably soon after the date of application.

Method: Records will be maintained of calendar days elapsed from date of 02 to 08, 02 to 06 and 02 to 10. Mean elapsed days per case to be computed. Exceptions: For transfers in, date of transfer will be substituted for date of 02.

Rating: Average days elapsed

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Average days elapsed</th>
<th>Scale</th>
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<tr>
<td>44 or less</td>
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<td>45 to 74</td>
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<td>75 to 104</td>
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<tr>
<td>105 to 134</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>135 to 155*</td>
<td>1</td>
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NOTE: Ratings for Standards A & B to be averaged to establish overall rating for Responsibility 2 (carried to 1 decimal).

* Delays in processing due to Agency funding problems or unique circumstances are to be handled in accord with Supervisory Handbook Instructional Memo dated 5/21/80.
### MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES</th>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>To develop and maintain a timely IWRP with each eligible client (and 06) which is in accord with the Client Service Manual and the Procedural Handbook so that planned services may be received and client progress may be assessed.</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>To effect timely placement and/or termination of services appropriate to IWRP goals so that clients achieve suitable vocational objectives.</td>
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### STANDARDS/RESULTS EXPECTED

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>STANDARDS/RESULTS EXPECTED</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A.</td>
<td>Each IWRP R-1A, B and C has been developed and maintained according to RESB Procedural Handbook and in response to client needs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Method</td>
<td>Supervisor to apply &quot;review form&quot; to a sample of IWRP's with any deficiencies noted and shared with counselor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rating</td>
<td>Percentage Adequate to Total</td>
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<td>98 - 100</td>
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<td>96 - 97</td>
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| A.     | Each client determined to be placement ready (Status 14 and 20) has received and/or is receiving in accord with the RESB Procedural Handbook such placement services as are necessary and available. |
| Method | Supervisor to apply a review form to a sample of records held in Status' 14 and 20. Review findings to be shared with counselor. The percentage of "adequate" to "total" is computed. |

| B.     | Each casefile moved to Status 08 from 06, 26, 28 and 30 includes documentation that applicable standards for termination of service have been met. |
| Method | Supervisor to apply a review form to a sample of casefiles closed 08 from 06, 26, 28, and 30. Review findings to be shared with counselor. The percentage of "adequate" to "total" is computed. |

Rating: Percentages earned in A & B above to be averaged and rated as follows:
12. Responsibilities: From job description and classification specification or other.

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<th>No.</th>
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<th>MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES</th>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>To know and adhere to established procedures and conduct in the practice of rehabilitation counseling so that confidence and respect from consumers, the public, other professionals and the employers may be maintained.</td>
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13. Standards and Results Expected: (Conditions which will exist when the job is done satisfactorily. Several Standards for each responsibility)

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Adequate to Total</th>
<th>Scale</th>
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A. Monthly work plans and weekly itineraries have been completed, with prescribed time frames, with revision as appropriate, and submitted to supervisor for approval.

B. No established work rules have been violated.

C. Action plans based on principles of effective caseload management and developed in conjunction with the supervisor have been carried out.

Method: Supervisor to review adequacy and timeliness of work plans and itineraries, violations of work rules to be recorded. Action plans to be written and retained for the evaluation period.

Rating: Satisfactory performance (3 rating) is a minimum expectation. Ratings of 4 and 5 or 1 and 2 will require specific justification.

14. This section was discussed with me at the beginning of the evaluation period and I have been given a copy for my personal use during the upcoming period.

The above responsibilities and results expected were developed by:

Supervisor: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________

Title: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________

DISTRIBUTION: WHITE—Employee's Copy—Given Immediately
              CANARY—Supervisor's Copy
              PINK—Merit Copy
              GOLDENROD—Agency Copy

M-12 (3-77)
CASEWORK PERFORMANCE REVIEW
"10", "06", "08" from "00-02"

I. Intake Data Recording-----------------------------------------------
   a. Procedurally correct __
   b. Complete __

II. Disabling Condition(s) - Limitation(s)----------------------------
   a. All disabilities described __
   b. Resulting functional limitations __

III. Vocational Handicap---------------------------------------------
   a. How limitations are/are not handicapping __
   b. Handicap is/is not substantial __

IV. Reasonable Expectation-------------------------------------------
   a. Supporting rationale __

V. Certification (R-413 Face Sheet)---------------------------------
   a. Disabilities identified, coded, source, dates __
   b. Certification boxes checked, signed, dated __

VI. Severely Disabled-----------------------------------------------
   a. Correct designation __
   b. Supportive rationale as required __

VII. Medical Consultation-------------------------------------------
    a. Reviewed by consultant __
    b. Issues reconciled __

VIII. Client Notification--------------------------------------------
    a. Done as required __
    b. Informed of rights __

IX. Timeliness-decisions made and actions carried out consistent with availability of pertinent information--

X. Form Completion-----------------------------------------------
    a. SSA-SSI __
    b. R-2/Release __
    c. CSR-300 __

II. REVIEWER COMMENTS:

II. COUNSELOR COMMENTS:

Reviewer ____________________________

Date _______ Signed ____________________

CSN
CASE
DATE

Not Adequate

Adequate

R-601 7/79
I. Reasons for Vocational Objective (or goal of 06)--------------
   a. Experience, skill, aptitude __ b. Interests __
   c. Compatible to disability __
   d. Job availability __ e. Meets income requirements __
   f. Assessment of Job Readiness (Job ready St. 14 & 20) __

II. Objectives-----------------------------------------------
   a. Procedurally correct __ b. Include necessary objectives to achieve goal __
   c. Required (placement) __ d. Criteria for review __

III. Activities-----------------------------------------------
   a. Appropriate to objective __ b. Time frames __
   c. Action statement with assigned responsibility __
   d. Include necessary services to achieve objective __

IV. Dates---------------------------------------------------
   a. Realistic __ b. Procedurally correct __

V. Reviews--------------------------------------------------
   a. Purpose indicated, timely __
   b. Pertinent to Objectives & Activities __
   c. Procedurally correct __
   d. Planned activities carried out __
   e. New Objectives or Activities as needed __
   f. Assess or reassess job readiness __
   g. 90 Day Minimum (St. 06, 14, 20, 24) __
   h. Supervisory consultation incorporated (St. 14 & 20) __

VI. Financial Planning/Authorization---------------------------
   a. Authorization drawn and correct __
   b. Trust Funds designated __
   c. Financial Inventory as required __
   d. Similar benefits sought __
   e. BEOG response __

VII. Placement Resources Utilized (Job ready Statuses 14 & 20)---
    a. Job Services __
    b. CETA __
    c. Training facility __
    d. In-House __
    e. Tax Credits __

VIII. Process Items--------------------------------------------
     a. Client view included __
     b. IWRP signed & dated __
     c. IWRP Goal indicated __
     d. Basis for eligibility checked __
     e. Copies to Client __
     f. Correct status __

IX. Timeliness - decisions made and actions carried out consistent with availability of information __

X. Form completion-------------------------------------------
    a. SSDI-SSI (414, CSR-300) __
    b. Training & Progress reports obtained __
    c. Worker's Comp __
    d. Acceptance forms __
    e. OJT description __

II. REVIEWER COMMENTS: ____________________________

III. COUNSELOR COMMENTS: ____________________________

Reviewer ____________________________

Date ____________ Signed ____________
CASEWORK PERFORMANCE REVIEW
"26", "28/30", "08" from "06"

I.

1. Description of Services Provided---------------------------
   a. Evaluation and diagnosis ___
   b. Counseling & Guidance ___
   c. Training ___
   d. Restoration ___
   e. Placement, etc. ___

2. Outcome of Services---------------------------------------
   a. Resulted from VR services ___
   b. Services provided SUBSTANTIAL ___

3. Description of Benefits received--------------------------
   a. Physical adaptation ___
   b. Personal adjustment ___
   c. Educational development ___
   d. Economic improvement ___
   e. Communication ___

4. Goals and Objectives-------------------------------------
   a. IWRP objective met ___
   b. Vocational goal met ___

5. Closure Rationale----------------------------------------
   a. Client employed ___
   b. Lost contact ___
   c. Other reasons ___

6. Suitability of Employment (26's)--------------------------
   a. Work and disability compatible ___
   b. Appropriate work skills ___
   c. Working conditions & disability compatible ___
   d. Appropriate wage & working conditions ___
   e. Client/employer satisfaction ___
   f. Employment regular & permanent ___

7. Client Rights--------------------------------------------
   a. Annual review (sheltered) ___
   b. Annual review (2, 8 or 9) ___
   c. Right to administrative review ___
   d. Referral to other agency ___

8. Closure and Post Closure-------------------------------
   a. Client views of closure ___
   b. Job data ___
   c. Post employment (explained, purpose and time) ___

9. Timeliness-decisions made and actions taken consistent with
   availability of information-----------------------------

10. Forms---------------------------------------------------
    a. SSI/SSDI ___
    b. Prosthetics/equipment acceptance ___
    c. Face Sheet (08 from 06) ___
    d. R-302 ___

II. REVIEWER COMMENTS: ______________________

III. COUNSELOR COMMENTS: ______________________

Reviewer ______________________

Date 7/2 Signed ________________
April 9, 1981

Ms. Susan Stoddard
Project Director
Berkeley Planning Association
3200 Adeline Street
Berkeley, California 94703

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

In the Kentucky agency, our monitoring for time in status is chiefly confined to 06 and 24. Days in status are reported on a monthly computer run as a part of routine information transmittal. We have taken the approach of focusing upon outcome of casework rather than process and as a part of this focus we are working upon modifications of the traditional status structure to allow the counselors greater professional freedom.

Our Quality Assurance Unit functions within our Division of Support Services and has the responsibility of assuring compliance with federal and state regulations and policies. Caseload reviews are done on a district basis, using a randomly selected overall sample, rather than to focus upon individual counselors. The review team is composed of the two central office quality assurance personnel and one member of the field staff chosen separately for each review. We feel this adds both an additional measure of field credibility and a training component. The review form used is enclosed. At the conclusion of the review, an exit staff meeting is held at which a summary of findings is given and discussed. The team's report (along with the completed forms) is sent first to the District Manager for reaction. The final report including the reply is circulated among appropriate central office staff.

Standards used in review are largely confined to the current federal regulations. As an agency we have committed our efforts to quality vocational rehabilitation within the regulatory framework rather than any undue emphasis upon quantity production.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss our program. Should any additional information be required, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Paris E. Hopkins, Bureau Head
Bureau of Rehabilitation Services

Enclosure
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Current Counselor</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Case Movement</th>
<th>Status</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Caseload #</th>
<th>Client's Name</th>
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<th>Case Number</th>
<th>Referral Source</th>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Primary Disability</th>
<th>Code</th>
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</thead>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Secondary Disability</th>
<th>Code</th>
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<tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coded Severely Disabled</th>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
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<tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.D. Criteria met (e.g. A4 &amp; B2A)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age at Referral</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Education</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Reviewer: ____________________________________________

### Progress Notes

**1.** If case is in active status, are vocational counseling and placement sessions documented adequately?

**2.** If indicated as necessary, do documented counseling sessions show exploration of vocational alternatives?

**3.** Do Progress notes show client-counselor discussion of and development of IWRP and any amendments?

**4.** How long ago, in months, was last recorded contact between counselor and client?

**Note:** Wherever the terms adequate, substantial, timely, or efficient are present, the subjective judgement of the reviewer is indicated.

* Denotes federal requirements.
Eligibility

5. Is an adequate general medical report, indicating a review of all systems present?

6. If indicated by circumstances or by the general medical, are appropriate specialist's (psychologists, psychiatrists, surgeons, etc.) reports present? (Indicate deficiencies)

7. Do these reports indicate the presence of a medically recognized disability?

8. Does medical information indicate the condition to be stable or slowly progressive?

9. Are functional limitations, as they relate to employment, adequately described by the counselor?

10. Is SD or Non-SD properly coded?

11. Are primary and secondary disabilities properly coded?

12. If in status 10 or above, has the counselor indicated a rationale for eligibility using the two criteria? (i.e. substantial handicap to employment and reasonable expectation)

13. Is a proper certificate(s) of eligibility present?

Economic Need

14. If any service indicated requires consideration of economic need, was an adequate determination completed?

15. Has economic need been reviewed as needed?

Extended Evaluation

16. If 06 was (is being) used, are reviews recorded as necessary?

17. Was (is) any evaluation provided during time in 06?

18. Was extended evaluation terminated after a period not longer than 18 months?

IWRP

19. Vocational Objective ___________________________ /Code _______

20. Is anticipated date of employment given?

21. Has the counselor adequately shown how this vocation was selected and why it is appropriate?
22. At the time of IWRP-3 development, does the case information indicate the client could have achieved reasonable satisfactory peer-level employment without the aid of V.R. services?

*23. Are steps toward goal clearly identified in terms of client's functional I

24. Are services to be provided by BNS clearly identified?

*25. Are measures of progress with time frames relating to the steps clearly stated in terms of observable performance?

*26. Is the client's financial responsibility and use of similar benefits clearly shown?

*27. Are the client's other responsibilities in the execution of the program clearly shown?

28. Has placement been planned as an integral part of the IWRP? (See CSN, Section H IWRP-3(5))

*29. Does the IWRP include client views toward program?

30. Are follow-up services clearly planned as part of the program?

*31. If IWRP-3 is over one year old, are results of an annual review present?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Homemaker</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>32. Does information on Homemaker's Activity Chart agree with stated functional limitations?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33. If client living alone is being served as a homemaker, does case record show clearly that he/she is being prepared to function in homemaking duties rather than self-care only?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34. If the individual's vocational objective was changed to homemaker during the rehabilitation process, does the case record show that substantial rehabilitation services were provided and that these services contributed significantly to the client's vocational adjustment as a homemaker?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35. Did the case record show evidence of a personal contact to verify the client's performance as a homemaker?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36. If used for plan amendment, does the IWRP-4 include a summary of services to date and an indication as to client progress?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37. If used for plan amendment, does the narrative indicate what client is to receive, from whom he/she is to receive it, and why he/she is to receive it?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38. If employment objective is being changed, does amendment narrative state specifically why this vocational goal is more suitable and how this was determined?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SSDI-SSI Documentation and Verification**

*39. If client is receiving SSDI and/or SSI benefits, has verification been requested and/or received? | YES | NO | NA | Comments |

*40. Has the BRS-31 been properly completed by counselor and signed by District Manager? | YES | NO | NA | Comments |

41. If yes to both above, has client been placed on Trust Fund or SSI funding (proper budget)? | YES | NO | NA | Comments |

42. If client has been evaluated with SSDI-SSI funds on the basis of "strong likelihood", does the case file contain one of the necessary documents showing an allowance that is dated within the past 6 months? | YES | NO | NA | Comments |

*43. If at any time prior to closure client no longer meets selection criteria, was he/she terminated from funding? | YES | NO | NA | Comments |

**BRS-11**

44. If client has been in a facility, was BRS-11 executed placing client in and removing him/her from facility? | YES | NO | NA | Comments |

**EP-8**

45. Are EP-8s properly completed? | YES | NO | NA | Comments |

**Job Development and Placement**

46. Does case record show significant counselor involvement in job development? | YES | NO | NA | Comments |

47. Does case record show adequate counselor follow-up after placement? | YES | NO | NA | Comments |

**Interrupted Service**

48. If case is (has been) in status 24, was case reviewed every 90 days? | YES | NO | NA | Comments |
<p>| | | | |</p>
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<tr>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>49. Does closure summary, IWHP-4, include all required and necessary information?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>*5. Was vocational guidance and counseling provided as essential?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>51. Does vocation at closure agree with latest objective?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>52. Were services provided by this agency related to client obtaining job indicated on the BRS-300?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>*53. Was client suitably employed at least 60 days prior to closure? (Must include basis for determination of suitability)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>54. If necessary were services provided in status 32?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>*55. If closed due to lack of disability, handicap or potential, are these reasons for ineligibility explained in writing to the client?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>*56. If closed non-rehabilitated, is evidence present of consultation with the client, parent or authorized representative?</td>
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<tr>
<td>57. If SSDI-SSI funded case which has been closed 26, was client's income at least current SGA at closure?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>*58. If closed as ineligible, was the client notified of the right to appeal?</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**General**

59. Are all documents properly completed, dated and signed/ countersigned? (indicate deficiency).

**Summary and Comments**
Dear Dr. Stoddard:

We are very happy to contribute to your work in the refinement of VR standards. However, you will probably find that our current approach to "case flagging" and "quality assurance" represents a significant departure from more traditional VR systems.

We were previously so impressed by Berkeley Planning Associates' recommendations on the General Standards that we used it to develop a QC model for our own management use. Our Management Information System, modeled after the Kentucky Bureau of Rehabilitation Services and the Oregon General Agency System proved valuable in flagging "months in status" problems and probable incident of exceptional expenditures. Quite simply, we ran a quarterly profile on all counselors and used comparative analysis to go from there to identify significant problems. Management by Exception, call it if you will! However, as sophisticated as our system was, we experienced little improvement in our essential work. As you know, the heart of the VR contribution is the mutual counselor-client development of a substantial and individualized regime (I.W.R.P.), based to overcome behavioral limitations exposed in diagnostic studies (eligibility), leading to suitable employment. Our MIS and our QC approach simply could tell us little about these most important areas. It is very possible, we have found, to ring off smoothly without flaggs and QC exceptions and still have inaccurate eligibility, inappropriate I.W.R.P., and unsuitable placement. You can even have a 95% client satisfaction rate with poor counseling as long as you grind out the services in a timely manner.

So, after some rather long soul-searching we have junked the General Standards system and our MIS printouts for standards developed in the "Georgia Management Control Project". Since you probably know about this system, developed by James Ledbetter (SD Georgia), we need not tell you more. Anyway our turn around has been remarkable. By stressing these standards, monitored by case review, and by putting professional expectations of Eligibility - I.W.R.P. - Placement up front of status control, acceptance rate, etc., we are
beginning to see real outcome improvement. We have run the Georgia Control as a test in FY 1980, and the most notable improvement has been increased professionalism among staff and a better quality of worklife. Oh yes, our former problems of status control, acceptance rates, and audit exception have become insignificant.

For our state-operated rehabilitation facilities we have implemented the CARS system, but we have simulated GMCP standards for rehabilitation teaching staff.

I hope that this information will be useful to you.

Sincerely,

Charles W. McDowell
Executive Director
Bureau for the Blind

CWMcD/ER/paa

attachments
REHABILITATION COUNSELOR PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

30.1 GENERAL INFORMATION

The performance standards for Rehabilitation Counselors with the Bureau for the Blind are based upon the successful practices of the rehabilitation counseling profession:

- accuracy in eligibility-ineligibility determination.
- appropriate and substantial services provided to handicapped clients.
- appropriate utilization of case service funds and similar benefits.
- successful placement of individuals into employment.

Five specific standards have been identified as minimum requirements expected in counseling practice.

30.2 STANDARD NUMBER I - ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION

Objective: To maximize the accuracy of eligibility determination.

Criteria for Assessment of Standard

A. Presence of medical documentation of primary and secondary disabilities. Yes/No 30%

B. Presence of description of how disability constitutes vocational handicap. State physical and/or psychological limitations in behavioral terms. Yes/No 35%

C. Presence of specific rationale for reasonable expectation for substantial gainful activity (Documentation of work history, demonstrated work habits, transferability of skills, stability of previous employment, effects of secondary disabilities, client expectations, medical prognosis). Yes/No 35%

95% accuracy needed for meeting the minimum requirements for this standard.
30.3 STANDARD NUMBER 2 - INELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION

Objective: To maximize the accuracy of ineligibility determination.

Criteria for Assessment of Standard

A. Documentation and rationale as to why one or more of eligibility criteria are not met, including annual review if closed "handicap too severe." Yes/No 90%

B. Documentation of client notification of right of appeal, including notification to referral source. Yes/No 10%

95% accuracy needed for meeting the minimum requirements for this standard.

30.4 STANDARD NUMBER 3 - IWRP DEVELOPMENT

Objective: To maximize appropriate and substantial services provided handicapped clients.

Criteria for Assessment of Standard

A. There will be documentation for the stated vocational goal of client (i.e., consideration of past work history, assets, liabilities, transferable skills, stability and motivation, medical prognosis, result of any evaluation, aptness of goal as related to community job resources, etc.). Yes/No 20%

B. The objectives and services described in the original plan will be consistent with the functional limitations described in eligibility determination. Yes/No 20%

C. There will be time frames established in the original plan for specific objectives and for the total goal. Yes/No 20%

D. There will be evidence of client involvement in the IWRP formulation and execution. Yes/No 20%

E. The methods for measurement (evaluation criteria) will be described in observable terms. Yes/No 20%

85% accuracy needed for meeting the minimum requirements for this standard.

30.5 STANDARD NUMBER 4 - FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Objective: To maximize the appropriate utilization of case service funds.
Criteria for Assessment of Standard

A. Provision of services consistent with agency policy and fees. Yes/No 50%

B. Documentation of expenditure of appropriate funds. Yes/No 50%

95% accuracy needed for meeting the minimum requirements for this standard.

30.6 STANDARD NUMBER 5 - OUTCOME MEASUREMENT

Objective: To measure counselor performance based on client outcome.

Criteria for Assessment of Standard

A. The distribution of status 26 closures shall reflect the overall mission and objectives of the Bureau for the Blind:

   * 70% of all status 26 closures shall be competitively employed (competitive labor market, small business or Business Enterprises Program), above SGA income level.

   * 15% of all status 26 closures shall be competitively employed, above SGA income level, from SSI, SSDI, or Workman's Compensation.

   * 60% of all status 26 closures shall be Severely Disabled.

B. Outcome of status 26 closures shall be measured by weighted values:

   * Competitively employed, SGA from SSI, SSDI, W.C. Value 18

   * Competitively employed, SGA, non SSI, SSDI, or W.C. Value 7

   * Non-competitively employed, non SGA, Homemaker, Sheltered Employment, Unpaid Family Worker. Value 3

C. Outcome performance shall be measured according to goal achievement and may be met either by case count or outcome measure.
EXAMPLE: Counselor X and Supervisor Y agree on the following standards of outcome performance:

GOAL PERFORMANCE

Performance in total closures by agreement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome Measure</th>
<th>Case Count</th>
<th>Value Each</th>
<th>Outcome Measure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SSI/SSDI, W.C.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>54</td>
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<tr>
<td>Competitive Employment</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>77</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-Comp. Employment</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTALS</strong></td>
<td><strong>20</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>149</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Performance shall be either by case count or outcome measure.

Counselor X may achieve performance goal by either reaching case count, 20 closures as indicated, or any combination of closure values that would reach an outcome measurement of 149 points.

30.7 INDEPENDENT STATUS

Counselors who meet minimum requirements for standards shall function with only minimal supervision.

30.8 SYSTEM OF REWARDS

Rehabilitation Counselors shall be appropriately rewarded for performance:

* Promotion: As a condition of promotion to Principal Counselor all of the minimum standards of performance must be met.

* Inadequate Performance: Provision will be made for correcting inadequate performance, and counselors whose inadequate performance cannot be corrected shall be separated. An uncorrectable, inadequate performance is defined as an inability to meet all of the minimum standards for a period of two years.

* Rewards: Merit salary increases shall be provided on the basis of counselor performance in meeting all of the minimum standards of performance and the realization of outstanding performance in outcome measures in Standard #5.
Counselor performance according to standards shall be determined through an annual review of cases provided a review team selected by the Director of Client Services. Counselors shall be provided with written statements for each case reviewed and shall be given the opportunity to defend their work before any review becomes final.

Counselor Review Guidelines are included at the end of this section.
May 11, 1981

Susan Stoddard  
Berkeley Planning Associates  
3200 Adeline Street  
Berkeley, California  94703

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

This is an answer to your letter about caseload monitoring systems. Attached are several numbered documents.

Case Flagging

Attachment #1 is a page from a counselor's Case List — a computerized master-list. (Check it and you will see it is full of information, including a time-in-status history.) We use the counselor's Case List to flag cases of undue delay. Every 3 months our evaluation unit screens all caseloads for cases that have been in the same status much longer than normal. The result is given to my office. We give it to the two statewide program directors (General VR and Eye Care VR) and tell them to find out for each case:

1) Why the client has been in the same status so long;  
2) What are we doing for the client — currently; and  
3) How long before the client's case can be moved along.

Statistical Monitoring

We have a program monitoring process that operates monthly and is based on two reports. Check attachments #2 and #3. In this process, each line VR administrative level is treated as a single caseload, the person responsible for the caseload is treated as the caseload manager. (In other words, just as the 1st line supervisor treats the counselor.) Thus our statewide program directors are responsible for accomplishing the objectives set for their program, i.e., their caseloads. Attachment #2 is reported at all caseload levels: statewide, regional and supervisor unit; Attachment #3 also reports on counselor caseloads. What we do when we monitor the program directors, they are supposed to do with the regional directors, and they with their supervisors. (Note: the Regional Director is a second-line supervisor, so we have 3 levels of line VR supervision below my office.)

Asterisks in Attachment #2 and plus and minus signs in Attachment #3 are supposed to initiate a corrective action plan which the caseload manager's supervisor approves and which then becomes the basis of the supervisor's
May 11, 1981

Susan Stoddard
Berkeley Planning Associates

monitoring of the caseload manager. Attachments #2 and #3 are then used to measure the effectiveness of the corrective action plan. This is supposed to happen at all levels.

The "performance limit" in Attachment #2 is set as follows: At the 3-month point (3 months into the fiscal year), the caseload manager should make at least 60% of what was expected by that time, which is usually 1/4 of the year's total goal. At the 6-month point, it's 80%, at the 9-month point -- 100%. Thus 3/4 of the way through this year, we expect our caseloads to be on track, performing at the level we expected they'd be by that time. The rationale for this "shrinking" acceptable performance region is simple: the closer we get to the end of the year, the closer we need to be to where we expected to be (and vice versa), because as time goes on we have less and less time to make up deficits. This approach is realistic, and we hope it keeps the false alarm rate down.

Casework (Quality) Monitoring

Attachment #4 describes our Quality Control Process (QC). Since it was designed, we've converted to quarterly sampling and reporting and to an evaluation instead of a monitoring process; i.e., we try to find out what the causes are of casework problems the case reviews uncover, rather than simply identify the problem and leave it at that. The QC process is operated by our evaluation unit and reports to my office. This process focuses only on the two statewide programs*, treating each as a caseload and the program director as the caseload manager responsible and accountable for the quality of the casework sampled. *(We don't have the staff to apply the QC process below the statewide caseloads. This QC process can trigger additional case reviews, aimed at getting more to the bottom of problems uncovered at the statewide level, which could be done by 1st line supervisors or by rehabilitation consultants out of our State central office.) The other change we've made to the QC process design is to make this process look for causes of problems indicated by the Statistical Monitoring process. Thus the "quality" and "quantity" monitoring processes are linked.

If you have any questions about these reports and systems, contact my Deputy, Tom Longfellow. You can also contact Doug Cowie or Linda Wilcox of our Program Evaluation Office, 59 Court Street, Augusta, ME 04330. Their phone number is 207-623-8461.

Sincerely,

C. Owen Pollard
Director
Bureau of Rehabilitation

/llm
cc: T. Longfellow
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Process in Orderly and Timely Fashion</th>
<th>Client Needs Are Met to Extent Required (Subject to Resources and Priorities)</th>
<th>Decisions and Actions Made in the Name of State Agency Are Proper</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Assessment Criteria (Guidelines)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Referral</td>
<td>Appointments and information giving</td>
<td>Referral to applicant Status or &quot;08&quot;</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>Probability of Success &quot;26&quot; &quot;33&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Applicant</td>
<td>Orientation and diagnostic work-up</td>
<td>Eligibility or ineligibility, Extended Evaluation</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>Probability of Non-Success &quot;08&quot; &quot;28&quot; &quot;30&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Extended Evaluation</td>
<td>Additional diagnostic services</td>
<td>Eligibility or ineligibility</td>
<td>06</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Acceptance</td>
<td>- Client notification of acceptance and assessment of evaluation data</td>
<td>IWRP completed or &quot;30&quot;</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Plan Completed</td>
<td>Arrangement for initiation of services</td>
<td>Continuation of IWRP or &quot;28&quot;</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Services</td>
<td>- Follow through on agreement (Jointly)</td>
<td>Verification of successful plan completion</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Ready for Employment</td>
<td>Placement Assistance</td>
<td>Verification of job placement</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Placement</td>
<td>Follow along services</td>
<td>Verification of minimum 60 days of suitable employment</td>
<td>22</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Services Interrupted</td>
<td>Counselor contacts</td>
<td>Reinitiate services or &quot;28&quot;</td>
<td>24</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Case Closure</td>
<td>Advising of closure and continued availability of services</td>
<td>Completion of closure forms and review of case</td>
<td>26</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Post-Employment</td>
<td>Meeting additional needs of client</td>
<td>Verification of services and Closure &quot;33&quot;</td>
<td>32</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
- Probabilities are based on the likelihood of success or non-success.
- "08", "28", and "30" indicate specific assessment criteria or milestones.
- "26" and "33" refer to success and non-success probabilities, respectively.
- Months indicated are approximate timeframes for each step to be completed.
### Monthly Case Load Analysis

**Counselor:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Unit</th>
</tr>
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</table>

**Maryland Division of Vocational Rehabilitation**

**Standards of Performance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FY</th>
<th>Referral Rate</th>
<th>Referral Backlog</th>
<th>Acceptance Rate</th>
<th>Rehab. Rate</th>
<th>Referrals</th>
<th>Acceptance</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>OCTOBER</th>
<th>NOVEMBER</th>
<th>DECEMBER</th>
<th>JANUARY</th>
<th>FEBRUARY</th>
<th>MARCH</th>
<th>APRIL</th>
<th>MAY</th>
<th>JUNE</th>
<th>JULY</th>
<th>AUGUST</th>
<th>SEPTEMBER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Plans Written**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ACTUALS</th>
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</table>

**Rehab:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REGION</th>
<th>UNIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**S. D. Rehabs:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ACTUALS</th>
<th>ACTUALS</th>
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<th>ACTUALS</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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**Notes:**

- The table above represents the monthly case load analysis for vocational rehabilitation counselors.
- The standards of performance are broken down by fiscal year (FY) and by months.
- The table includes columns for referrals, backlog, acceptance rate, rehab rate, referrals, acceptance, plans written, rehabs, and S. D. rehabs.
- The data is organized to allow for monthly tracking and comparison of performance metrics.
The Referral Rate is established by adding the total referrals recorded on the STATMO 04/06 within a given time-period and dividing that number by the total months.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOTAL REFERRALS TO DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NUMBER OF MONTHS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Referral Backlog is established by adding the cases currently in "00/02" and dividing the total by the average number of decisions per month.

"Average number of decisions per month" is established by adding the number of cases accepted to date and the number of cases rejected to date (status "08") and dividing that total by the number of months. STATMO 04/06 is used to provide this data.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CASES CURRENTLY IN &quot;00/02&quot;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACCEPTED TO DATE + REJECTED TO DATE &quot;08&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUMBER OF MONTHS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Acceptance Rate is established by adding the number of clients accepted for services and dividing that number by the sum of the number of clients accepted and the number of clients rejected (status "08").

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NUMBER OF CLIENTS ACCEPTED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NUMBER OF CLIENTS ACCEPTED + CLIENTS REJECTED &quot;08&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Rehabilitation Rate is established by adding the total number of cases closed rehabilitated (status "26") and dividing that number by the sum of the total cases rehabilitated ("26") and total cases not rehabilitated (status "28" and "30").

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CASES CLOSED REHABILITATED (&quot;26&quot;)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CASES REHABILITATED (26) + CASES NOT REHABILITATED (&quot;28-30&quot;)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Implementation:

1. These standards are effective April 1, 1976.

2. The information system used to monitor clients' time-in-status will begin with the report of data recorded in a counselor's April master list. This data should be compiled at the same time as the counselor compiles the Monthly Caseload Report ("flowsheet").

3. The format for reporting the number of clients exceeding the time-in-status standard will include:

   a. By status, a list of the names of clients who exceed the time-in-status standard, the date on which each entered that status, and the total number of clients; this information will be compiled monthly, by every counselor, and a copy of the list will be given to the Unit Supervisor.

   b. On a monthly basis, the Unit Supervisor will prepare a report for the Area Supervisor that will include the number of clients and the time over standard, by each status, for his/her total unit; ex:

      | Status 00 | 4-1 month over |
      | 5-3 months over |
      | 1-6 months over |

      Also include the change in the number of cases and length of time over standard for the previous month;

   c. On a quarterly basis, the Area Supervisor will compile the data, as described in (b), for the total Area Office, in all statuses, and forward such totals to the Regional Director. The first report will be due to the Regional Director by April 30, and will reflect data from the April master list only. This report will be utilized as baseline data to evaluate subsequent program. The next report will be due to the Regional Director by the last day of July, and will reflect data from the July master list only. Subsequent reports will be due every three months (end of October, January, April) and will reflect data from that month's master list.

   d. On a quarterly basis, the Regional Director will report such data, for the Region, in all statuses, to the Director of Field Operations, consistent with the schedule, as described in (c) above.

4. The information concerning the length of time that a client is recorded in any status is to be used by the Unit Supervisor as one technique to review caseload management in his/her unit, and to determine which cases merit a more specific review. Identifying clients who remain in status over the standard time will help to identify those barriers that prevent the timely provision of services to those clients. Once identified, action can be taken to remove those barriers.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A. STATUS</th>
<th>00</th>
<th>02</th>
<th>06</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>12</th>
<th>14</th>
<th>16</th>
<th>20</th>
<th>22</th>
<th>24</th>
<th>32</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B. STANDARD</td>
<td>1 mo.</td>
<td>3 mos.</td>
<td>9 mos.</td>
<td>3 mos.</td>
<td>2 mos.</td>
<td>6 mos.</td>
<td>9 mos.</td>
<td>3 mos.</td>
<td>3 mos.</td>
<td>3 mos.</td>
<td>6 mos.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. TOTAL CASES IN STATUS (D+E)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>D. CASES MEETING STANDARD</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>E. CASES EXCEEDING STANDARD (F)</td>
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<tr>
<td>F. NUMBER OF CASES EXCEEDING STANDARD BY:</td>
<td>1 mo.</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>2-5 mos.</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 mos.</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7-12 mos.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12 + mos.</td>
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<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
May 18, 1981

Ms. Susan Stoddard
Berkeley Planning Associates
3200 Adeline Street
Berkeley, California 94703

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

In response to your request for information regarding Michigan's quality assurance and case flagging (for undue delay) systems, we have attached the following:

1. Information and samples of our case aging study (Z2110) which is our primary tool in monitoring time in status. This print out is prepared monthly and compiled at the counselor, district, area and state level. It is one of our more significant management tools at all levels.

2. Materials regarding the new Michigan Quality Assurance Review System (Q.A.R.S.) which, it is intended, will be the agency's basic review document for assuring federal compliance as well as compliance to Michigan's policy and procedures. The material includes an overview and implementation schedule, a draft of some information to be used in the installation process and a copy of the case review document itself. This latter includes the space for recording responses as well as the criteria which the reviewer will be using in determining the responses. While the review document as you see it will be completed for each case review and tabulated by hand; it is planned that, with full implementation, we will be using a data processing input document instead to record the responses. I have enclosed copies of a couple of different formats which we are looking at currently. While the implementation procedures and time frame may change, the review document and criteria are fairly firm.

I hope you will find these materials helpful for your project. If you have any questions about them or I can provide any further assistance, please feel free to contact me again.

Sincerely,

Peter P. Griswold, State Director
Michigan Rehabilitation Services
VII. CASE AGING STUDY

A. NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The purpose of the Case Aging Study is to provide an inventory of all cases, to highlight cases that may be delayed in the casework process and to summarize caseloads by target categories. The Aging Study is printed as near to the 15th of each month as possible. At the end of each quarter it may be delayed as the purge of closed cases is also done on the 15th. The printout is arranged in two major sections. First is a listing of all cases by counselor and status followed by a two-page summary sheet of each caseload, district, and area.

B. LISTING OF ALL CASES

All cases that are open and have not been purged are sorted first by the district office to which they are assigned. Within each district, cases are sorted by the counselor code assigned to them and within this grouping they are sorted by status. Within status, cases are arranged by time in status so that the oldest case in a particular status will be listed first. For each status group there is a blank line to separate cases that are overage from cases that are not overaged. The guidelines for overaged cases are found in Casework Manual Item 303.21 and are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>00-3 MONTHS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>02-3</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06-18</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-3</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-3</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>14-6</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>16-4</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>20-3</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>22-3</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24-3</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each case is listed showing name, subprogram code, social security number, and case number. The following columns are used to indicate other data for each specific client.

(1) SPEC CHAR - The special characteristics sum can be interpreted as follows:
Q.A.R.S.

This document is intended as a job aid in reviewing casework. It is essential that cross references to the manual be used.

1. Does the intake include...

   a. an accurately completed RA-2910 (Intake Form)?

      Yes     No

      [Each item on the intake form must be completed. Names and phone numbers of two interested persons are required. However, counselor could document "client has no other contacts."

      3250, 3350]

   b. an accurately completed RA-2911 (Intake Record)?

      Yes     No

      [Each item on the intake record must be completed. There must be a source of support recorded.

      3275, 3360]

   c. an accurately completed RA-2909 (Client Rights & Responsibilities)?

      Yes     No

      [The form must include a parent's or guardian's signature for clients under age 18 or who are unable to understand the form. Refusal to sign must be documented. All cases must include a completed RA-2909.]

      3330]

   d. an accurately completed RA-300-1 (Referral Record)?

      Yes     No

      [All items must be completed. Data are used for reporting to the federal government, for managed intake and order of selection. Therefore, accuracy is essential.]

      3325, 3380, 3400-3470, 3675, 9860]
e. an accurately completed RA-2908 (Diagnostic Plan)?

   Yes   No

[The "next step" of a diagnostic plan must describe specific activity(ies) and date(s) and time(s) in all cases. The "next step" should be in a language that is clear to the client. Example: "I'm here on Fridays - call me on December 19 before 3:00 P.M. and we will talk about the results of your medical exam."

A separate form should be completed when services/exams are arranged after the initial interview. The new form must contain an updated "next step." For all diagnostic plans, the date of the form must be on or before the date of any planned services.

4025, 4030]

2. Contain a current general medical or equivalent?

   Yes   No

[General medicals must meet the criteria outlined in the manual. All "equivalent" general medicals must be approved by the medical consultant.

4225, 4300]

3. Contain a current psychological or psychiatric exam?

   Yes   No   N.A.

[Psychological testing to establish a disability of M.R. can be up to three years old. The test must give a full scale I.Q. score from a standardized, individually administered test done by a licensed psychologist.

Psychological and/or psychiatric reports must give a diagnosis, using DSM nosencelature and can be up to one year old, if the condition is stable.

Check N/A response only if the case is other than M.R. or M.I.

4225, 4425, 4500, 5200, 5210, 5230]
4. Contain sufficient data to establish that the client has a physical or mental disability?

Yes ___ No ___

[If additional exams were recommended, were they obtained, or ruled out with appropriate documentation?]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DISABILITY</th>
<th>EXAMINATION REQUIRED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Back</td>
<td>treating physician, orthopedic, physiatric, or neurological exam 5100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiac</td>
<td>treating physician, cardiologist, or internist - 5130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental</td>
<td>dental exam - 5150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes</td>
<td>treating physician or internist 5160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hearing</td>
<td>otologist and audiologist - 5180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M.R.</td>
<td>I.Q. score - 5210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obesity</td>
<td>reference 5220-5221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychiatric</td>
<td>Psychological/Psychiatric - 5230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Substance Abuse</td>
<td>medical report, psychological, or psychiatric report - 5260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual Impairment</td>
<td>optometric, ophthalmological - 5270</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please reference Section V of the casework manual for additional disabilities.

5. Contain documentation of medical consultation and follow-up where required?

Yes ___ No ___ N/A ___

[All questions asked by the counselor to the medical consultant should have answers documented on the RA-2913 (Client Study).

There must be evidence of follow-up on medical consultant's recommendations or a documented reason why they were not followed.

Use N/A response only where consultation is not required.

4800, 4825, 4830]
6. Contain sufficient data to establish that the client has a substantial handicap to employment?

Yes _____  No _____

[There must be specific documentation: medical reports of limitations, workshop reports, or 29 entries documenting counselor observation, and/or narrative documentation of handicap to employment on the RA-2914 (Eligibility Statement).

5000, 5300-5310]

7. Contain data to document that the client has potential for employment?

[There must be specific documentation: medical reports of limitations, workshop reports, or 29 entries documenting counselor observation, and/or narrative documentation on the RA-2914 (Eligibility Statement).

5000

If answer is "no," the case should have been placed in status 06 or closed 05.

Check N/A if the case has been advanced 06 or if case is still in 02.]

8. Contain a properly completed certificate of extended evaluation?

[Check N/A if case has not been in 06. Check "no" if the case is/has been in 06, but the certificate has not been properly completed.]

The rationale section on the RA-2914 (Eligibility Statement) must outline specific questions regarding feasibility. Example: "We need to determine whether Mr. Doe can extend his physical tolerance beyond four hours per day. We also need to determine whether he can work out a reliable plan for morning attendant care."

4850, 4871, 4855]

a. An accurately completed RA-300-2?

[All items must be complete and accurate.]
9. Contain a properly completed IWRP for extended evaluation?
   Yes ___ No ___ N/A ___

   [Check N/A if the case has not been in 06.
   All sections of the IWRP must be complete.
   There must be a client signature or documentation that the plan has
   been reviewed with and approved by the client. The client receives
   a copy.
   There must be a clear relationship between the feasibility questions
   documented on the RA-2914 (Eligibility Statement) and services
   planned in the IWRP.

4850-4871]

10. Contain an RA-2914 (Eligibility Statement) which:
   
   a. documents the disability(ies)
      
      Yes ___ No ___

      [If there are multiple disabilities, each disability and the
      resulting limitations must be documented on the form.
      The following disabilities must be accompanied by quantifying
      data:

      M.R. - I.Q. Score 5210
      Visual - visual acuity with correction, 5270
      Hearing - decibel loss unaided 5180
      Cardiac - American Heart Association Rating 5130
      Cancer - Karnofsky Rating & Stage 5120
      Obesity - Height & Weight 5220

      For clients with M.R., I.Q.'s in the range of 70-85 and under 40
      must include documentation of behavioral factors.

      5210

      Psychiatric disabilities must include documentation of status in
      therapy (or waiver) including type and frequency of therapy.

      5230

      Documentation of epilepsy must include seizure type, medication
      and date of last seizure.

      5173

      Documentation of diabetes must include type of diabetes and med-
      5160]
b. documents the severity

Yes ___ No ___ N/A ___

[Severity codes 4 and 5 must include documentation of qualifying factors. Coding must be supported by documentation of observation or third party reports. Codes 3 and 4 must be compatible with disability codes on the RA-300-2.

3470

Check N/A for cases accepted prior to ___________.]

c. documents the vocational handicap

Yes ___ No ___

[Documentation must be consistent with case file data or counselor narrative.

5000]

d. documents feasibility

Yes ___ No ___

[Documentation must be consistent with case file data or counselor narrative.

5000]

c. is properly signed

Yes ___ No ___

[Must be signed and dated by counselor. (In some offices, there may be a local requirement for a supervisory signature.)

5300]

f. is accompanied by a properly completed RA-300-2?

Yes ___ No ___ N/A ___

[Check N/A if RA-300-2 was completed at 06. All items of RA-300-2 must be complete and accurate.

If diagnostic process has resulted in new information regarding disability or severity, these items must be updated.

5400-5425]
11. Contain a Plan Development Narrative?

   Yes  No  X/A

[A Plan Development Narrative must be written when a case does not move simultaneously into statuses 10 and 12.
Check X/A if case moved simultaneously into 10 and 12. Check "no" if a required plan development narrative was not written and if the plan development narrative is not complete.

5325]

If yes, . . .

   a. does it include a properly documented "rationale?"

      Yes  No

      [The rationale must outline specific questions which must be answered before the IWRP can be developed. Example: "We need to determine whether you will be able to complete the two-year college program or whether the shorter certificate course could better meet your needs."

      5325]

   b. does it include proper documentation of services, costs, time frames and planned follow-up?

      Yes  No

      [Services must be consistent with questions outlined in the rationale; dates, times, costs and provider(s) must be specified.

      The method and schedule for reviewing client progress must be specified.

      5325]

   c. does the case record show that the client received a copy of the Plan Development Narrative?

      Yes  No

      [5325]

104
d. were planned services properly provided during the Plan Development process?

Yes ___ No ___

[Before the case enters status 12, the counselor must document that the questions outlined in the rationale have been resolved. If planned services were not provided, there must be a reason given.]

12. Describe and appraise the following:

a. personal and social adjustment
describe . . yes no
appraise . . yes no

b. medical factors
describe . . yes no
appraise . . yes no

c. vocational adjustment/capacity for successful job performance
describe . . yes no
appraise . . yes no

d. educational achievements
describe . . yes no
appraise . . yes no

e. intelligence
describe . . yes no
appraise . . yes no

f. ability to acquire occupational skills
describe . . yes no
appraise . . yes no

g. employment opportunities
describe . . yes no
appraise . . yes no
Reference the casework item on client appraisal.

Each item must be described by third party data - reports, etc., or by casework entries.

The client appraisal entries should not repeat descriptive data but should summarize, analyze and draw conclusions from diagnostic data. Example: "ability to acquire occupational skills - based on test results, __________ has a better-than-average ability to complete the planned training...."

13. Has the client received SSI or SSDI at any time during the case process?

Yes SSI __  Yes SSDI __  Yes Both __  Neither __

If yes, does the case contain:

a. a properly completed SSA-1407/SSA-1408-U4? (Request for Verification)

Yes ___  No ___

[Either the SSA-1407A or the SSA-1408-U4 must be submitted for all clients known to be receiving SSI or SSDI.

9831, 9835]

b. proper documentation of strong likelihood?

Yes ___  No ___  N/A ___

[Documentation of Strong Likelihood - one of the ten documents (six months old or less) must be in the case file and Item Q of the RA-300-1 must be properly checked.

If verification or temporary verification was available instead, check "N/A." 9860]

c. proper use of temporary verification?

Yes ___  No ___  N/A ___

[Check N/A if temporary verification was not needed.]

[If temporary verification was required, the case must contain one of the seven documents (no more than six months old) and a properly completed RA-2944-Z. Temporary verification must be processed 30 days after requesting verification (1407A/1408-U4) unless verification was received before that time.

9890, 9891]
d. is there appropriate documentation to support the use of X or V funds?

Yes ____ No ____

[Check "No" if: - There was no DOSL or verification at time of authorization.

- The client did not meet the selection criteria at status 12 or beyond but X or V funds were used.

- If the grace period for a terminated case had expired but X or V funds were used.

- If services not outlined in the IWRP were authorized during the grace period using no X or V funds.

9850, 9858, 9895]

e. Was an RA-2737 (SSA Eligibility Certification) completed at status 12?

Yes ____ No ____ N/A ____

[Check N/A if the case is not yet in status 12.

The RA-2737 must be completed at status 12 for all persons who were receiving SSI or SSDI. Check "yes" if the RA-2737 was completed after status 12 for clients whose benefits began later.

9872, 9875-77]

If yes, ...

1) was Point 1 properly documented?

Yes ____ No ____

[The counselor must document that the disabling condition is not so rapidly progressive or severe as to preclude SGA level employment. The diagnosis and prognosis must be supported by case file information.

9827-9877]
2) was Point 2 properly documented?

   Yes   No

[The counselor must answer the question regarding the medical exam diary date. "Unknown" should be checked only in cases where the case file does not include an SSA-831-05, SSA-833-05, or a verification document.

Clients with temporary disabilities do not meet criteria #2.

The counselor must reference a medical report or a statement by the medical consultant that the client is not expected to improve medically.

9827-9877]

3) was Point 3 properly documented?

   Yes   No

[The counselor must state the specific vocational objective, indicate whether SSA is expected to result, and state the reason why the client is expected to attain this objective.

9827-9877]

4) was Point 4 properly documented?

   Yes   No

[The counselor must make a judgment as to whether or not the client's earnings will offset the expenses of his/her rehabilitation.

9827-9877]

f. If SSA has requested a self-support plan, is there evidence that it was provided?

   Yes   No   N/A

[Check "N/A" if a self-support plan was not requested.

Check "no" if SSA made a request but the counselor did not respond.

9910, 9916]
14. Does the IWRP document...

a. that the plan was developed with the client, that required signatures were obtained and that the client received a copy?

   Yes  No

b. an appropriate vocational objective and rationale?

   Yes  No

   [Case file data must be consistent with vocational choice. Items marked in "rationale" must be supported by an RA-29 or RA-2915 entry or third party data. If there is contradictory data, the counselor's basis for decision must be documented.]

c. that intermediate objectives were identified?

   Yes  No

d. a full description of required services?

   Yes  No

   [Services must be related to achievement of the intermediate objectives and vocational goal; dates for services must be given as well as actual or estimated costs.]

e. that other financial resources, including those of the client, were considered?

   Yes  No  N/A

   [Include here use of financial aid for training and other money contributions (similar benefits). 7525-7538, 7030]

f. a specific plan for evaluation of client progress?

   Yes  No

   [Method of evaluation should be specifically described. Evaluation goals must be measurable. Example: "You are expected to maintain a "C" average and type 40 wpm by the sixth week of the class."]

g. that the client had an opportunity to add comments about the IWRP?

   Yes  No

   [Check "yes" if the client had an opportunity to comment but elected not to do so.]
Questions 15-22

NOTE: It is possible that a service was needed but never provided. If, for example, training was needed, you might check "yes" on Question #18 and "no" on Question #18(a). Use N/A only if the service has not yet begun.

In reviewing these items, consider the original IWRP and any amendments.

In evaluating services, use the following manual references:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Manual Item</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Other Goods &amp; Services*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Problem Solving &amp; Counseling</td>
<td>7200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Includes telecommunication aids, equipment related to job modification, etc.

Following the initiation of the IWRP,

15. Was guidance and counseling (Status 14) a needed service?
   Yes ___ No ___
   a. If yes, were counseling services appropriately provided/arranged?
      Yes ___ No ___ N/A ___

16. Was physical restoration a needed service?
   Yes ___ No ___
   a. If yes, was it appropriately provided/arranged?
      Yes ___ No ___ N/A ___

17. Was mental restoration a needed service?
   Yes ___ No ___
   a. If yes, was it appropriately provided/arranged?
      Yes ___ No ___ N/A ___
18. Was vocational training a needed service?
   - Yes __  No __
   - a. If yes, was it appropriately provided/arranged?
     - Yes __  No __  N/A __

19. Was maintenance a needed service?
   - Yes __  No __
   - a. If yes, was it appropriately provided/arranged?
     - Yes __  No __  N/A __

20. Was transportation a needed service?
   - Yes __  No __
   - a. If yes, was it appropriately provided/arranged?
     - Yes __  No __  N/A __

21. Were OGS needed services?
   - Yes __  No __
   - a. If yes, was it appropriately provided/arranged?
     - Yes __  No __  N/A __

22. Was there evidence of problem solving and/or ongoing counseling?
   - Yes __  No __

23. Was an employment plan needed?
   - Yes __  No __
   - [Check "no" for clients who secured their own job, returned to a former job, are being helped to maintain present job, or are employed as a homemaker. Also check "no" for clients who are not yet ready for placement.]

   If yes . . .
   - a. Was an employment plan written? (Consider either plans written at 12 and/or 20.)
     - Yes __  No __
If yes, does it document...

1) cost services?

Yes ___  No ___  N/A ___

[Expenditures for placement must include a rationale. If tools and equipment are purchased, appropriate bids must be in the case file. Check N/A for no cost services needed. 7800, 7805, 7810, 7818, 7870]

2) counselor activities?

Yes ___  No ___

[A “yes” response requires that the client be provided with one or more of the following: Job-Seeking Skills, Job Club, specific job leads or interviews. “I will call you about any jobs that I hear about” is not an acceptable statement of counselor activity.]

3) client activities?

Yes ___  No ___

[There must be specific activities described. For example: “You are to keep a job-seeking log and interview at three different companies each week.”]

4) activities of other agencies?

Yes ___  No ___  N/A ___

[A “yes” requires that specific activities be described.]

5) timetable and plan for follow-up?

Yes ___  No ___

[There must be a plan to follow up and review at least every 30 days.]

24. Has the client been offered a required annual review?

Yes ___  No ___  N/A ___

[The annual review must first be offered 12 months after case enters status 06 or 12 and every 12 months thereafter. Errors will only be counted for the last two annual review periods. Use N/A where client is not yet eligible for an annual review.]
If yes...

a. Was the client provided an annual review?

Yes ___  No ___  N/A ___

[Use N/A where the client did not avail her/himself of the service. Use "no" where there is documentation that the client wanted an annual review, but one was not completed.]

If yes...

1) was it timely?

Yes ___  No ___

[Check "yes" if annual review occurs between the 11th and 13th month.]

2) was it properly completed?

Yes ___  No ___

[The 29 entry must document client progress, continued agreement with the vocational goal, review of client rights and a next step.]

3) did the client receive a copy of the case entry?

Yes ___  No ___

25. Was a required plan amendment(s) written?

Yes ___  No ___  N/A ___

If yes...

a. has the amendment been properly documented?

Yes ___  No ___

26. Does the case document...

a. significant client/counselor contact every three months?

Yes ___  No ___

[Case entries regarding routine letters sent, bus tickets, etc., do not count as follow-up entries. The case record must reflect, from intake to closure, meaningful contact between client and counselor at intervals not to exceed 90 days. Errors will be counted only for the last 12 months.
b. case entries that follow the required format?

Yes ___  No ___

[RA-29 entries must include the following three points:

1. Reason for action.
2. Progress since last entry.
3. Next planned action, the date for this action and responsible parties.

Clerical entries will not be evaluated here.

2160]

c. that a 4537 or 4537-N (Financial Needs Analysis) was properly completed and used?

Yes ___  No ___  N/A ___

[There should be a 4537 or 4537-N for each year a client is in school. Financial aid recommendation on 4537's must be followed or changes documented on Part C.

4537's or 4537-N's should be used for vocational/technical schools unless there is documentation of the school's inability to complete an analysis and/or documentation that the school is not eligible for financial aid.

The case record must address the following questions:

Are problems with financial aid resolved?
Are exceptions carefully documented?

An N/A response can be used only where the client has not been in a training program, where the school's program is less than six months in duration, the school is not eligible for financial aid, or a 4537 cannot be completed.

7530, 7534-38]

d. that statuses have been properly used?

Yes ___  No ___

[2140]

e. that a second injury wallet card was issued when appropriate?

Yes ___  No ___  N/A ___

[Wallet cards are issued as early in the rehabilitation process as possible – cards should be issued by status 10. Check N/A for clients not eligible for second injury certification.

5700-5735]
that a second injury employer certificate was issued when the client began work?

Yes ___  No ___  N/A ___

[If client elects not to use an employer certificate, document the reason(s).

Check N/A if there is documentation of client/employer refusal or for individuals who do not qualify.

5700-5735]

that appropriate fiscal procedures were followed for all cost services?

Yes ___  No ___  N/A ___

[Forms will be reviewed for required signatures, start dates, bids and supporting case file entries. Check N/A if no cost services were provided.

The following forms will be reviewed:

RA-2912 (Request for Service)
RA-3824 (Authorization-Amount Change)
RA-4109 (Authorization for Service)
RA-4109D (Authorization To Provide Direct Payment)
RA-4110 (Billing for Service)
RA-4183 (Authorization)
RA-4657 (Rehabilitation Client Vehicle Inspection Report)
Emergency Payment Documents
RA-4587 (Bids and/or Quotations for Purchase of Appliances or Equipment for Client)

7075-7176, 7818-7824]

27. Is the client receiving Workers' Compensation or No Fault benefits? [Include pending and litigated cases.]

Yes ___  No ___

If yes . . .

a. is there a properly completed RA-140?

Yes ___  No ___  N/A ___

[N/A response can be used only for No Fault, Railroad Fund and Federal Civil Service cases.]
b. is there documentation of follow-up with insurer?

Yes ___ No ___ N/A ___

[The 140 notice must be sent initially, then follow-up is expected at 02, 06 or plan development, ESRP, amendment(s), status 20, and/or closure. An N/A response can be used if it has been determined by the Workers' Compensation Bureau that no further reimbursement is available.]

c. is there documentation of effort to gain reimbursement for rehabilitation services?

Yes ___ No ___ N/A ___

[There must be letters or documented phone contact. N/A response can be used only after Workers' Compensation Bureau has determined that no further reimbursement is available.]

28. Was the case closed in status 08, due to eligibility?

Yes ___ No ___

If yes...

a. is the reason for closure documented?

Yes ___ No ___

[If client is found ineligible due to absence of disability or severity of disability, there must be third party documentation; e.g., medical, workshop reports.]

b. was the RA-300-2 (Completed Referral Process and Change) or RA-300-3 (Completed Case Services) completed correctly?

Yes ___ No ___

[Review all items.]

5400, 5410, 5425 or 8500, 8510, 8525]

c. is there a properly completed Certificate of Ineligibility (RA-2914)?

Yes ___ No ___

[4875]
d. was the closure decision made only after consultation with the client and/or an appropriate representative?

Yes __  No __

[As a minimum, there must be documentation of a discussion with the client by phone.]

4880]
e. was the client referred to another agency at closure, if appropriate?

Yes __  No __  N/A __

[There should be documentation of referral to another agency where there is a clearly defined need; e.g., medical problems or a need for avocational activity. Check N/A if referral to another agency is not needed.]

4875]
f. was the client notified in writing of the reason for closure?

Yes __  No __  N/A __

[Where no letter is sent, the reason must be documented. Use N/A only where notification of closure would be detrimental to the client, where the client has died or where earlier correspondence indicates no known address.]

4880]
g. was the client informed in writing of his/her right to appeal the closure decision?

Yes __  No __  N/A __

[Use N/A only where notification of closure would be detrimental to the client, where the client has died, or where earlier correspondence indicates no known address.]

4880, 4911]
h. was the client notified that he/she could reapply for services?

Yes __  No __  N/A __

[Use N/A only where notification of closure would be detrimental to the client, where the client has died or where earlier correspondence indicates no known address.]

4880, 4911]
i. was client informed of the annual review of his/her closure?

Yes ___ No ___ N/A ___

[N/A is used for cases closed due to absence of disability or vocational handicap.

4900)

29. Was the case closed in status 08 “for reasons other than ineligibility?”

Yes ___ No ___

If yes, ...

a. was the reason for closure documented?

Yes ___ No ___

[Efforts to contact the client and/or gain cooperation must be documented. "Client refusal" describes situations where the client specifically declines services.]

b. was the RA-300-2 (Completed Referral Process and Change) or RA-300-3 (Completed Case Services) completed correctly?

Yes ___ No ___

[Review all items.

5400, 5410, 5425 or 8500, 8510, 8525]

c. was the client referred to another agency at closure, if appropriate?

Yes ___ No ___ N/A ___

[There should be documentation of referral to another agency where there is a clearly defined need; e.g., medical problems or a need for avocational activity. Use N/A if referral to another agency is not needed.

4875]

d. was the client notified in writing of the reason for closure?

Yes ___ No ___ N/A ___

[Use N/A only where notification of closure would be detrimental to the client, where the client has died or where earlier correspondence indicates no known address.

8050, 8070, 8076]
e. was the client informed in writing of his/her right to appeal the closure decision?

[Use N/A only where notification of closure would be detrimental to the client, where the client has died or where earlier correspondence indicates no known address.

4875, 4880]

30. Was the case closed in status 28 or 30 for reasons of ineligibility?

Yes ___ No ___

[No manual reference currently available.]

If yes...

a. was the reason for closure documented?

Yes ___ No ___

[8050]

b. was the RA-300-3 (Completed Case Services) completed correctly?

Yes ___ No ___

[8500, 8510, 8525]

c. in cases of closure due to ineligibility, is there a properly completed certification of ineligibility?

Yes ___ No ___

[No manual reference currently available.]

d. if ineligible, was the closure decision made only after consultation with the client and/or an appropriate representative?

Yes ___ No ___

[No manual reference currently available. Use N/A if referral to another agency is not needed.]

e. was the client referred to another agency at closure, as appropriate?

Yes ___ No ___ N/A ___

[There should be documentation of referral to another agency where there is a clearly defined need; e.g., medical problems, a need for avocational activity.]
f. does the case record show if the action taken and outcome were reported to other agencies, as appropriate?

Yes ___ No ___ N/A ___

[8000]

g. was the client notified in writing of the reason for closure?

Yes ___ No ___ N/A ___

[Use N/A response only if notification of closure would be detrimental to the client, where the client has died or earlier correspondence indicates no known address.

8050, 8070]

h. was the client informed in writing of his/her right to appeal the closure decision?

Yes ___ No ___ N/A ___

[Use N/A response only if notification of closure would be detrimental to the client, where the client has died or earlier correspondence indicates no known address.

No manual item.]

i. was the client notified that he/she could reapply for service?

Yes ___ No ___ N/A ___

[Use N/A response only if notification of closure would be detrimental to the client, where the client has died or earlier correspondence indicates no known address.

No manual item.]

j. if closed too severe, was client informed of the annual review of his/her closed case?

Yes ___ No ___ N/A ___

[Use N/A if case is closed for reasons other than "too severe."

8650]

31. Was the case closed in status 28 or 30 for reasons other than ineligibility?

Yes ___ No ___
If yes . . .

a. is the reason for closure documented?

   Yes [ ]    No [ ]

   [Efforts to contact the client and/or gain cooperation must be documented. "Client refusal" describes situations where the client specifically declines services.] 8050]

b. was the RA-300-3 (Completed Case Services) completed correctly?

   Yes [ ]    No [ ]

   [8500, 8510, 8525]

c. was the client referred to another agency at closure, as appropriate?

   Yes [ ]    No [ ]    N/A [ ]

   [There should be documentation of referral to another agency where there is a clearly defined need; e.g., medical problems or a need for avocational activity. Use N/A if referral to another agency is not needed.] 4875]

d. does the case record show if the action taken and outcome were reported to other agencies, as appropriate?

   Yes [ ]    No [ ]    N/A [ ]

   [8000]

e. was the client notified in writing of the reason for closure?

   Yes [ ]    No [ ]    N/A [ ]

   [Use N/A response only if notification of closure would be detrimental to the client, where the client has died or earlier correspondence indicates no known address.] 8050, 8070, 8076]

f. was the client informed in writing of his/her right to appeal the closure decision?

   Yes [ ]    No [ ]    N/A [ ]

   [Use N/A response only if notification of closure would be detrimental to the client, where the client has died or earlier correspondence indicates no known address.] 8050, 8070, 8076]
32. Was the case closed in status 26?
   Yes ___ No ___
   If yes, does the case record:
   a. describe the basis on which the client was considered rehabilitated?
      Yes ___ No ___
      [There must be documentation of follow-up with the client and if possible, the employer, regarding the client's adjustment on the job.
       7950, 8025, 8075, 8100]
   b. describe the type of job, wage and length of employment?
      Yes ___ No ___
      [8070, 8075]
   c. outline the availability of post-employment services and/or a plan for post-employment services?
      Yes ___ No ___
      [8025, 8070, 8075, 8700]
   d. contain an RA-300-3 (Completed Case Services) correctly completed?
      Yes ___ No ___
      [8500, 8510, 8525]
   e. show that the client completed services planned in the IRP and/or amendments?
      Yes ___ No ___
      [7025, 8025]
   f. show that ongoing needs were addressed?
      Yes ___ No ___
      [8025]
   g. document that the client is suitably employed?
      Yes ___ No ___
      [8100-8250]
h. document that counseling and guidance were provided?

   Yes ___  No ___

   [There must be documentation of counseling in the form of RA-29 entries or third party reports.]

   7200, 8025]

i. document provision of substantial services were provided?

   Yes ___  No ___

   [If the client accepts employment that is not consistent with the planned vocational objective and the counselor cannot clearly document a relationship between services provided and the vocational outcome, the case cannot be closed in status 26.]

   7025, 7200, 7900, 8025, 8100]

j. show that the client was notified that there would be an annual review of his/her sheltered employment?

   Yes ___  No ___  N/A ___

   [Check "N/A" for those individuals who were not closed in sheltered employment.]

   8250, 8660]
May 1, 1981

Susan Stoddard
Project Director
Berkeley Planning Associates
3200 Adeline Street
Berkeley California 94703

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

In response to your recent correspondence to Philip Peterson, I am forwarding information about our case review system, and a copy of our static caseload report.

The Commission for the Blind has a casework operations review which we attempt to conduct on an annual basis. We use supervisory staff to review samples of cases from each district, and prepare a report based upon regional results.

Our static caseload report is printed on a quarterly basis. Cases are flagged based upon the number of months in a specific status, and when flagged, are identified on the static caseload report. This gives us a management tool for supervisors to review with field staff.

I hope this information is helpful to you. If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Yours very truly,

Harold Payne, Supervisor
Rehabilitation Services

HP:vm
Attachment
cc: Philip E. Peterson
CASE REVIEW FACTORS

1. Referral Information

This factor is for determining the appropriateness of a referral. A case is judged to have a problem in this area if it does not contain the minimum of required referral information such as name, birthdate, address, and any indication of disability; or the case is considered to be problematic if it is reopened and, in the opinion of the reviewer, the reopening does not appear to be justified.

2. Diagnostic Information

This factor is to determine the appropriateness of diagnostic information. Reviewers examine case files for an opthalmological report with a diagnosis that evidences eligibility for services. A statement of visual acuity and a prognosis would be there and in the case narrative. An audiological evaluation should be offered, but it is not a requirement. Note that a hearing exam was offered should also be in the narrative section if it is refused.

3. Use of Medical Consultation

This factor is to determine if the medical information is reviewed by the Agency's medical consultant as evidenced by that person's signature.

4. Certificate of Eligibility

This factor is for including a completed Certificate of Eligibility in the case file.

5. Case Service Status

This factor is to determine if each status described in the case narrative matches the caseload flowsheet, and cases are examined for reasonableness of time in a status. It is anticipated that a client should be in referral status (00) no longer than three months, in Applicant Status (02) no longer than six months, or in Training Status (18) no longer than one year, etc. without an update of the case narrative.

6. IWRPS

This factor is to determine the completeness of the Individualized Written Rehabilitation Program form.

7. SSDI/SSI Information

This factor is to determine if case service costs have been documented for proper funding. This is evidenced by inclusion of the SSDI/SSI Verification of Benefits form, correct completion of the Special Selection Criteria Certificate, and proper coding on the flowsheet.
8. **Case Follow-up**

This factor is to determine that reasonable and adequate contact has been made with the client. The reviewers' function is not to question counselor judgment, but to review for activity and an explanation.

9. **Case Supervision**

Supervisors should be reviewing cases and assisting field staff when necessary.

10. **Case Recording**

This factor is to verify that an adequate case record is maintained.

11. **Case File Order**

Cases should be assembled in an orderly fashion, and this factor is to determine if that condition has been met. There is to be a separate section on each of the following categories: Documents, Training, Narrative, Correspondence, Financial, and Obsolete.

12. **Significant CFB Involvement**

This factor is to determine if a client has advanced in status at a reasonable length of time.

13. **Other Resources**

There should be evidence of investigation of similar benefits to serve the needs of a client. This is particularly determined by inclusion of a Similar Benefit checklist in the case file with the IWRP.

14. **Other**

This factor is for identification of any special item not applying to any of the previous thirteen.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CASE NUMB</th>
<th>CASE NAME</th>
<th>SEX</th>
<th>SSDI/TF</th>
<th>CASE</th>
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</table>
April 8, 1981

Susan Stoddard
Berkeley Planning Associates
3200 Adeline Street
Berkeley, CA 94703

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

I have received your recent request for material used in Minnesota Vocational Rehabilitation for case flagging and quality assurance. Enclosed is a copy of the case review questionnaire used by our program evaluation unit which reviews a random sample of cases in a different field office each month. Several of these questions also relate to undue delay.

Also enclosed is a copy of the counselor's manual chapter which describes our standards and procedures for identification and review of cases which may be delayed. Our counseling supervisors monitor this on a monthly basis.

If you have any further questions on any of this material, please feel free to contact Roberta Pisa at 612/296-5645 or Gene Hogenson at 612/296-1718.

Sincerely,

Edwin O. Opheim
Assistant Commissioner

Enclosures
GENERAL
Complete for All Cases

APPLICATION

1. Is there a signed application for VR services (or letter requesting services)? Yes ___ No ___

2. Was information necessary for eligibility determination requested as promptly as possible? Yes ___ No ___. (Yes can also be used if information was available at referral and request not needed).

3. If eligibility has not yet been determined, is the delay justified? Yes ____ No ____ X (Case beyond 02) ____

CASE HISTORY NOTES

4. Is initial interview recorded? Yes ___ No ___

5. Is initial interview recorded adequately? Yes ____ No ____ X (Not recorded) ____

6. Are case notes (wherever recorded) sufficiently complete to give a picture of the client's progress to date? Yes ____ No ____

STATUS CODE

7. Is current status code correct (i.e. reflects present stage of activity)? Yes ____ No ___

EXTENDED EVALUATION (05)
Complete for all cases which have ever been in status 06

8. Has the eligibility form been completed, signed and dated? Yes ____ No ____ (If no, go to question #10)

9. Does it adequately document reasons for extended evaluation? Yes ____ No ____

10. Does information in file support extended evaluation decision? Yes ____ No ____

11. Is there an IWRP for determining ability to benefit from VR services? (If No, go to question #13) Yes ____ No ____ X (06 prior to 7/76) ____

12. Is the IWRP signed by the client (or a note recorded that the client does not wish to sign)? Yes ____ No ____

October, 1980
Does the IWRP include:

13. Specific Services? Yes ___ No ___
14. Projected start date for each service? Yes ___ No ___
15. Anticipated duration of each service? Yes ___ No ___
16. Procedure and criteria for evaluation of progress? Yes ___ No ___

17. Are the services specified in the plan being provided? Yes ___ No ___
18. Was a thorough periodic assessment of client's progress made at least every 90 days to determine the results of service and assess whether an eligibility decision could be made? Yes ___ No ___
19. Was client accepted or rejected for services as soon as evaluation indicated ability or inability to benefit? Yes ___ No ___ X (Not yet indicated)
20. Was the case in status 06 less than 18 months? Yes ___ No ___

If physical or mental restoration services were provided in status 06:

21. Was medical or psychiatric consultant approval received prior to authorization? Yes ___ No ___ X (Not provided)

22. Was IWRP Part B Closure Notice (or equivalent letter) sent to client? Yes ___ No ___
23. Is there a closing summary in the case? Yes ___ No ___
24. Are the reasons for closure stated? Yes ___ No ___
25. Did Counseling Supervisor initial case closure? Yes ___ No ___
26. If client was closed for reasons such as not interested, unable to locate, refused services, or failure to cooperate, were appropriate efforts made to involve the client in the rehab process? Yes ___ No ___ X (Not applicable)

If the applicant was determined ineligible, answer the following:

27. Has a certificate of ineligibility been completed, signed and dated? Yes ___ No ___ X (H/A)
28. Does information in case file support ineligibility decision? Yes ___ No ___ X (H/A)

October, 1980
ELIGIBILITY

Complete for All Cases Status 10 and Beyond

29. Was there a current general medical in the file when the case was accepted? Yes ___ No ___

30. If the disability is emotional, was there an examination by a psychiatrist or licensed psychologist? Yes ___ No ___ N/A ___

31. If the disability is mental retardation, was there a psychological evaluation (including a valid measure of intelligence, social functioning, and educational progress and achievement)? Yes ___ No ___ N/A ___

32. If there is a hearing impairment, was there an evaluation of the audiological system? Yes ___ No ___ N/A ___

Are the records comprehensive and recent enough to support the decision that:
(Use ? when the decision is questionable but you wish to give the counselor the benefit of the doubt)

33. the client has a medically recognized disability? Yes ___ No ___ ? ___

34. which constitutes a substantial handicap to employment for this client? Yes ___ No ___ ? ___

35. and that there was a reasonable expectation the client could benefit from services in terms of employability? Yes ___ No ___ ? ___

36. Was information reviewed by the medical or psychiatric consultant (or by the supervisor if prior to 10/79)? Yes ___ No ___

37. Is there an eligibility form (completed, signed and dated) in the file? Yes ___ No ___

38. If yes, does it adequately document reasons for eligibility decision? Yes ___ No ___ X (No Form) ___

39. Was eligibility determination made without undue delay? Yes ___ No ___

40. Are the disability codes on the CSR justified by the medical and/or psychological information? Yes ___ No ___

41. Are secondary disabilities coded? Yes ___ No ___ None (x) ___

42. Is "severe disability" on CSR coded correctly? Yes ___ No ___

43. If case is still in status 10, is the rehabilitation plan being developed without undue delay? Yes ___ No ___ X (Case beyond status 10) ___

October, 1980
VOCATIONAL DIAGNOSIS & PLANNING

Complete for all cases in status 12 and beyond

44. Is there a written vocational diagnosis?  
   Yes ____  No ____

**ANSWER 45-50 only for vocational diagnosis written after September, 1978.**

Does the vocational diagnosis reflect:

45. the significant aspects of a diagnostic study?  
   Yes ____  No ____

46. factors creating problems in obtaining or retaining employment?  
   Yes ____  No ____

47. Conclusions about the relationship among the client's assets and liabilities?  
   Yes ____  No ____

48. Which problem areas can be treated or resolved?  
   Yes ____  No ____

49. Possible alternatives for the client?  
   Yes ____  No ____

50. Does the vocational diagnosis go beyond a summary of data found elsewhere in the file?  
   Yes ____  No ____

51. Is there an IWRP?  
   Yes ____  No ____

**IF YES, answer 52-63, IF NO, skip to question 64.**

Does the IWRP include:

52. Specific services to be provided?  
   Yes ____  No ____

53. Specific vocational objective?  
   Yes ____  No ____

54. Projected start date for each service?  
   Yes ____  No ____

55. Anticipated duration of each service?  
   Yes ____  No ____

56. Procedure & criteria for evaluation of progress?  
   Yes ____  No ____

57. Completed financial section?  
   Yes ____  No ____

58. Client signature?  
   Yes ____  No ____

59. Counselor signature?  
   Yes ____  No ____

60. Is the IWRP dated?  
   Yes ____  No ____

61. Is the plan appropriate for the needs and problems of the client?  
   Yes ____  No ____

62. Is the vocational objective appropriate?  
   Yes ____  No ____

October, 1980  

Page 4
<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>63.</td>
<td>Has there been a formal annual review of the IWRP (if IWRP is at least one year old) by the counselor and client, parent or guardian?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64.</td>
<td>Have plan amendments been written when necessary?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65.</td>
<td>Does the case file demonstrate active participation on the part of the client in planning?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66.</td>
<td>Does the case file demonstrate active involvement on the part of the counselor in planning?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67.</td>
<td>Was the rehab plan developed without undue delays?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68.</td>
<td>If case is still in status 12, are there undue delays in services being initiated promptly?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
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<td></td>
<td>SERVICE PROVISION PHASE</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(14, 16, 18, 24)</td>
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<tr>
<td>69.</td>
<td>Does case file have reports of client progress from schools, facilities etc.?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70.</td>
<td>Does case file indicate that client's program is being monitored so that termination can be made when client has achieved maximum benefit?</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>If agency funds have been spent since July, 1975, for nondiagnostic services:</td>
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<tr>
<td>71.</td>
<td>does case file include documentation that a search for similar benefits has been done?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>If physical or mental restoration services were provided:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>72.</td>
<td>was medical consultant approval received prior to authorization?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73.</td>
<td>is there documentation supporting the determination that the clinical status of the individual is stable or slowly progressive?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74.</td>
<td>If client is or was in status 14, does case file reflect regularly scheduled counseling sessions are occurring?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75.</td>
<td>If client is or was in status 14, was there an IWRP specifying counseling and guidance (non-routine) as the only service necessary?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76.</td>
<td>Are reasons for any changes in plan explained?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
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<td></td>
<td>October, 1980</td>
<td>Page 5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
77. Are the services specified in the plan or amendments being provided?  Yes _____  No _____  Status 24 (x) _____

78. Has DVR provided substantial service?  Yes _____  No _____ ? _____

79. Have services been provided promptly?  Yes _____  No _____

**PLACEMENT**

Complete for all cases in status 20 or beyond

80. Does the case file reflect how placement is to be accomplished?  Yes _____  No _____

Which placement services (are being) (were) provided? (use N/A if a service is not necessary or appropriate for this client. Use No only if the service should have been provided and was not).

81. job seeking skills training?  Yes _____  No _____  N/A (x) _____
82. job development?  Yes _____  No _____  N/A (x) _____
83. job leads?  Yes _____  No _____  N/A (x) _____

84. If client is not working, does the record indicate the counselor has taken sufficient steps to help the client find employment?  Yes _____  No _____  Client is working (x) _____

85. If client is working, does the record indicate counselor has provided appropriate follow-up services?  Yes _____  No _____  Client not working (x) _____

86. Did (or is) placement occurring without undue delay?  Yes _____  No _____

**26's**

87. Does case file have a closure summary?  Yes _____  No _____

IF NO, go to question #95.

IF YES, does it include the following:

88. Description of why it is determined the client has made a satisfactory adjustment?  Yes _____  No _____

89. Summary of services provided?  Yes _____  No _____

90. Job title and/or duties?  Yes _____  No _____

91. Employer name and address?  Yes _____  No _____

92. Salary?  Yes _____  No _____

93. Date job began?  Yes _____  No _____

October, 1980
94. Did counseling supervisor initial approval of case closure?  
Yes _____ No _____

95. Has plan or plan amendment been completed insofar as possible?  
Yes _____ No _____

96. Does job appear compatible with client's abilities and problems?  
Yes _____ No _____

97. Is client's employment consistent with the objective for which services have prepared the client?  
Yes _____ No _____

98. If client received training, was it related to the job family in which he/she was placed?  
Yes _____ No _____ No training (x) _____

99. Were appropriate follow-up services provided prior to case closure?  
Yes _____ No _____

100. Was client employed at least 60 days before case closure?  
Yes _____ No _____

101. Does case show indication of counseling activity? (check one).  
a. None _____ b. Mild _____ c. Moderate _____ d. Extensive _____

102. Did services provided by the agency affect the outcome (rehabilitation) in an identifiable positive way?  
Yes _____ No _____

103. Does the case record demonstrate that the services provided were necessary and led to improved employability?  
Yes _____ No _____

104. Was client notified in writing of case closure?  
Yes _____ No _____

22's/30's

105. Was IHRP Part B closure notice (or equivalent letter) sent to client?  
Yes _____ No _____

106. Does case indicate reasons for closure?  
Yes _____ No _____

107. Is there a closing summary in the case?  
Yes _____ No _____

108. Did Counseling Supervisor initial case closure?  
Yes _____ No _____

109. If client was closed for reasons such as not interested, unable to locate, refused services or failure to cooperate, were sufficient efforts made to involve the client in the rehab process?  
Yes _____ No _____ N/A (x) _____

110. For a case where services under a written program were terminated on the basis of a determination that the individual was not capable of achieving a vocational goal and no longer eligible was a certificate of ineligibility completed?  
Yes _____ No _____ N/A (x) _____

October, 1980
Complete for cases in status 32 and beyond

111. Is there sufficient documentation to justify the need for post employment services? Yes ___ No ___

112. Is there an IWRP for Post Employment? Yes ___ No ___
IF YES, does it

113. Describe the type and extent of services planned? Yes ___ No ___

114. Indicate how services will be provided? Yes ___ No ___

115. Identify specific objectives? Yes ___ No ___

116. Were P. E. services necessary to help maintain employment? Yes ___ No ___

117. If P. E. services have been terminated, is there a record of the present employment situation? Yes ___ No ___ X (Still in 32) ___

October, 1980
April 13, 1981

Susan Stoddard
Project Director
Berkeley Planning Associates
3200 Adeline Street
Berkeley, CA 94703

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

Enclosed are copies of our case Quality Control Sheets. I hope you find them of help.

Our only procedure for case flagging is review of a master computer list. This is practical because of the very small caseloads in the State of Montana.

Sincerely,

Gary W. Lee
Program Manager IV
Visual Services Division
Social and Rehabilitation Services

GWL: gmc

Encl.
**PROCESSING CHECKLIST / QUALITY CONTROL REVIEW**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Counselor No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address:</td>
<td>Status:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSN:</td>
<td>Review Date:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**KEYS:**
- A = Adequate
- D = Deficiency
- NA = Not Applicable

**COMMENTS:**
Outline corrections necessary to eliminate deficiencies - establish deadlines for corrections.

### I. APPLICATION - FILL IN THIS SECTION FOR CASES IN STATUS 02 AND 08
1. REFERRAL & SOURCE - INFO. COMPLETE
2. APPLICATION / RELEASE OF MEDICAL INFO.
3. AUTHORIZATION FOR INITIAL EXAM
4. TIME IN STATUS 00 LESS THAN 3 MONTHS
5. INITIAL CONT. MEMO + R-300 INIT. PROMPTLY

### II. PLANNING - FILL IN THIS SECTION FOR STAT. 10
1. MEDICAL WITH RECOMMEND. FOLLOWED
2. PSYCHOLOGICAL
3. SOCIAL INFORMATION - INCLUDING EMP./EDUCATION / WORK HABITS
4. APTITUDE INFORMATION
5. SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION SUMMARIZED
6. ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION
7. ECONOMIC NEED DETERMINED
8. TIME IN STATUS 02 LESS THAN 3 MONTHS
9. TIME IN STATUS 06 LESS THAN 18 MONTHS

### III. SERVICES PROVIDED - FILL IN THIS SECTION FOR CASES IN STATUS 12 AND 30
1. MEDICAL RECOMMENDATION FOLLOWED
2. REASON FOR SELECTION OF OBJECTIVE
3. IWRP WRITTEN / AMENDMENTS COMPLETED
4. OTHER AGENCY'S ROLE DEFINED
5. TIME IN STATUS 10 LESS THAN 6 MONTHS

### IV. SERVICES - FILL IN THIS SECTION FOR CASES IN STATUS 20
1. TIMELY AND CONSISTENT WITH IWRP. R.T. & O/M SERVICES EVALUATED
2. AMEND. & INTERRUP. EXPLAINED
3. GAPS IN CASE RECORDING
4. AUTHORIZATION FOR SERVICES
5. TIME IN STATUS 14 LESS THAN 6 MOS.
6. TIME IN STATUS 16 LESS THAN 12 MOS.
7. TIME IN STATUS 18 LESS THAN 4 YEARS

### V. PRE-CLOSURE - FILL IN THIS SECTION FOR CASES IN STATUS 26-28
1. PLACEMENT PLAN MADE & FOLLOWED
2. METHOD OF PLACEMENT SHOWN
3. ADEQUATE FOLLOW-UP. 60-DAY MINIMUM
4. CLOSURE CONSISTENT WITH IWRP
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KEYS:</th>
<th>COMMENTS:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A = Adequate</td>
<td>Outline corrections necessary to eliminate deficiencies — establish deadlines for corrections.</td>
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<tr>
<td>D = Deficiency</td>
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<tr>
<td>NA = Not Applicable</td>
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<tr>
<td>(5) TIME IN STATUS 20 LESS THAN 3 MONTHS</td>
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<tr>
<td>(6) TIME IN STATUS 22 LESS THAN 3 MONTHS</td>
<td>Outline corrections necessary to eliminate deficiencies — establish deadlines for corrections.</td>
</tr>
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<td>BUT MORE THAN 2 MONTHS</td>
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**VI: CLOSURE — FILL IN THIS SECTION FOR CASES CLOSED IN STATUS 08, 28, 28, 30**

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<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) POST-EMP. SERVICE EXPLAIN. &amp; RECORDED</td>
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<tr>
<td>(2) PES NEED DETERM. / DOCUMENTED</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(3) CLIENT NOTIFICATION OF CLOSURE</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(4) PRUDENT USE OF FUNDS</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(5) REASON GIVEN FOR 08, 28, 28, 30, 33, 35, 37 CLOSURE WITH CLIENT VIEWS</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(6) ANNUAL REVIEW OF INELIG.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(7) SSI / SSDI VERIFICATION</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(8) SSC APPLIED APPROP. ON CERTIFICATE</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(9) CHRON. OF CASE FIL. (STAT. CHGS. SHOWN?)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(10) CASE FILE CLEARLY INDIC. FUND. SOURCE</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(11) REFERRAL SOURCE INFORMED</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(12) REUSABLE EQUIPMENT RECLAIMED OR TITLE RETENTION SIGNED OFF</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(13) EMPLOYMENT COMPATIBLE WITH HANDICAP</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Reviewer:** ____________________________ **Date:** ____________________________

**Date Deficiencies Corrected:** ____________________________

**Counselor:** ____________________________
## QUALITY CONTROL SHEET

- **Reviewer Name:**

- **DATE OF REVIEWS:**

- **NO. OF CASES REVIEWED:**

- **NO. OF DEFICIENCIES BY ITEM:**

### I. APPLICATION

1. Referral & Source - Info. Complete
3. Authorization for Initial Exam
4. Time in Status 00 Less Than 3 Months
5. Initial Cont. Memo + R-300 Init. Promptly

### II. PLANNING

1. Medical with Recommendation, Followed
2. Psychological
3. Social Information - including Emp./Education/Work Habits
4. Aptitude Information
5. Significant Information Summarized
6. Eligibility Determination
7. Economic Need Determined
8. Time in Status 02 Less Than 3 Months
9. Time in Status 06 Less Than 18 Months

### III. SERVICES PROVIDED

1. Medical Recommendation Followed
2. Reason for Selection of Objective
3. IWRP Written / Amendments Completed
4. Other Agency's Role Defined
5. Time in Status 10 Less Than 6 Months

### IV. SERVICES

1. Timely and Consistent with IWRP, R.T. & O/M Services Evaluated
2. Amend. & Interrup. Explained
3. Gaps in Case Recording
4. Authorization for Services
5. Time in Status 14 Less Than 6 Mos.
7. Time in Status 18 Less Than 4 Years

### V. PRE-CLOSURE

1. Placement Plan Made & Followed
2. Method of Placement Shown
3. Adequate Follow-Up, 60-Day Minimum
4. Closure Consistent with IWRP
### VI: CLOSURE

1. POST-EMP. SERVICE EXPLAIN. & RECORDED
2. PES NEED DETERM. / DOCUMENTED
3. CLIENT NOTIFICATION OF CLOSURE
4. PRUDENT USE OF FUNDS
5. REASON GIVEN FOR 08, 26, 28, 30, 33, 35, 37 CLOSURE WITH CLIENT VIEWS
6. ANNUAL REVIEW OF INELIG.
7. SSI / SSDI VERIFICATION
8. SSC APPLIED APPROPR. ON CERTIFICATE
9. CHRON. OF CASE FIL. (STAT. CHGS. SHOWN?)
10. CASE FILE CLEARLY INDIC. FUND. SOURCE
11. REFERRAL SOURCE INFORMED
12. REUSABLE EQUIPMENT RECLAIMED OR TITLE RETENTION SIGNED OFF
13. EMPLOYMENT COMPATIBLE WITH HANDICAP
Project Name: _________________________
Evaluator: _________________________
Date of Last Evaluation: ______________

Project Proposal Review (Pre-Site)

Stated Goals and Objectives of Project:
1. __________________________________
2. __________________________________
3. __________________________________
4. __________________________________
5. __________________________________
6. __________________________________

Concurrent In-House Evaluation Criteria:
1. __________________________________
2. __________________________________
3. __________________________________
4. __________________________________
5. __________________________________
6. __________________________________

Project Costs:
1. Administrative Personnel $___________
2. Professional Staff $___________
3. Clerical $___________
4. Other Agency Contributions $___________
5. Rent, Utilities $___________
6. Equipment $___________
7. Other $___________
Cost per anticipated number of clients $___________
EVALUATION CRITERIA

1.0 Client Services Delivery System

1.1 Target Population

1.1.1 Number of Clients Referred:

1.1.2 Number of Clients Accepted:

1.1.3 Number of Clients Completing Program:

1.1.4 Number of Clients Continuing Program:

1.1.5 Number of Clients Terminating Before Completion:

1.1.6 Number of Clients Declining Services:

1.1.7 Number of Clients as No-Shows:

1.1.8 Number of Clients Severely or Totally Disabled:

1.1.9 Number of Clients Non-Severely Disabled:

1.1.10 Number of Clients at Grade Level 1 to 4:

1.1.11 Number of Clients at Grade Level 5 to 8:

1.1.12 Number of Clients at Grade Level 8 and Above:

1.2 Target Population/Referring Agency

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>a) BSB</th>
<th>b) VR</th>
<th>c) BADA</th>
<th>d) ABE</th>
<th>e)</th>
<th>f)</th>
<th>g)</th>
<th>h)</th>
<th>i)</th>
<th>j)</th>
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</table>

Correlations/Comments:

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________
1.2 Client Success
1.2.1 Percent of Clients Completing Program:
1.2.2 Percent of Clients Obtaining Employment:
1.2.3 Percent of Clients Maintaining 60 Days Employment:
1.2.4 Percent of Clients With Two or More Job Interviews:
1.2.5 Percent of Clients Obtaining Competitive Employment:
1.2.6 Percent of Clients With Sheltered Employment:
1.2.7 Percent of Clients Self-Sufficient:
1.2.8 Percent of Clients Satisfied With Job:
1.2.9 Percent of Clients in Job Family for Which Applied:
1.2.10 Percent of Clients in Job Family for Which Trained:

1.3 Clients Success/Program Averages
1.3.1 Average Hourly Salary of Applicants:
1.3.2 Average Hourly Salary at Completion:
1.3.3 Average Grade Level of Applicants:
1.3.4 Average Grade Level at Completion:

1.4 Efficiency of Operation
1.4.1 Average Case Service Cost Per Client:
1.4.2 Average Duration of Client Services:
1.4.3 Average Cost Per Service/Percent of Individuals:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Cost a)</th>
<th>Percent of Individuals b)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a)</td>
<td>a)</td>
<td>b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b)</td>
<td>c)</td>
<td>d)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c)</td>
<td>d)</td>
<td>e)</td>
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<tr>
<td>d)</td>
<td>e)</td>
<td>f)</td>
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</table>

1.4.4 (Elapsed Time) Average Number of Weeks Clients in Project:
1.4.5 Average Number of Hours Per Week Clients in Project:

1.5 Quality of Life Improvement
1.5.1 ______ percent of clients surveyed indicate client satisfaction with program and/or "new life."
1.5.2 ______ percent of clients surveyed following completion indicate ______ increase in wages.
1.5.3 ______ percent of clients surveyed (or client records reviewed) following project completion indicate improvement in their:
   1.5.3.1 nutrition and health.
   1.5.3.2 extent and type of social contact.
   1.5.3.3 recreational activity ability.
   1.5.3.4 physical endurance.
   1.5.3.5 self-image, attitude and motivation to become employed.

1.6 Reasons for Failure
Where applicable, a random sample of case files closed in Status 08, 28 and 30 will be made as follows:
1.6.1 ______ cases Status 08 to ascertain why they were not accepted.
1.6.2 ______ cases Status 28 or 30 for reasons not rehabilitated. These may be compared to clients statements in interviews.
INSTRUCTIONS: Indicate "Less" for less than adequate; "Adequate"; or "More" for more than adequate.

2.0 Administration
2.1 Personnel
2.1.1 Personnel are well-trained and qualified:
2.1.2 Personnel are aware of their individual responsibilities:
2.1.3 (Where applicable) consultants are necessary and well-qualified:
2.1.4 Personnel have demonstrated ability to communicate well with Rehabilitation Division:
2.1.5 Personnel have had previous experience in occupational skill training:
2.1.6 Personnel exhibit significant administrative liaison between project and funding agency:
2.1.7 The number of professional staff is sufficient to serve the clients:
2.1.8 The number of clerical staff is sufficient to support project operations:

2.2 Budget
2.2.1 Accurate and complete records are kept on encumbrances, expenditures, etc.:
2.2.2 Expenditures/costs do not exceed projections:

2.3 Clients Records
2.3.1 percent of random sample files reveal:
2.3.1.1 Completed evaluation forms including skill assessment, general observations, specific goals, recommendations:
2.3.1.2 Clients satisfaction questionnaire:
2.3.1.3 Pre- and Post-job applications or other tests:
2.3.1.4 Reasons why leaving project, where applicable:

2.4 Reports
2.4.1 Project reports are made to funding agency as required:

2.5 Resources
2.5.1 Facility square footage and design are indicative of project needs:
2.5.2 Equipment is in working order and is being utilized for project purposes:
2.5.3 Supplies are sufficient in number and quality for project use:
2.5.4 Travel time and costs are appropriate to project purposes:

3.0 Training Projects
3.1 Training in occupational skills and related services includes:
3.1.1 Work Evaluation:
3.1.2 Work Testing:
3.1.3 Job Tryouts:
3.1.4 Occupational Tools and Equipment Required for Each Training:
3.2 Training teaches specific job skills:
3.3 Selected occupational skill training areas are justified:
3.4 Training areas are appropriate to current employment opportunities:
3.5 Project has procedures for placing clients upon completion:
3.6 Group activities are used when there are sufficient numbers of clients with similar needs:

Facility Improvement Projects
Facility is making progress toward meeting specific State and federal
touting standards:
Specific improvement and success of implementation objectives and staff, equipment, etc., are being met:

4.3 Improvements have resulted in increased number of clients served, placed, referrals, etc.:

5.0 Outreach/Community Impact
5.1 Project recruits clients, as demonstrated by the number of persons entering project who would not otherwise be in the program as a proportion of program openings (waiting list?):
5.2 Project retains client interest as demonstrated by number of applicants and enrollees as a proportion of program openings:
5.3 Project is actively involved with at least _____ referral sources:
5.4 Project personnel have had at least _____ favorable media exposures:
5.5 Project demonstrates potential to continue after termination of support:
5.6 Project demonstrates potential for project results to be effectively utilized after termination of support:
5.7 Rehabilitation Division professional practices and standards can possibly be improved by project and its process:

6.0 Project Relationships With Counselors
6.1 Project Adds to Rehabilitation Process:
   6.1.2 Formal relationship exists for effective counselor referrals to Project:
   6.1.3 Project provides adequate feedback to counselors on client progress:
   6.1.4 Project is responsive to Rehabilitation counselor suggestions:

INSTRUCTIONS: Sections 7 and 8 to be completed by Project Director.

7.0 Project Self-Assessment
7.1.1 If you had to "sell" your project to someone, what would you say about it?
7.1.2 What other specific resources would enhance your project's ability to serve clients and why?

8.0 Exemplary Services
8.1 Give two case histories of clients who have especially benefited from the project. Please be as specific as possible, excluding names.
9.0 ADDED CRITERION (please specify): 

The control group(s) for your project will be ___________________ and ___________________ for comparison. Those items marked with an asterisk will be used.

Evaluation Comments:

_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
Dear ROBERT LIST,

In an effort to improve our services and to meet federal requirements for determining client satisfaction, we ask that you complete the attached survey questions and return the information to us WITHIN FIVE DAYS. Your answers will be kept confidential.

The information on this sheet identifies you as a respondent to our survey. Please keep this sheet attached to the questionnaire.

Name ___________________________ Case # _______ Bureau _____________________________
Rehabilitated ____________ Not Rehabilitated ________ Office _____________________________
Social Security Number __________________________ Date of Closure _______________________
Occupation at Closure (Code) __________________________ Earnings (Wages) At Closure/Week __________
Monthly Amount of Public Assistance at Closure __________________________ Counselor __________

Services Provided According To Closure Form (Items Checked)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Service Provided or Arranged for by Agency</th>
<th>Cost Only (1)</th>
<th>No Cost (2)</th>
<th>Cost &amp; No Cost (3)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diagnostic &amp; Evaluation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restoration (Physical or Mental)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College or University</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Academic (Elementary or High School)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Business School or College</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocational School</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-the-Job</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal &amp; Vocational Adjustment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance (Example: Rent, Food, Etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services to Other Family Members</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Example:

Rent, Food, Etc.)
1. Did you receive the services indicated (checked) on page one? Yes   No

   1.1 If "No," what services did you not receive?

2. Is all other information on page one correct? Yes   No

   2.1 If "No," please indicate what is not correct.

3. Were you satisfied with the services provided to you? Yes   No

   3.1 If "No," please explain why you were not satisfied.

4. Were there services you feel you needed, but did not receive? Yes   No

   4.1 If "Yes," please explain your other service needs.

5. How did our services help you?

6. Would you recommend our services to a disabled friend? Yes   No

7. Do you wish to see a Rehabilitation counselor again? Yes   No

   7.1 If "Yes," what services do you feel you need?

8. Were you satisfied with the counselor's willingness to listen to your ideas while developing your rehabilitation plan? Yes   No

   8.1 Comments

9. Were you satisfied with the amount and kind of information provided by your counselor about your disability? Yes   No

   9.1 Comments

10. Were you satisfied with how quickly you received services from your counselor and others involved in your rehabilitation plan? Yes   No

   10.1 Comments

---

N-1
NOTE: FOR SERVICES MENTIONED IN QUESTIONS 11-14 THAT YOU DID NOT RECEIVE, PLEASE WRITE "N/A."

11. Were you satisfied with the kind of training you received? Yes____ No____
12. Were you satisfied with the benefits you received from training? Yes____ No____
13. Were you satisfied with the help you received in seeking and obtaining a job? Yes____ No____
14. Were you satisfied with the results of mental and/or physical restoration? Yes____ No____
15. Are you working now? Yes____ No____
16. Were you working on ______________________? [If "Yes", please indicate] Yes____ No____
17. Are you a homemaker? (Working only in the home with no wages) Yes____ No____
18. Are you retired? Yes____ No____
19. What is your job title? ______________________
20. What is your weekly salary (before deductions)? $__________
21. Do you receive any income from a government source? (For example, ADC; Social Security, etc.) Yes____ No____
   21.1 If "Yes," what is the monthly amount? $__________
22. If you are not working, are you looking for work? Yes____ No____
23. If you are not working, how long have you been unemployed?
   Less than one month ______ 4 to 6 months ______
   1 to three months ______ 7 to 12 months ______
24. After you received rehabilitation services, have you been:
   ____ Mostly Employed _____ Mostly Unemployed
   24.1 If mostly unemployed, what do you feel has been the problem?
   ________________________________________________
25. Did you receive help in completing this questionnaire? Yes____ No____
   25.1 If "YES", was the person who helped you . . . . (Please check)
   ___________ A relative or friend
   ___________ Employer or Work Supervisor
   ___________ Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor

PLEASE RETURN OUR LETTER AND THE TWO PAGE QUESTIONNAIRE IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE WITHIN FIVE DAYS.

THANK YOU!

Name ____________________________

152
April 23, 1981

Susan Stoddard, Project Director
Berkeley Planning Associates
3200 Adeline Street
Berkeley, California 94703

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

The N.H. Division of Vocational Rehabilitation currently depends on monthly computerized statistical printouts to identify aged cases for counselors/supervisors' attention. When a case exceeds what we have identified as an acceptable period in a given status, that client's name, status and time in status would appear on the counselor's printout. Periodically, counselors must submit explanations for delays to their supervisors.

Quality assurance is accomplished by requiring supervisory review of each case at each of four points of process, eligibility, IWRP, closure and case expenditure.

Additionally, we have adapted the Assumption College Case Review Process and have just begun our second systematic case review. Our process requires supervisors to review a sample of status changes in each counselor caseload against C.R.P. requirements and standards as revised by N.H. In turn, a sample of this sample is reviewed by each of three program directors. Finally, a designee of the Chief of the Division selects a sample from cases reviewed by program directors. Results are compared and joint reports written which identify concern areas, possible reasons, possible solutions and plans for addressing the problem.

Our first review identified a number of concerns that were addressed via training. Our second review is evaluating the effect training had on the problem areas.

I hope this is of some help in your research.

Sincerely,

C. F. Sawyer
Planning & Evaluation Specialist

LIVE FREE OR DIE

Disability Knows No Race, Color, or National Origin - We Serve All of the Handicapped
Equal Opportunity Employer - Equal Educational Opportunities
Ms. Susan Stoddard
Project Director
Berkeley Planning Associates
3200 Adeline Street
Berkeley, California  94703

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

We in New Jersey are very interested in your work on the new standards for vocational rehabilitation. The New Jersey general agency has, the last two years, tried to address these standards. We are interested in both helping you and in receiving feedback from you on the development and measurement of these standards.

Your letter asks about two areas (quality assurance and case flagging) in which we are trying to develop efficient and effective systems.

Since 1975 we have used a flagging system for cases over 90 days in status 02. Monthly, our counselors receive a print out (Appendix la) arranged alphabetically by status of all cases in their caseload. A copy of this print out is sent to the counselor's supervisor. Cases which have been in status 02 for over 90 days are marked by an asterisk. We have set as an acceptable upper standard, 30% of a caseload's 02 cases in status over 90 days. When a caseload is over this limit for an unreasonable amount of time the supervisor and counselor should work together to determine the reason and solution for this situation.

Besides the counselor print out, an office manager receives a monthly summary (Appendix 1b) of an office's performance by caseload. This monthly summary lists each caseload's statistics which includes the percentage of 02 cases in status over 90 days.

In the Fall of 1980 we began to periodically look at the movement of cases in other statuses. About every six months we send to counselors and their supervisors a list of cases in statuses 10 and 12 which have been in these statuses for over six months and those cases in these statuses for between three and six months. Also sent is a list of cases in statuses 14, 16 and 18 in status over four years. These cases should be reviewed by the counselor and supervisor, and appropriate action taken.

The other area mentioned in your letter, quality assurance, is also of vital concern to us. We are in the process of developing and will pilot test a systematic case review instrument (Appendix 2), based on the critical questions from the San Diego Case Review Schedule.

New Jersey Is An Equal Opportunity Employer
In trying to address the standards (Appendix 3) a number of questions have arisen. Most questions are concerned with the method of measurement of a certain data element. For example Standard 4 data element ii asks for a comparison of the mean weekly salary of 26 closures at follow-up with that of the average worker in a given state. The State of New Jersey as well as the Bureau of Labor Statistics calculates the mean weekly salary for only factory workers and not the general worker. This leads to a distortion of the comparison and an inability to really answer the question.

Other questions are concerned with the validity of certain data elements. For example standard 4 data element iv asks for a "comparison of 26 closures with public assistance as a primary source of support before and after VR services." We question the validity of this data element because we believe it does not show what was intended. It appears this data element was intended to compare the number of clients receiving public assistance as their primary source of support at the beginning of or during rehabilitation services with the number receiving public assistance as the primary source of support at closure. Hopefully, this number will be lower at closure than at referral or during service delivery. However, it may be better to compare public assistance at closure with public assistance at acceptance rather than at referral. At referral many people have SSI or SSDI cases pending, or may reach rehabilitation after being deinstitutionalized and not yet on general assistance. Also, at referral a counselor may not know if a client is receiving public assistance and update this information only after a client is in 02 status or later.

These are examples of questions raised when we tried to address the standards. If you believe it appropriate, maybe one of our staff could share with you some of the other problems we encountered in addressing the standards. Or it might be possible to work with one of the Model Evaluation Units to see how they are answering the standards.

We will appreciate any feedback you can give us.

Sincerely,

George R. Chizmadia, Director
Vocational Rehabilitation Services
May 7, 1981

Ms. Susan Stoddard
Project Director
3200 Adeline Street
Berkeley, California 94703

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

This is in response to your letter of April 6, 1981, concerning procedures for monitoring case movement. In our Vocational Rehabilitation Services section, there are three (3) distinct procedures for this purpose.

1. The Quality Assurance Unit provides a quarterly count of all active cases showing the length of time in status for each client. Delays are easily spotted in this count.

2. Supervisors Conduct Case Reviews at least four (4) times a year and more frequently if indicated. Flow Sheets are checked and case movement problems discussed during these reviews.

3. Computer Print Outs are also used for monitoring the length of time in status although at present this is the least reliable indicator since the information provided may not be as current as that obtained from the Quality Assurance Unit or the Case Review Process.

We are enclosing a copy of a memorandum issued May 12, 1980, which provides guidelines regarding the length of time in status of clients wherever they may be in the Vocational Rehabilitation Process.

We trust that this information will be of use to you in your research efforts. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Norma F. Krajczar
Executive Director
MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 12, 1980

TO: ALL VR SUPERVISORS AND COUNSELORS

FROM: EDWARD GORCZYCA, ASSISTANT CHIEF, FIELD SERVICES

SUBJECT: MOVEMENT OF CASES THROUGH THE VARIOUS STATUSES

This memo is issued to establish guidelines for the movement of cases through the various statuses in a timely manner.

STATUS 00: New referrals should be contacted within thirty (30) days from the time counselor receives the case.

STATUS 02: A determination should be made to place client into 06, 10, or 08 within a five (5) month period of time.

STATUS 10: A determination should be made to place client into a diagnostic program within a three (3) month period of time.

STATUS 12: A determination should be made to place client into status 14, 16, or 18 within a three (3) month period of time beyond the projected date of initiation of service as listed on the INWP.

STATUS 16: After completion of service a contact memo should be submitted indicating a status change.

STATUS 18: Sixty (60) days; a careful analysis should be made that all bills have been passed for payment and the case folder is in order for closure.

In all of the above statuses, in order to account for flexibility and provide for the individual needs of the client, if the specified time periods cannot be met, a contact memo should be placed in the case folder indicating the reason.

It was agreed upon by both supervisors and counselors that a minimum of four (4) case reviews per year would be conducted.

gv
May 6, 1981

Ms. Susan Stoddard, Project Director
Berkeley Planning Associates
3200 Adeline Street
Berkeley, California 94703

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

This is in reply to your letter dated April 6, 1981, requesting information on case flagging and quality assurance techniques used in New York State.

In New York, flagging and quality assurance systems are combined. The procedure is computerized and a counselor caseload report is produced each month. This printout is sent to supervising staff in Central Office, Regional and local offices, and each counselor receives his/her own copy. Cases remaining in certain statuses longer than allowed are flagged with an asterisk. These statuses are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Asterisk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>00</td>
<td>More than 3 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>More than 6 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>More than 6 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>More than 12 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>More than 12 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>More than 3 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>More than 6 months</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Statuses 06, 16, 18, 20 and 22 are initially monitored at the local office level. Periodic sampling reviews are conducted by the two Regional Offices staff. A copy of this printout is attached for your information. Client and counselor names have been crossed out for reasons of confidentiality. State and Area Office summaries are also enclosed for your review. A target of 10% has been established as an acceptable level for asterisked cases.

I trust that these data satisfactorily answer your inquiry.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]
Basil Y. Scott
Deputy Commissioner
Ms. Susan Stoddard  
Project Director  
Berkeley Planning Associates  
3200 Adeline Street  
Berkeley, California 94703

Dear Sue:  

This is in response to your request to Mr. Myer for materials that we use in "case flagging" (for undue delay) and other quality assurance procedures.  

One of our best tools in helping counselors manage their caseloads is the client master list, which is distributed to each counselor carrying a caseload on a monthly basis. I am enclosing a copy of our manual material describing this computer printout (master list) for your information. Please note that I have circled (in red) the explanations for items 27 and 33 for your attention, as these items relate specifically to "case flagging". Item 27 reflects the cumulative number of months that the client has remained in current status. When a case has remained in Status 06 (extended evaluation) longer than the eighteen-month time limit, an asterisk will appear in column 33. Also, an asterisk will appear in this column (33) for any case in Status 00 - 24 when the client has remained in the status longer than the statewide average time period.

Copies of the master list are also distributed to the Unit Managers and Quality Development Specialists for each caseload where they have responsibility. The client master list is an excellent tool for management study to determine the progress of programs.

Approximately three years ago, we restructured our field organization in order to place increased emphasis on casework quality. We also revised and developed additional standards for casework. We included maximum time frames that a case should remain in the various statuses and also strengthened our case recording requirements for each status. Enclosed are copies of our manual materials for Statuses 00 - 32 which describe these expectations.

Eleven casework supervisor positions (formerly line managers) were restructured to provide for additional casework review and quality control. These
individuals now function as Quality Development Specialists. In addition to their functions of monitoring, casework review, and other quality control measures, they are also equally responsible for the developmental training of counselors. A functional analysis of these positions is enclosed to give you a detailed description. I am also enclosing a copy of our "case quality rating form", which is used in casework reviews performed by the Quality Development Specialists. Our field operations are geographically divided into four regions, each headed by a Regional Director. Each region is further divided into units and facilities, with a total of 31 unit offices and 7 facilities. The Quality Development Specialists are responsible to the Regional Directors and have responsibility for several unit offices and vocational rehabilitation facilities (e.g., mental hospitals, mental retardation centers, corrections, etc.).

I hope this information and the enclosed materials will benefit you in your exploration of quality assurance and case flagging approaches in our agency.

Please let me know if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Bob H. Philbeck
Deputy Director

BHP/jb

attachment
CASE QUALITY RATING FORM

Instructions: The use of this casework rating system requires the reviewer to make subjective decisions. However, the structure of this system provides reviewers an opportunity to address the same issues in each case record reviewed. When items are marked 0 or 3, the reviewer should record specific reasons for the rating in the Comments Section.

INTAKE AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT ITEMS

P1 Timeliness of Services and Case Management

(Review R-1A entries, referral record, masterlist, etc., to determine timeliness of VR actions. Judgement is necessary to determine if case entries represent purposeful efforts to maintain case continuity.)

(3) Usually means client was interviewed within 15 days of referral and there was no unexplained gaps in services of over 30 days up through program development.

(2) Usually means client was interviewed within 30 days of referral and services were provided with no unexplained gaps of 30 days or more. Delays or lack of contact were adequately explained or unavoidable.

(1) Usually means client was interviewed within 45 days and services proceeded with no unexplained gaps of 30 days or more.

(0) Usually means there was a delay of over 60 days between referral and client interview or client was never interviewed. Or there were unexplained gaps in case activity of over 30 days.

Comments:
Client Contact - Personal Interviews with Client

(Review CPR entries. The item assumes that some personal interviews with the applicant should be made and the norm would be one at the time of application for services and at least one at the time the program is developed. A single interview at application may result in ill-conceived plans.)

________(3) Usually 3 or more client interviews, or interviews with examples of extra effort (home visits, contact and discuss with other professionals or other family members, previous employers, or referral sources, etc.)

________(2) Usually 2 interviews; 1 at intake and 1 for planning. May be 1 interview for rapid action case.

________(1) Usually 1 interview, or more than 1 interview, but time between interviews limited continuity of case.

________(0) No interviews, or so meaningless that planning could not transpire.

Comments:
P3. Rehabilitation Diagnosis

(Review R-4, CPR notes, and client information documents included in the case record.)

(3) Rehabilitation diagnosis indicates comprehensive investigation, analysis, and synthesis of data. The client's stated interest, scholastic performance, hobbies, work history, ratings on educational and vocational guidance tests, medical information and psychological dynamics were appropriately utilized in determining the vocational direction and goals of the client. Eligibility is clearly and efficiently established, demonstrating good use of diagnostic materials. Client involvement is obvious and well documented.

(2) Rehabilitation diagnosis is adequate. Client's stated interest, scholastic performance, hobbies, work history, medical information, psychological dynamics and attitudes towards work were explored and considered in establishing the vocational direction and goals. Eligibility statement is adequate and client is clearly eligible. Client involvement is adequate.

(1) Rehabilitation diagnosis may be appropriate. Diagnostic materials were utilized minimally to establish vocational direction and goals or goals were established based on the idea the client will return to his former job without thought to possible need for occupational change. Client is probably eligible, but diagnostic materials are of marginal quality or eligibility statement is not conclusive.

(0) No documentation of rehabilitation diagnosis--no rationale stated or apparent for the vocational direction or rehabilitation goals established. No client involvement apparent.

Comments:
P4. Rehabilitation Program

(Review Program, diagnostic data, CPR entries, and application form as needed.)

___________(3) Vocational goal is clearly appropriate.  
Is clearly compatible with client's disability.  
Is clearly compatible with client's interests and other client data as shown in diagnostic material including vocational assessment.  
Planned services appear to be very appropriate.  
Services appear to meet client problems as stated in application and diagnostic materials.  
Program is specific regarding services to be provided:  
(a) what services, (b) the source for services,  
(c) when services are to be provided, (d) VRS contacts with client during services, (e) placement plan, and (f) client participation; (g) May have evidence of extra activities such as attempts to obtain services at no cost to agency, etc.

___________(2) Vocational Goal is appropriate.  
Is compatible with client's disability and all diagnostic materials.  
Planned services appear to be appropriate.  
Services appear to meet all major client problems.  
Program is complete regarding items (a) to (g) above.

___________(1) Vocational Goal is probably appropriate but questions may be raised.  
Compatibility with disability may not be clear.  
Rationale for Vocational Goal is questioned.  
Planned services are probably appropriate but are questioned in 1 or more areas.  
May not address all client problems or fail to show how services will meet client problems.  
Is vague in addressing items (a) to (g) above.

___________(0) Vocational Goal is not compatible with client's disability, or is believed not feasible for client.  
Vocational Goal conflicts with diagnostic reports.  
Planned services do not appear appropriate.  
Program fails to address significant client problems, or shows little apparent benefit to client.  
Program fails to address major items in (a) to (g) above.

Comments:
Other Factors in Case Intake and Planning

(Includes any events or factors not reflected in Items P1-P5, i.e., issues to be considered are feedback to referral sources, degree to which R-4 and NCR-13 are completed, use of agency medical consultant, appropriateness of certificate of eligibility or ineligibility, appropriateness of TF/SF certification, evidence of client involvement in eligibility determination, etc.) A combination of numerous deficiencies should result in a rating of 0. When items are marked 3, 1, or 0, the reviewer should record specific reasons for the rating in the comments section.)

(3) Case includes examples of exemplary case management not shown in Items 1-5.

(2) Case has no examples of notable "other" factors.

(1) Case has deficiencies not previously indicated.

(0) Case shows critical errors not previously indicated. Examples: Program might appear to be the work of the counselor without any input from client, or may appear to reflect events already transpired.

Comments:
D1. Service Delivery Prior to Placement and Follow-up

Primarily determined by review of IWRP, Addendums and CPR entries.

(3) All planned services provided to date with examples of extra effort to meet client needs. (Intervention for client, very prompt services.)

(2) All planned service provided to date in a timely manner. (Usually means no unexplained gaps in case activity.)

(1) All planned services provided to date but with apparent unexplained delays or lack of client contact. Planning incongruent with diagnostic data. (Usually means unexplained gaps in case activity.) Little casework activity including minimal counselor-client involvement.

(0) Undue delays in provision of services. (Usually means unexplained gaps in case activity.) Some planned services never provided or obvious client needs not addressed.

Comments:
Program Addendums

(including amendments, annual review, ineligibility reviews, etc.)

___________(3) Program reviews and appropriate addendums are timely and made as result of joint client-counselor action in response to new circumstances. May represent extra counselor effort to influence client into a more appropriate goal.

___________(2) Program review and appropriate addendums completed with maximum client involvement in a timely manner. Program reviews and appropriate changes include appropriate goals for client and follow for the original program. There is evidence of agreement between client and counselor before action is taken.

___________(1) Program review and appropriate addendums completed with client involvement. Program changes were made to accommodate client actions without counselor influence, or were made by counselor with little input from client. Tended to reflect events rather than plan ahead. Example: client obtains job difference from original program before program change made.

___________(0) Program review and appropriate addendums completed with minimal client involvement. Program changes may include inappropriate employment objective and/or inadequate or inappropriate services to client.

Comments:
This item focuses on the planning and provision of services to prepare a client for work and to assist him in obtaining appropriate employment. This includes development of client attitudes consistent with the job environment and reconciling problems or barriers stemming from the milieu outside the client. There are numerous ways a counselor can be directly and integrally involved in job placement with a client, i.e. direct contact with employers, collaboration with other placement agents, task analysis and job modifications, etc.

Job readiness activities would include such items as providing information related to employment during client assessment and INWRP development, individual and group instruction of clients in job seeking and retention skills, personal assistance in preparing for job interview, etc.

__________ (3) VRS made direction employer contacts in client's behalf as needed and engaged in job readiness activities as appropriate. (May be marked even if client outcome was unsuccessful.)

__________ (2) VRS provided appropriate job readiness activities; routine referral to other placement agents, or no placement was needed. (May be marked even if client outcome was unsuccessful.)

__________ (1) Client was available for employment for over 30 days without VRS effort. Client obtained job but in inappropriate work. Less than desirable outcome in case, possibly due to lack of VRS involvement. Assisted with minimal job readiness activities

__________ (0) Client was available for employment for over 60 days with no VRS effort to provide assistance. VRS assisted with inappropriate employment or inappropriate outcome resulted possibly due to lack of VRS involvement. Did not provide job readiness activities.

Comments:
Follow-up Services - After Placement

Follow-up services may be incomplete at the point in time this item is reviewed. The Quality Development Specialist will review the item in light of what has transpired and make a judgment accordingly.

(3) VRS followed case after job placement for 3 or more purposeful client contacts and over 60 days. The counselor may also show extra effort by contacting employers, etc.

(2) VRS followed case after job placement for 60 days and made at least one purposeful direct client contact to assure satisfaction with job.

(1) VRS confirmed employment but not directly with client. There were long intervals in follow-up without contact with the client or employment sources.

(0) VRS closed case without 60 days follow-up, or with no evidence of contact with client after Placement.

Comments:
D5 Other Factors in Service Delivery

(Includes any events or factors not reflected in Items D1-D4. Factors to be considered are the adequacy of CPR notes, evidence that counseling was provided and services were provided within a counseling relationship, authorizations, status changes, masterlist utilization, maintenance arrangements, PES, timely and proper bill processing, timely and proper correspondence and telephone response, other available resources and services utilized were in a timely and proper manner, evidence that significant services were provided and that VR services contributed to the client's rehabilitation, adequate closure summary, order or case record materials, non-independent casework showed appropriate counter-signature and feedback to referral source. When items are marked 3, 1, or 0, the reviewer should record specific reasons for the rating in the comments section.

_______(3) Case includes examples of exemplary case management not shown in Items D1-D4.

_______(2) Case has no examples of notable "other" factors.

_______(1) Case has deficiencies not previously indicated in items D1-D4.

_______(0) Case shows critical errors not previously indicated in items D1-D4.

Comments:
OUTCOMES

01. Achievement of Goal

__________(3) Achieved occupation stated in original or amended program. (may be in competitive, sheltered, homemaker or homebound status).

__________(2) Achieved occupational level stated in an original or amended program.

__________(1) Achieved rehabilitation, even if incompatible with clients disabling condition and if appropriate counseling was provided.

__________(0) Did not achieve rehabilitation.

Comments:
02. Change in Client Employment Status

(3) Sheltered or unemployed to competitive employment status.

(2) Student not working, or underemployed, to competitive employment status or student not working or unemployed to sheltered.

(1) No change in employment status but rehabilitated (includes homemakers and homebound).

(0) No change in employment status. Not rehabilitated.

Comments:
03. Increase in Weekly Earnings.

_______ (3) Over $200 per week
_______ (2) $101 to $200 per week
_______ 1) $1 to $100 per week, turns to same wage
_______ (0) None

Comments:
Ms. Susan Stoddard  
Project Director  
Berkeley Planning Associates  
3200 Adeline Street  
Berkeley, California 94703

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

As requested in your letter of April 6, attached is information concerning our agency's case flagging and quality assurance.

We hope you will find this information useful. If you have any questions, please contact Jack Scott at (919) 733-4231.

Sincerely,

L. Earl Jennings, Jr.

L. Earl Jennings, Jr.

LEJjr:SA

Attachment

cc: Mr. George B. Staton  
Mr. Jesse L. Sherrill  
Mr. Jack C. Scott
I. Case Flagging

The agency master list of referrals, applicants, and clients is computerized. Included in the data items on each client is "Months in Current Status." The system is programmed to "star" the following statuses after three months: 00, 02, 10, 12, 20, 22, and 24. Also status 06 is starred after 15 months. This flagging procedure enables the counselors to quickly review their master lists to identify possible undue delay in status.

In addition to the above, a summary of the number of flagged cases for each counselor is provided to each supervisor.

II. Quality Assurance

Quality assurance in this agency is carried out through several procedures, controls, and monitoring. Among these are:

(A) Review by supervisor of all acceptances, rejections, and closures.

(B) Supervisor's review and approval of all IWRPs.

(C) Periodic review of sample cases by the Deputy Chiefs of Rehabilitation Services.

(D) Review and analysis of computer caseload summaries on a quarterly basis.

(E) Establishment of goals and objectives into the WP/PR (Work Planning/Performance Review) of each counselor and supervisor.

(F) Federal evaluation standards reports and special evaluation projects and studies.
Ms. Susan Stoddard
Project Director
Berkeley Planning Associates
3200 Adeline Street
Berkeley, California 94703

May 14, 1981

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

Please excuse the delay in responding to your request for material used for case flagging and quality assurance.

Each month the office supervisor receives a "counselor masterlist" which shows, among other things, the number of months the client has been in the status. If the client has been in a status for longer than the suggested guidelines and the supervisor is not aware of the reasons for this, the individual client line on the counselor masterlist is highlighted with a marker. The supervisor then meets with the counselor to establish what would be an appropriate plan of action for the counselor to complete to assist the client's movement through the statuses. A date for the completion of the planned action is established and the case is again reviewed by the supervisor on that date.

The guidelines for status life are as follows: Status 00-1 month; Status 02-6 months; Status 10-2 months; Statuses 14, 16, 18-1 year; Status 20-3 months; Status 22-4 months; and Status 24-2 months.

The counselor masterlist also identifies with an asterisk any client who has an I.W.R.P. due date within thirty (30) days of the printout.

In the quality assurance area, each counselor's supervisor is responsible to complete a 10% random sample of the counselor's casework each quarter. Results of the case review are written and discussed with the counselor and a copy is submitted to the office administrator. There is also an annual case review which randomly selects 10% of the regional offices caseload. This review is done by representatives from the State Office of Rehabilitation Services. In conjunction with this review, the SSA/VR Program is reviewed for compliance with the regulations.

If you would have any further questions or would like additional information, please contact us.

Sincerely,

James D. Leary
Director
Rehabilitation Services
May 26, 1981

Ms. Susan Stoddard, Project Director
Berkeley Planning Associates
3200 Adeline Street
Berkeley, California 94703

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

Enclosed are copies of various monitoring reports and agency guides that relate to time-in-status, etc.

Sorry it took so long for me to respond. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (614) 438-1302.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Dennis Wysocki
Program Evaluator
Division of Planning and Evaluation

Enclosure

DW/gb
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Report</th>
<th>Frequency of Report</th>
<th>Level of Production</th>
<th>Report Content</th>
<th>Major Uses of Report</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Master List of Cases</td>
<td>Monthly-produced on information received at Central Office through last day of the month</td>
<td>Caseload - Copy sent to each area supervisor, each rehab supervisor, and two to each office</td>
<td>Lists all open cases on the caseload and cases closed during the current quarter</td>
<td>A resource tool that indicates: clients by status, number of months in that status, cases needing annual review, and specific client characteristic information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management Information Report</td>
<td>Monthly-produced on information received at Central Office through last day of the month</td>
<td>Caseload, with team, group, district and State summaries - Copy sent to each area supervisor, each rehab supervisor, and each office</td>
<td>Cumulative statistics. Current fiscal year cases broken down by special groups.</td>
<td>Monitors activity by special group. Monitors caseload movement, balance. Provides cumulative statistics for fiscal year, and certain caseload management measures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Referral Report</td>
<td>Monthly-produced on information received at Central Office through last day of the month</td>
<td>Group with District and State Summaries - Copy sent to area offices, and rehab supervisors</td>
<td>Current fiscal year referrals by referral source and month. Note: Uses referral date not date the referral was processed</td>
<td>Monitors new referrals by month for each referral source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thermistats</td>
<td>Quarterly</td>
<td>District and State. Other breakdowns available upon request. At present time copies sent only to select BVR districts</td>
<td>Provides special information on clients by status</td>
<td>Provides special information on groups of clients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time in Status Report</td>
<td>Quarterly</td>
<td>Caseload - Copy sent to area supervisor and each office</td>
<td>Shows number clients in 00, 02 and 10 for long periods of time and length of stay for clients currently in each status</td>
<td>Lists clients in status 00, 02 or 10 for 10 months or more. Shows current average length of stay in each status. Monitors case movement delays.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Caseload Management Guides

Caseload distribution guides:

Referral, applicant, extended eval. statuses
Active Statues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Desired Average Months</th>
<th>Maximum Limits Months</th>
<th>26's FY-78</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>00</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>18.0</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>4.0 (avg.)</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>12.0 (15 mos.)</td>
<td>5.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>10.0 (avg.)</td>
<td>48.0</td>
<td>12.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>3.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>5.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Preferred Minimum Caseload Size - All Status**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VRC 1</th>
<th>VRC 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Caserload Status Distribution**

- 00 - 02 - 06
- 10 thru 24

**Timeliness of Service Goal (Caserload Average)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(00)</th>
<th>(02)</th>
<th>(10)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 mo.</td>
<td>3 mo.</td>
<td>1 - 2 mo.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total should not exceed 4 mo. average, 00 thru 10.

**BVR Counselor Expectations - Completed Rehabilitations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marginal</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Above Average</th>
<th>Exceptional</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VRC I</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26 - 29</td>
<td>30 - 34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VRC II</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30 - 34</td>
<td>35 - 39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Severely Disabled Rehabilitations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marginal</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Above Average</th>
<th>Exceptional</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VRC I, II</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>45 - 54%</td>
<td>55 - 59%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Percentages**

- VRC I, II
- 48%
### BVR Group/Team Performance Model

**Fiscal Year 1980**

**RST #**

**Quarter**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group/Team Average</td>
<td>Bureau Average For Qtr.</td>
<td>Group/Team Average FY-79</td>
<td>Group/Team Hi-Perf. FY-79</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Rehabs/Caseload</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Tot. Closure Cost/Rehab</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Applicant Rehab Rate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Accepted Rehab Rate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Average Caseload Size</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Caseload Distribution - % Active</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Number of cases, 00 over 3 mos.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Number of cases, 02 over 3 mos.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Number of cases, 10 over 3 mos.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Percent rehabs SD</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Key:**
- 1. Your group or team average for Quarter
- 2. Self-explanatory
- 3. Your team or group average for FY79
- 4. Statewide group or team high performance for FY79 individually for each category.
April 17, 1981

Susan Stoddard
Project Director
Berkeley Planning Associates
3200 Adeline Street
Berkeley, California 94703

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

In response to the request made in your letter of April 6, 1981, we are enclosing copies of several of our forms or documents broadly related to quality assurance and case flagging.

Here are brief explanations of each:

1. SR901 is generated monthly to inform area supervisors regarding counselors who need to make Program/Economic Need Reviews with their clients. An individual message for each overdue review is generated for the counselor. The message is repeated each month until the review takes place and the counselor updates Block 205 of the RVS 105R.

2. RVS 105R is the basic data processing document used by rehabilitative and Visual Services in Oklahoma. Original entry and updating are available in or near every rehabilitation office in the state.

3. This is a portion of the Agency Form Guide which deals with edits, exception messages, and time in status limits.

4. FR205 is a master list generated for each counselor every month. Overtime is indicated in the far right-hand column, and summary data are tabulated at the end of each counselor's master list.
5. This packet includes copies of the Case Review Worksheet with Instructions and an explanation of case selection procedures. This form is used by review teams headed by personnel from the Program Evaluation Section of the Program Development Unit, State Office. Team members include one representative from each of the four administrative areas of the state. This review is made of each caseload every two years.

6. VR-C-55 (with instructions). This form is used by area supervisors for review of cases within their units and is used annually for each caseload.

We hope the management information enclosed will be of help to you. If you desire further information or if you have any questions, please contact Gerald S. Rosecrants, Program Evaluation Supervisor, Rehabilitative Services #24, State Office, P.O. Box 25352, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73125, phone (405) 424-4311, extension 2322.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

L. E. Rader
Director of Human Services

Enclosure
<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Medical information adequate and current at acceptance</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Primary and Secondary Disability correctly coded</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Severe Disability Status correctly coded</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>VR-C-18 describes vocational limitations</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Intermediate objectives identified on VR-C-5</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>All services identified on VR-C-5</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Appropriate information listed for each service shown on VR-C-5</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Reverse side of VR-C-5 complete</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Was consideration of similar benefits documented</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Was IWRP reviewed with the client as needed</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Financial need determination correct and reviewed as needed</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Vocational objective realistic and compatible with disability</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>Have authorization cancellations and changes been kept current</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>Sufficient and timely contact maintained with client</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>Is client currently in a Co-op High School Work Study Program</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td>Is IEP and IWRP coordination documented</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td>Are Teacher Coordinator contacts documented</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.</td>
<td>Is student/client currently employed or in training</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.</td>
<td>If closed as a Homemaker, was that the original vocational objective</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.</td>
<td>Were training costs provided with VR funds</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21.</td>
<td>If training was provided, was it related to occupation at closure</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22.</td>
<td>VR-C-5B properly completed</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23.</td>
<td>VR-C-5C properly completed</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CASE REVIEW WORKSHEET INSTRUCTIONS

Items 1 through 18 are to be checked on all active cases. Items 1 through 22 are to be checked on cases in statuses 26, 32 and 33. Item 23 is to be checked on cases in statuses 08, 28 and 30.

1. If all medical conditions were not investigated, check "NO" unless the reason is adequately justified in the recording. If medical reports were used in lieu of new examinations (both general and specialist), check "NO" unless they contain adequate information and/or, are not more than six months old. (See CWM 2220.2, 2220.5)

2. Check the codes in Blocks 228 and 231 to make sure that the code is consistent with the description of the disability. If the disabilities are not described correctly on the 105R, (Blks 227 & 230) this item may be checked "YES" but a comment should be made on the form to draw the incorrect description to the counselor's attention. Comment should also be made if, in the reviewer's opinion, the primary and secondary conditions have been reversed.

3. See 105R Form Guide Instructions, page 51-59 for coding instructions. If there is evidence in the record to indicate that the case could be coded as severely disabled but the counselor has failed to do so, check this item "NO" and comment accordingly. In some cases the disability description or disability code may be incorrect which might affect the coding of the severe disability status. In situations such as this, make your judgement on the basis of the correct disability code.

4. The specific vocational activities the client can not perform due to his disability should be referenced e.g., "Jobs which require dealing with people, frequent change, responsibility for others, repetitive tasks, bending, walking, etc. A list of specific occupations should be checked as "NO" unless there are a sufficient number of them listed to demonstrate that a substantial employment handicap exists.

5. Form Guide VR-C-5 instructions. (CWM 2272.8)

6. All services planned and/or provided must be shown on the VR-C-5. Check against authorizations and 105R planned costs. If any discrepancies between VR-C-5, authorizations or 105R planned costs are evident, check "NO" and comment as to the discrepancy. Diagnosis and evaluation services are not required to be shown on the VR-C-5 if no extended evaluation program was written. (Form Guide VR-C-5 instructions)

7. Check for evaluation criteria, provider, rates, when appropriate and beginning and ending dates on each service shown on the VR-C-5. (Form Guide VR-C-5 instructions, CWM 2272.8) Do not check "NO" on this item for any service not shown and for which #6 was marked "NO".

8. Check review schedule (If IWRP services do not extend beyond 12 months, review schedule may be blank), client views (counselor views are optional), and appropriate signatures and dates. (Form Guide VR-C-5 instructions, CWM 2272.8)

9. Similar benefits documentation can be on the VR-C-5, or other narrative recording. (CWM 2236.1, 2245.6, 2201)

10. Check for documentation to show the client was given an opportunity to review the IWRP at least once a year and that if the client declines the review, this fact is documented. Cases in 06 must be reviewed every 90 days, but do not necessarily have to be done with the client. (CWM 2236.2, 2272.3, 2272.8, 2274.1, 2274.3, Form Guide 105R instructions, pp 4-7)
11. Is information on VR-C-36 complete, current and consistent with other case record information. Was financial need determination made each time client's financial situation changed if client is shown to be in economic need and was a review conducted at least annually. If services based upon Economic Need were not provided or planned, mark this item "NA".

12. If, in your judgement, the vocational objective is unrealistic, check the item "NO".

13. Look through outstanding authorization folder for authorizations on the case being reviewed. Check dates and case recording. If authorization appears to be in need of cancellation or liquidation, draw it to the counselor's attention in comments. If it definitely needs to have been liquidated, cancelled, or changed mark "NO" and identify the authorization(s) in a comment. (RVS Memo 80-46)

14. Was client contacted when there was any indication of a need for it?

15. If client is not currently in one of the Co-op High School Programs, check "NO" and leave #15, 16, 17 blank. Check for coding in Blocks 168 and 170.

16. Individualized Education Program (IEP) and IWRP coordination is evidenced by C-11 recording, IWRP or program summary recording or inclusion of the IEP in the VR case record.

17. If there is not at least one contact report per semester by the Teacher Coordinator, check "NO".

18. If student/client is not working or in a training program outside of the school classroom at the time of the last recorded contact, check "NO" (unless the last recorded contact was in the summer or between semesters in which case make determination of working status on basis of previous semester.)


20. Training costs include any expenditures associated with a client's training whether or not the actual tuition was paid by the agency, e.g. tuition, books and supplies, maintenance and/or transportation associated with training, training fees, etc. If not provided or if provided at "No Cost", check "NO".

21. If training was not provided or it was provided with none of the costs identified in item 7, mark "NA". The determination of relatedness is to be made on the basis of course content and the type of work activities in which the client is engaged. Do not make a determination solely on the basis of what has been said in the closing summary. Verify it from the record.

22. Check for completeness and accuracy of the form and adequacy of counselor's explanation as to suitability of employment. Check dates of supervisor's signature with effective date of the 105R document (Blk 111) that moved case to Status 26. (FG vr-C-5B instructions, CRM 2272.17 (3).

If case was closed in Status 26 prior to 2/81, check the VR-C-11 closing summary to see if it contains statements as to the services that were provided, the suitability of the client's employment, the employer's name and address, and an analysis of how the services contributed to the client's employment. Also check dates of supervisor's and counselor's signature with effective date of the 105R document (Blk 111) that moved case to status 26.

23. Check for proper designation of reason for closure on the VR-C-5C and the 105R (Blk 110), adequate documentation of reason for closure, client's views and date of annual review when case is closed due to ineligibility.
PROCEDURES FOR SELECTING CASES TO BE REVIEWED

Cases for review will be selected from a printout containing the cases on each caseload being reviewed and their status as they were at the end of the month preceding the review. The printout will contain all active cases above status 10 and those in 06, all cases in status 26-33 and cases in statuses 08 (except 00 to 08), 28 and 30 closed after 2/81.

The cases on the printout will be randomly selected according to the following stratification scheme.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>NO. OF CASES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

25

If there are not enough cases on the caseload in any one of the active statuses (06, 12-24), additional cases will be evenly selected from statuses 16 and 18 in the order of preference.

If there aren't enough cases on the caseload in statuses 08 or 28, select additional cases from the other status (08 or 28) if there are still not enough, select additional cases from status 26.

If there are not enough cases in status 32 or 26, select from the other (26 or 32). The next order to select from if there are not enough 26's or 32's should be statuses 22, 20, 16 in that order of preference.
**STATE OF OKLAHOMA**
DEPARTMENT OF INSTITUTIONS, SOCIAL AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

**WORKSHEET FOR CASE REVIEW**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNSELOR</th>
<th>CLIENT</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION

1. **YES** [ ] **NO** [ ] **NA** [ ]
   - Survey form complete and significant information securing during the initial interview.

2. **YES** [ ] **NO** [ ] **NA** [ ]
   - Prompt follow through on referral. If no, explain.

3. **YES** [ ] **NO** [ ] **NA** [ ]
   - Adequate diagnostic workup. If no, explain.

4. **YES** [ ] **NO** [ ] **NA** [ ]
   - Adequate vocational testing. If no, explain.

5. **YES** [ ] **NO** [ ] **NA** [ ]
   - Record reveals client advised or rights under Title VI.

### CASE EVALUATION & PLANNING

6. **YES** [ ] **NO** [ ] **NA** [ ]
   - Eligibility adequately established (disability, limitation, vocational handicap).

7. **YES** [ ] **NO** [ ] **NA** [ ]
   - Services needed by client adequately identified.

8. **YES** [ ] **NO** [ ] **NA** [ ]
   - Explain how planned services will result in employability.

9. **YES** [ ] **NO** [ ] **NA** [ ]
   - Recording shows evidence of counseling and client's involvement in plan development.

10. **YES** [ ] **NO** [ ] **NA** [ ]
    - Record reveals client was made aware of his responsibilities (letter, VR-C-400).

11. **YES** [ ] **NO** [ ] **NA** [ ]
    - Vocational objective appears realistic. If no, explain.

12. **YES** [ ] **NO** [ ] **NA** [ ]
    - Economic need determined.

### PROVISION OF SERVICES

13. **YES** [ ] **NO** [ ] **NA** [ ]
    - Minimum of delay in providing planned services.

14. **YES** [ ] **NO** [ ] **NA** [ ]
    - Other services needed, but not provided. If yes, explain.

15. **YES** [ ] **NO** [ ] **NA** [ ]
    - Services interrupted. If yes, explain.

16. **YES** [ ] **NO** [ ] **NA** [ ]
    - Appropriate use made of other resources. If yes, describe.

17. **YES** [ ] **NO** [ ] **NA** [ ]
    - Adequate supervision provided client during service period as evidenced, by recording.
18. Adequate assistance is placement provided as needed.

19. Suitable occupation at closure. If no, relation between objective and job at closure does record reveal basis for change.

20. Adequate plan adjustments and plan revisions made.

21. Record reveals how client benefited from services.

22. Appropriate standards for terminating case was met (basis for closing 08, 28 and 30, denial letter, etc.)

MISCELLANEOUS

23. If rejected, was client referred to other resources?

24. Material in folder neatly and properly filed.

25. Recording in general seemed adequate.

26. Proper use of funds.

This space to be used for additional comments the supervisor feels should be brought to the attention of the counselor and/or the administration.
This form is to be used to record information obtained in a case review. It should also be used to counsel with the employee whose work is being reviewed and to assist the supervisor in preparation of his narrative report. The form is not to be submitted to the State Office. Explanation of specific items are as follows:

PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION

1. All of the information should be completed at the time of initial interview, except items 26-29. These should be completed when placed in status 10. The second page of the initial interview form should be completed in information, as requested.

2. Did the case process evenly and expeditiously through referral and diagnostic process?

3. Was sufficient medical and/or psychological evaluations received to establish eligibility and feasibility? Was recommendation on general medical followed for special examinations? If not, was reason explained? Was explanation given for additional examination not recommended?

4. If a training case, did the counselor provide sufficient and proper vocational testing to determine feasibility for his training situation?

5. Other than having signed the application form.

CASE EVALUATION AND PLANNING

6. Fully describe parts 1 and 2 of the VR-C-18.

7. Service, whether bought, arranged or provided by client, shown on total plan.

8. Will services remove the disability or will it train around the disability.

9. Show participation of both client and counselor in plan development.

10. Written evidence of client having been made aware of his responsibility.

11. Is vocational objective compatible with abilities and disability?

12. Economic need established, if applicable.

PROVISION OF SERVICES

13. Consideration given to individual situation.

14. Diagnosis, physical restoration, training, whether bought or arranged for,

15. Self explanatory.


17. Whether by home or supervising counselor.

18. As indicated by case recording or correspondence.
19. Is occupation compatible with disability, abilities, past work experience or training?


22. According to agency manuals, form guides, and instructions.

MISCELLANEOUS

23. Self explanatory.


25. According to acceptable agency standards.

26. According to agency policies and regulations.
April 15, 1981

Ms. Susan Stoddard
Berkeley Planning Assoc.
3200 Adeline Street
Berkeley, CA 94703

Dear Sue:

Following our conversation of yesterday, I discussed changes in our quality assurance process with our Administrative Review Specialist.

The attached document describes our current standards and method of assessment. In our counselor performance appraisals, we do not consider quantitative factors unless all qualitative areas have been found acceptable.

It should also be noted that this system is undergoing revision in conjunction with our overall revisions of our Administrative Manual. I will send you a copy of these materials when they become available (July, 1981).

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,

ROSS T. MORAN, Ph.D.
Evaluation Specialist
Program Planning and Evaluation

RTM: skn
Attachment

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER
Susan Stoddard, Project Director
Berkeley Planning Associates
3200 Adeline Street
Berkeley, CA  94703

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

In response to your letter on materials used by our Agency for case flagging and quality assurance, listed below and attached you will find examples that we presently use in our Agency:

A. Case Flagging

Counselor Total Page

The "counselor total page" is a two-page report compiled from relevant statistical data obtained from a counselor's assigned caseload. This report can be of valuable assistance in analyzing a particular counselor's caseload activities. This report is used by district, regional and central office personnel.

Seventeen Status 10 Cases

This report is another variation to the regular alphabetic counselor printout. The use of this report enables management to specify one particular status from the regular alphabetic counselor printout.

Cases in Status 10 for 4 or More Months

This report designates a specific number of months in a specific current status. This report is used by the district, regional and central office personnel.

Cases Due for an Annual Caseload Review

The Annual Caseload Report is available to assist rehabilitation staff in accomplishing the federally mandated annual comprehensive review as explained in the IWRP system. The report will produce a listing of only those cases that are to be reviewed within a 3-month period or are past due for a comprehensive review. Cases that are due within the current month will be indicated by asterisks. One asterisk will be located to the left of the clients' last name, two asterisks will be located under the "data" column. If a case is past due, D's will be located in the same positions as the asterisks. This report is used by district, regional and central office personnel.

The above mentioned reports are available at the district office terminal.

Delinquent Annual Caseload Review Cases

There are two types of reports. Both are attached. One report is a delinquent listing of cases by counselor sent to each district office. The other report is
report is a cumulative report of delinquent annual caseload review cases that is formatted and sent to all appropriate district, regional and central office staff.

B. Quality Assurance

Similar Benefits Utilization (Booklet)

This is a structured system which is presently being pre-tested in a pilot study to identify and collect, via the teleprocessing unit, the clients that use similar benefits, sources of similar benefits, services utilized in similar benefits and cost savings by using similar benefits. This is primarily a management tool to monitor quality and quantity of similar benefits utilization. Additional information is stated in the attached booklet.

Case Review Process in Program Evaluation (Booklet)

A structured process such as a case review system is used to monitor and identify case service patterns within the rehabilitation process. The entire process is contained in the attached booklet.

Evaluating the Severely Disabled Client Population Served by the Pennsylvania Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation (Booklet)

The information in this booklet is used to monitor and evaluate the four types of severely disabled client population. The data from the computer printout is formatted for meaningful utilization by central office and district office staff.

We have found, through our experiences, that our procedures for case flagging and quality assurance have been very effective from management's and counselors' perspective, since they meet our needs and are assembled, developed and formatted for the intended user.

If you have any questions concerning our material on case flagging or quality assurance, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

George C. Lowe, Jr.
Director

Attachments
May 12, 1981

Berkeley Planning Associates
3200 Adeline Street
Berkeley, California 94703

ATTENTION: Susan Stoddard, Project Director

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

In response to your letter of April 6, 1981, I have had my VR staff assemble the attached materials which I hope will be of some value to you.

The first attachment is our Case Management Exception Listing which allows both our VR counselors and supervisors to monitor all those cases in a counselor's caseload which exceed a specified number of months in a particular status. Attachment Number 2 provides the parameters upon which the Case Management Exception Listing is based. We have found this management approach to be quite beneficial and our practice has been for the listing to be reviewed by the VR Supervisor in our field offices on a quarterly basis with the VR counselor.

We are presently in the process of developing chapters for a VR counselor's handbook which will include procedures, review techniques, etc. to identify undue delay in case statuses. We are still in the process of refining our instructions in this area and do not have them yet ready for publication.

Regarding quality assurance in the VR program, our approach has been to conduct program and administrative reviews, including the review of records, review of procedures in our field offices, as well as on site client satisfaction surveys with a random sample of clients successfully rehabilitated. We have found this approach to be quite effective and well worth the extra time involved. We are also in the process of developing manual chapters for our VR counselor handbook to further specify these aspects of the VR process. However, we can share with you a copy of our memo of expectations which serves as our
primary guideline at this time. We will be modifying some of our Expectations Memos when our additional guidelines are published, since we have experienced some significant changes since the time the memo was published. We do feel, though, that it will provide you with an idea of some of the performance standards we have established.

We hope that this information will be of benefit to you, and please let us know if we can be of any further help in the future.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Snyder
Acting Commissioner

JAS:cl/vmb

Attachments
TO: VR Counselors

FROM: Alice M. Taylor
Assistant Manager

Subject: Case Management Exception Listing

A product of our new EDP will be the provision to each D.O. a separate monthly Case Management Exception Listing by Counselor Code. This will serve as a supervision and management tool. It will show cases that have remained in the same status for a period of time exceeding an acceptable time frame.

The list will include cases that have been in a given status longer than the period shown here:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>No. of Mo.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>00</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>48</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Attached is your simulated list and I understand it is only a partial list. A more complete list including the simulation should be received soon. However, for now it is important to keep the attached in your work file, review it and attempt to move the status of clients listed.

When complete monthly Case Management Exception Listings are received, the Counselor should proceed as follows:

1. Review each record listed.
2. Determine cause of stagnant status.
3. Show in an R9:
   a. What you will do to expedite status movement, or direct supervisors attention to the fact that this has already taken place.
   b. Justification, where applicable, for case having been too long in a status, or for resubmitting to that status.
4. Submit the records to supervisor who will determine whether the cases may be resubmitting to EDP, thus allowing an additional similar time frame.

It is vital that we do not ignore the new service; that we recognize the need for better caseload management; that we document justification where it applies and that the supervisor is involved in that decision.

This is preliminary information which we can pursue at VR staff conference in January, 1977.

AMT/Jo

Attach.

cc: Mr. Apgar
    Mrs. Taylor
Statistical (computerization) file
Caseload Management (VR) file
SUBJECT:        OVH/VR-79-2
Expectations for District Office and Fieldwork Function
in the Vocational Rehabilitation Program.

TO:            All District Managers

FROM:          Ralph E. Beistline
Commissioner

The District Managers with direct line authority from the Commissioner assure that the following performance expectations are enforced at the District Office level. It is understood that the District Managers delegate authority and responsibility to subordinate management and supervisory personnel, however, ultimate responsibility for compliance rests with the District Managers.

These expectations have been revised as a result of the Central-District Offices meeting in which all District Offices were represented held in Central Office, October 6, 1978.

The following expectations are effective immediately:

I. WORK ITINERARIES

The District Manager assures that all Vocational Rehabilitation Staff submit to their immediate Supervisor a detailed itinerary for their proposed activity covering the next week. Itineraries are due on or before each Friday. The itinerary contains the individuals to be contacted and the purpose for each contact, as well as days in the office and leave days planned. Any change in an itinerary is handwritten but cleared in advance with the Supervisor. The following factors are considered in planning, preparing, and evaluating work itineraries.

The District Manager assures that:

A. Caseload carrying VR staff average 50% of their time in the field and 50% in the District Office.

B. O&M VR staff average 80% of their time in the field and 20% in the District Office.

C. Caseload carrying VR staff average the performance of eight (8) employer contacts per staff member per month.

D. Caseload carrying VR staff average the performance of five (5) direct personal contacts with clients, employers, or community facilities, per staff member, per day in the field.

E. O&M VR staff average the provision of O&M training to two and one-half (2-1/2) clients per day in the field.
F. All itineraries are maintained on file for at least one (1) complete Federal fiscal year prior to the present fiscal year. To determine whether adequate planning is being used in preparation of itineraries, the Manager compares them to the employee's expense account periodically. The need for work conferences and/or training are developed from such comparisons.

Averages referred to in item "A" through "E" are computed on a monthly basis and applied to total staff in each VR group, i.e., caseload carrying or VRH staff. This permits the District Manager the flexibility of establishing special work assignments if desired, such as facility or placement functions.

Itinerary files are subject to Central Office review.

II. CASE MANAGEMENT

The District Manager establishes procedures (such as random sample case reviews, review of selected cases from the VR staff's exception lists, and/or individual or group VR staff conferences) to insure proper case management and effective service delivery. The following factors must be addressed:

A. That significant narrative entries are inserted in all case records at appropriate points, but at no greater-interval than ninety (90) days.

B. That information regarding job placement contacts, performed by both client and counselor, are narratively documented in all case records.

C. That an average caseload of caseload carrying VR staff consists of a maximum of 150 cases. The cases are distributed into 50% in status 00, 02, and 06; and, 50% in status 10 through 24.

D. The review of the exception lists of all caseload carrying VR staff on a monthly basis. Case record review and conferences with VR staff will determine whether the delay in a particular status is warranted and sufficiently documented.

E. Supervised monthly review of all caseload carrying VR staff master lists. Errors or inconsistencies are resolved by VR staff by submitting correcting documents to the District Office Data Control Clerk.

F. That all caseload carrying VR staff will prepare and submit to the District Office Data Control Clerk those forms necessary for the updating of the master lists as each required reporting event occurs.
G. That a log system will be used for maintaining an accurate and timely notation of referral dates.

The District Manager assures the evaluation of the above factors in conjunction with day-to-day reviews of approval of IWRP's, IWRP Amendments, and all closure actions which identify individual and group problems. These problems can be treated by:

A. In-service training at the District Office level.
B. On-the-job training by the Supervisor.
C. Consultation with and/or assistance from Central Office Specialists.
D. Statewide in-service training.

III. EVALUATION OF STAFF PERFORMANCE

Adequate VR staff performance and client satisfaction shall be evaluated via the following management and supervisory activities:

A. All VR staff shall be accompanied in the field by a District Office Manager or Supervisor to whom he is subordinate, at least two (2) full days per Federal fiscal year. Counselors evidencing problems shall be accompanied more often. One indicator would be a counselor's inability to meet negotiated production and/or assigned categorical placement percentages at the end of each quarter. Ongoing observations will allow the evaluation of VR staff effectiveness. Areas to consider include, but are not limited to:

1. Efforts to involve the client in the development and implementation of the client's rehabilitation program.
2. Ability to achieve predetermined objectives and goals with and for the client.
3. Effective counseling skills.
4. Effective communication.
5. Awareness and utilization of community resources.
6. Effective use of itineraries.
7. Satisfactory performance of employer contacts including preparation.
8. Effective training techniques.
9. Application of appropriate training content.

VR staff itineraries should be utilized to determine the dates selected for this observation activity.
A record of this activity shall be maintained in the District Manager's VR Staff Performance Folder. This folder is subject to Central Office review.

B. A second measure of VR staff performance and client satisfaction is accomplished by use of field audits. The manager assures that he or a designated Supervisor will review the case records of, and personally contact at least three (3) clients per month. Audits shall be distributed over all VR caseload carrying staff, and for this fiscal year shall be conducted on status 20, ready for placement, cases which appear on the exception lists. The VR staff member serving the client will not be involved in the personal contact with the client, but will receive written findings and recommendations from the audit which will be placed in the District Manager's Special Audit Folder. This folder is subject to Central Office review.
April 24, 1981

Ms. Susan Stoddard  
Project Director  
Berkeley Planning Associates  
3200 Adeline Street  
Berkeley, California  94703

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

In answer to your letter of April 6th, we are enclosing several materials used to avoid or identify cases experiencing undue delays in our VR Program.

Each counselor maintains a Master List of his/her clients, and indicates the month in which each status change is made. The Counselors' Manual mentions established maximum times in certain statuses. (See copy of Chapter 7 enclosed.)

In conducting case reviews, we use the Caseload Analysis form enclosed, to check on the distribution of cases. If the counselor has an exceptionally high percentage of cases in certain statuses, we then check to see if there have been delays, and why.

We use a modified version of the Case Review Schedule to review random samplings of case records of each counselor in each service region on a periodic basis. Central Office administrators then discuss the quality of case recording and service delivery in meetings with the counselors, supervisors and regional area staff.

We are interested in receiving a copy of your survey results.

Cordially,

[Signature]

Luis A. Bonilla  
Assistant Secretary  
Vocational Rehabilitation

Enclosure
**ANÁLISIS DE CARGA DE CASOS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oficina:</th>
<th>R.V. 101.1 Correspondiente a:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Casos Referidos</th>
<th>Núm. de Casos en el Status</th>
<th>Porcentaje en el Status</th>
<th>Porcentaje Adecuado</th>
<th>Diferencia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>25.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub Totales</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>38.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Casos Activos</th>
<th>Núm. de Casos en el Status</th>
<th>Porcentaje en el Status</th>
<th>Porcentaje Adecuado</th>
<th>Diferencia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10-12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td></td>
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<td>18</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>18.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>8.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2.4</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub Totales</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>62.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Totales**          |                              |                         | 100%                |            |

**Fecha**

**Firma**
The enclosed material is in response to your written request of April 6, 1981.

I have enclosed pages from a computer print-out for one caseload. Each counselor is provided with such a print-out on a monthly basis with the Supervisor receiving a set of similar print-outs of all caseloads under his jurisdiction. You will note in the first column identified as "FL" are asterisks flagging cases in status beyond allowed periods of time. I have enclosed a table of allowable periods of time for each status. Counselors are required to justify the existence of flags on a monthly basis.

Caseload monitoring is an ongoing responsibility of the agency's Program Evaluation Unit which samples cases from all regions for compliance with federal/state requirements in addition to standards set by the agency. We have recently introduced a Caseload Management Guide to all staff which is fashioned after the instrument developed by the Region I RRCEP at Assumption College in Worcester, Massachusetts. I have enclosed a copy of this guide which is, at present, only complete to status 12. We are presently completing the balance of the status requirements and standards and following their introduction, the agency will implement a Supervisory case review checklist similar to that of the Case Review Schedule of San Diego State University. At that time, Supervisors will be reviewing cases with a standard instrument while cases will continue to be monitored by the Program Evaluation Unit on a sampling basis.

I trust this information will be helpful to you.

Sincerely,

Donald S. Hesketh
Assistant Administrator
Vocational Rehabilitation

DSH: JH
Enclosure
In order to insure timely movement of cases through the rehabilitation process, the agency's Program Evaluation Unit has set the following allowable times in each status:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>ALLOWABLE TIME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>00</td>
<td>30 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>3 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>2 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>3 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>1 month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>12 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>6 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>24 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>12 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>2 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>2 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>3 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>6 months</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This is a reply to your letter of April 6th addressed to Commissioner Bowles.

We are presently using the Oklahoma Data System to obtain the information for our R300 tapes. This System generates a "time in status report" which can be used by supervisors and counselors to identify those cases that have been in a particular status for an extended period of time. Enclosed is a copy of the input document for our data system as well as an explanation of the "time in status report".

All cases closed in statuses 08, 26, 28, and 30 are reviewed by the Area Supervisors. Enclosed is a copy of the review form. Our plans are to update this form in the near future.

Our Program Analyst who is under the direct supervision of our Commissioner does the follow-up studies as required by the federal regulations as well as periodic case reviews as he may deem necessary.

Please let me know if you need any additional information or assistance.

Sincerely,

Leonard A. Cooper
Rehabilitation Supervisor

cc: Mrs. Maxine Bowles, Commissioner
    Mrs. Nancy Buchanan, Deputy Comm.
SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND
CASE REVIEW FORM

A. OFFICE __________________________ COUNSELOR ________________________
CASE NUMBER ___________ AGE AT REFERRAL _________ SEX _________
RACE _______________ EDUCATION ________________________________
REFERRAL SOURCE ________________________________
DATE OF REFERRAL __________________________
ACTIVE CASE _________ CLOSED CASE _______________
STATUS __________________________
PRIMARY DISABILITY ___________________________ CODE _________
SECONDARY DISABILITY ___________________________ CODE _________

B. DIAGNOSTICS AND EVALUATION: YES NO N/A

4.2 A, B 1. Medical Diagnostics Provided
5.7 2. Audiological Evaluation Provided
5.5A 3. Other Specialty Examinations Provided

WHERE INDICATED SPECIFY: _______________________

5.5A 4. Use of Medical Consultation Documented
5.14.2 5. Psychological Evaluation Provided
5.1D 6. Vocational Evaluation Provided
5.48 7. Diagnostic and Evaluation Findings Summarized
4.2C 8. Disability Documented and Related to Vocational Handicap
4.4 9. Eligibility Decision Adequately Documented and Justified
10. Documentation that Client was Advised of Findings
4.3A 11. Extended Evaluation Used
12. EE Plan Completed
Report Name and Number:  
Time-In-Status Report CBREH228

Run Frequency:  
Monthly

Distribution:  
Rehabilitation Supervisor, Data Unit

Description:  
This report list by status code then alphabetically by last name all cases for each counselor which have been in a certain status too long. The criteria for overtime status designation are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Time Limit (In Months)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>00</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>99 (Maximum differs with training facility code)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A recap by status is provided for each counselor and for the state.

Advantages:  
This report is very helpful for efficient caseload management. The counselor, area supervisor or rehabilitation supervisor can use this as a quick guide to find slow spots in each caseload and to find cases that need to have action taken on them.
D. SERVICES (continued)

1. Placement and Follow-up

m. Post-Employment Services

n. Occupational Licenses, Tools, Initial Stocks and Supplies, Other Goods and Services

2. a. Did Client Attend a Rehabilitation Center
   Specify: ____________________________

b. Required Information Provided to the Center
   Prior to Admittance

c. Periodic Progress Reports Provided by Center

d. Center Recommendations followed in this case

3. a. All Planned Services Provided and Documented

4. a. Timely Manner According to the Time Frame
   Established in the IWRP

5. Employment Obtained:

a. By Client
b. By Counselor

c. Client Returned to Previous Job

d. Other - Specify: ____________________________

6. Number of Contacts Made During Follow-up

7. Length of Follow-up

8. Employer Contacted During Follow-up

9. Client's Family Included in the Rehabilitation Program

E. CLOSURE

1. Reasons for Closure Documented and Justified

2. Client Notified of Closure

3. Referral Source Notified of Closure

4. All Required Forms Completed

5. Post-Employment Services Planned for if indicated

6. Job Title at Closure ____________________________
   DOT Code __________________

7. a. If Job Title at Closure Differs From Initial IWRP,
   Change is Documented and Justified
C. DEVELOPMENT OF THE IWRP:

1. 1. IWRP Completed
   1.2. Vocational Objective: ____________________________
      DOT CODE: ____________________________
   1.2c. All Indicated Services Planned For
   1.2c.4. Services, Vendors and Costs Specified and Justified
   1.5. Client Responsibilities Specified
   1.5.6. Agency Responsibilities Specified
   1.6. Clients Economic Needs Investigated and Documented
   1.6.8. Use of Similar Benefits and Community Resources Planned for and Documented
   1.8. Development of the Vocational Objective Fully Documented and Justified
   1.5.10. Client Involvement in the Planning Process Documented
   1.11. Timetable for Achievement of IWRP Goals Specified

D. SERVICES
   1. Type of Services Provided:
      a. Evaluation
      b. Counseling and Guidance
      c. Physical Restoration
      d. Mental Restoration
      e. Vocational Training
         Specify Type: ____________________________
   8.27 f. Maintenance
   8.28 g. Transportation
   8.34 h. Services to Family Members
      i. Interpreter Services for the Deaf
   8.36 j. Reader Services for the Blind
   8.35 k. Telescensory, Sensory and other Technical Aids and Devices
10. COUNSELOR COMMENTS:


REVIEWER

COUNSELOR

DEPARTMENT SUPERVISOR

PROGRAM EVALUATOR
5. Briefly Summarize Reasons for


F. OVERALL QUALITY:

1. Case Handled in Accordance with Agency Policies and Procedures
2. Contacts made on a Timely Basis
3. Contact Reports Thorough
4. All Required Documents on File
5. Documents filed in Accordance with the Uniform Filing System
6. Documentation that the Client was informed of his Rights to Administrative Review, Fair Hearing and Nondiscrimination under TITLE VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
7. All Vendors Providing Direct Services to the Client in Compliance with TITLE VI
8. Referral Source Kept Informed of Progress in Serving the Client
9. Comments and Recommendations for Improvements in Case Handling and Recording:
May 1, 1981

(10) Exhibit J - RSA-101 - Quarterly cumulative caseload report to RSA.


(12) Exhibit L - RSA-13 - Quarterly VR program progress report to RSA.

Most of the above reports are available on a Department, Division, District Office, and Counselor basis.

We hope this information will be of interest to you.

Sincerely,

Clinton H. Nielsen
Program Administrator
for Client Services

CHN/cb

Enclosures
May 1, 1981

Susan Stoddard, Project Director
Berkeley Planning Associates
3200 Adeline Street
Berkeley, CA 94703

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

This is in response to your letter of April 6, 1981, relative to quality assurance and case flagging. Our Department has developed various types of computer printouts which are used for monitoring, controlling, and general caseload management as well as supervising counselors' activities. Some of the reports are noted below and xerox sample copies are enclosed.

(1) Exhibit A - Caseload Reports - Monthly report each counselor receives listing his cases and certain data on the cases.

(2) Exhibit B - Caseload Movement Report - Quarterly report of number of cases in various statuses and the number of months in that particular status. (Assists in assessing case flow and lags in processing.)

(3) Exhibit C - Caseload Summary - Quarterly report showing cases by status and percent of severely disabled by district office.


(5) Exhibit E - Production Report - Quarterly production and caseload report by district office with breakdown of severely disabled, SSI, SSDI, and Section 110 funding.

(6) Exhibit F - Current Status by Referral Report - Annual report showing referral source and outcome or progress on the VR processing system.

(7) Exhibit G - Annual Review List - Yearly report for each counselor showing cases diaried or flagged for annual review because of ineligibility determinations.


(9) Exhibit I - RSA-100 - Monthly production report to RSA.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>LENGTH</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>00</td>
<td>120 days or more</td>
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<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>120 &quot; &quot; &quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>540 &quot; &quot; &quot;</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>182 &quot; &quot; &quot;</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>91 &quot; &quot; &quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>630 &quot; &quot; &quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>1,825 &quot; &quot; &quot;</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>122 &quot; &quot; &quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>91 &quot; &quot; &quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>182 &quot; &quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To help insure cases in Extended Evaluation do not remain longer than the permissible 18 months, a print-out identifies cases that have been in Extended Evaluation for 17 months.

To help determine the appropriateness of client expenditures, we have a review of expenditures at certain expenditure levels by supervisory staff. A quarterly Encumbrance Report print-out provides information for this review. The first line supervisor approves cases at the $5,000 expenditure level; the regional director at the $10,000 level, and the state office field service section at the $25,000 expenditure level.

We hope this material and information will be of benefit in your project. Please let me know if you have questions or if we can provide additional information.

Sincerely,

Jack Van Hooser
Director of Client Services

JVM/bf

Attachments
May 5, 1981

Ms. Susan Stoddard  
Project Director  
Berkeley Planning Associates  
3200 Adeline Street  
Berkeley, California 94703

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

Mr. O. E. Reece requested that I respond to your request for information concerning quality assurance and case flagging. We are pleased to provide this information for your review.

We have a Quality Assurance System for the purpose of establishing appropriate standards, monitoring program activities on a regular basis, assessing activities, and implementing program changes. Attached, please find a copy of our Agency manual section regarding Quality Assurance.

Each quarter quality assurance assignments are made to the agency's first line supervisory staff on subject areas felt to be in need of study. This manual section includes the forms used to report the review findings. The attached Case Review Forms are used for conducting the reviews for both the counselor casework and the facility casework (TVTC Quality Assurance). A Key to Summary Rating Form for the Case Review Form is also attached.

To reduce potential case management problems that may develop due to cases remaining for long periods of time in certain statuses, we have a quarterly print-out of exception cases. The Exception List identifies by counseling district those cases that have been in a status longer than permitted by policy (Federal or State). Cases in the following statuses longer than indicated would appear on the Exception List for supervisory staff and/or counselors to take appropriate action:
**Case Review Summary Report QA-2**

**Case Reviewed by** ___________________________  **Date of Report** ___________________________  **District** ___________________________

**Strongest Points Found in Review**

**Weakest Points Found in Review**

**Action Needed to Correct Weaknesses**

**Status at Review**

**Key**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Key</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4. Excellent</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Good</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Acceptable</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Poor</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>0. Unacceptable</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NA. Not Applicable</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Clients**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I. Intake Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>II. Vocational Appraisal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III. Adjustment Services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV. Provision of Services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V. Placement and Follow-up</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Overall Rating**

**Corrective Action Indicated:** Date

**Corrective Action Completed:** Date

**cc:** Regional Director and Central Office
### QUALITY ASSURANCE CASE REVIEW SUMMARY REPORT

**Key**

- 4. Excellent
- 3. Good
- 2. Acceptable
- 1. Poor
- 0 Unacceptable
- NA Not Applicable

#### STATUS AT REVIEW

1. Referral and Investigation
2. Determination of Eligibility
3. Planning
4. Economic Need
5. Similar Benefits
6. Special Programs
7. Counseling and Guidance Services
8. Physical Restoration Services
9. Training Services
10. Maintenance
11. Transportation
12. Counselor Supervision of Case
13. Case Recording
14. Placement, Follow-up and Closure

**Rating Average (Nearest 10th)**

**APPROVAL OBTAINED:** YES OR NO OR NA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Approval Obtained</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Case in Status 00-02 over 120 days</td>
<td>(S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision of Physical and Mental Restoration</td>
<td>(S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out-of-State Training</td>
<td>(S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Encumbrance Exceeds $5,000</td>
<td>(S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSI/SSDI Case Status 12-24 Not Assigned</td>
<td>(S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Closure</td>
<td>(S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exception to Economic Need</td>
<td>(RD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Case requiring maintenance beyond 4 years and tuition past the undergraduate level</td>
<td>(RD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Encumbrance Exceeds $10,000</td>
<td>(RD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out-of-State Physical Restoration</td>
<td>(CO)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Encumbrance Exceeds $25,000</td>
<td>(CO)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Was there any evidence of discrimination based on Race, Sex or Handicap</td>
<td>Yes or No</td>
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</table>

**Corrective action needed by Date**

**Corrective action completed** 222
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Client Name</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>District Reviewed by</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### I. Referral and Investigation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>NA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P-2 Completed Adequately</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Counselor's Page Adequate</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Was Psychological Testing Administered</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Vocational Evaluation Provided Problems Adequately Identified and Investigated</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diagnostic Information Obtained Without Cost</td>
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<tr>
<td>Was OSH Closure Justified</td>
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Summary Rating: 0 1 2 3 4 NA

### II. Determination of Eligibility

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>NA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Medical Adequate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Speciality Examination(s) Adequate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Case Data Clearly Establish Vocational Handicap</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Was Case Properly Identified as SD or NSD Disability</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
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Summary Rating: 0 1 2 3 4 NA

### III. Planning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>NA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Was there Evidence that Client and Counselor Planned Program Together</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Were Appropriate Services Planned to Meet Client's Needs</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Summary Rating: 0 1 2 3 4 NA

### IV. Economic Need

- Were Services Based on Need | Yes | No | NA |
- Is the Determination of Economic Need Adequate | Yes | No | |
- New TVR-12 Obtained as Needed | Yes | No | NA |

Summary Rating: 0 1 2 3 4 NA

### V. Similar Benefits

- Was there evidence that similar benefits were considered | Yes | No | |
- Were available similar benefits used | Yes | No | NA |
- Were similar benefits used appropriately | Yes | No | NA |

Summary Rating: 0 1 2 3 4 NA

### VI. Special Programs

- Allowed SSDI SSI | Yes | No | NA |
- Was Special Funding Used | Yes | No | NA |
- Was Case Properly Documented | Yes | No | NA |

Summary Rating: 0 1 2 3 4 NA
### WEEKLY ENCUMBRANCE REPORT CHECKLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REPORT DATE</th>
<th>DATE REVIEWED</th>
<th>SECRETARY</th>
<th>SUPERVISOR</th>
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12/20/79
XIV. Placement, Follow-up and Closure (Confidential)

Was there Evidence that Counselor Assisted Client in Placement: Yes, No, NA

Occupation: ____________________________

Weekly Wages: ____________________________

Is Employment Satisfactory: Yes, No

Did VR Services Contribute to the Individual's Placement: Yes, No

Were Placement tools and equipment provided: Yes, No

If yes, was provision of this service justified: Yes, No, NA

Case Followed 60 Days in Employment: Yes, No, NA

Client Notified their Case was being closed: Yes, No, NA

Referral Source Notified of Closure: Yes, No, NA

Summary Rating: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, NA

Was there any evidence of discrimination based on Race, Sex or Handicap: Yes, No

If yes, explain on back: ____________________________

The following corrective action needed: ____________________________

By Date: ____________________________

Corrective Action has been completed: ____________________________

By Date: ____________________________

Supervisor's signature: ____________________________

Remarks: ____________________________
VII. Counseling and Guidance (Status 14)

Was Counseling and Guidance (Status 14) provided
Yes__ No__
Were Specific Problems and/or Counseling Goals Identified
Yes__ No__
Was evidence of counseling recorded
Yes__ No__
Did Counseling and Guidance Contribute to Vocational Adjustment of Client
Yes__ No__

Summary Rating 0 1 2 3 4 NA

-----------------------------------------------

VIII. Physical or Mental Restoration (Status 16)

Was Physical or Mental Restoration Provided
Yes__ No__
R5-B Completed Properly
Yes__ No__ NA
Authorizations Conform to Fee Structure
Yes__ No__ NA
Were Progress Reports Obtained
Yes__ No__ NA
Did PR Services Contribute to the Vocational Adjustment of Client
Yes__ No__

Summary Rating 0 1 2 3 4 NA

-----------------------------------------------

IX. Training (Status 18)

Was Training Provided
Yes__ No__
Type __________

Tuition Fees Conform to Agency Policy
Yes__ No__ NA
Training Progress Reports Obtained Regularly
Yes__ No__
Were tools, equipment, books or supplies provided
Yes__ No__
If yes, were provision of these services justified
Yes__ No__
Did Training Services Contribute to the Vocational Adjustment of Client
Yes__ No__

Summary Rating 0 1 2 3 4 NA

-----------------------------------------------

X. Maintenance

Was Maintenance Provided
Yes__ No__
Was Need for Maintenance Documented
Yes__ No__

Was Maintenance Provided Adequate to Meet Client's Needs
Yes__ No__
Was Amount of Maintenance Excessive
Yes__ No__

Summary Rating 0 1 2/ 3 4 NA

-----------------------------------------------

XI. Transportation

Was Transportation Provided
Yes__ No__
Was Need for Transportation Documented
Yes__ No__
Was Transportation Provided Adequate to Meet Client's Needs
Yes__ No__
Was Amount Allowed for Transportation Excessive
Yes__ No__

Summary Rating 0 1 2 3 4 NA

-----------------------------------------------

XII. Counselor Supervision of Case

Case Moved Through Status Without Undue Delay
Yes__ No__
Were Proper Statuses Used
Yes__ No__
If no, explain
Was Monthly Contact Made
Yes__ No__ NA
Was Quarterly Contact Made
Yes__ No__ NA
Is Case File Arranged as Per Policy
Yes__ No__

Summary Rating 0 1 2 3 4 NA

-----------------------------------------------

XIII. Case Recording

Were other VR Agency Forms Properly Completed
Yes__ No__
If no, which one
Is IWRP Completed Adequately
Yes__ No__ NA
If no, explain
Does Case Recording Clearly Document Pertinent Facts and Justify Services
Yes__ No__

Summary Rating 0 1 2 3 4 NA

-----------------------------------------------

07/01/80
April 30, 1981

Ms. Susan Stoddard
Project Director
Berkeley Planning Associates
3200 Adeline Street
Berkeley, California 94703

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

We are pleased to forward an assortment of materials utilized by the Texas Rehabilitation Commission for quality assurance and the avoidance of undue delay in the provision of rehabilitation services to clients.

"Quality assurance" and "undue delay" are such nebulous terms that they are not addressed directly by our basic Rehabilitation Services Manual. However, a whole body of practices and procedures has emerged in the 12 years since TRC became a separate agency which are intended to address both quality and non-delay of service delivery.

The basic responsibility for case management and non-delay is assigned the individual VR counselor (Atch. 1). The unit supervisor, Region program officer, and Regional Director aid, direct, and monitor the counselors in the performance of their duties (Atchs. 2, 3, and 4). One individual (supervisor) and one Central Office unit (Program Audit) have recurring responsibilities for formal inspection of counselor work (Atchs. 5 and 6). A staff of Program Specialists, experienced in a variety of the disabilities, provides direct support, guidance, and assistance to the counselors (Atch. 7) while at the same time observing the quality of casework and any delays which may have occurred.

The Information Services Division at the Central Office produces a series of printouts for management at all levels, each designed to enhance the quality of services and to avoid delay. These documents include the Client Master List (Atch. 8), the Time-In-Status Report (Atch. 9), the Attention List (Atch. 10), the Supervisor's Composite Report (Atch. 11), and (for Program Audit only) a list of Clients With Date of Referral Over 60 Months Old (Atch 12). Sample pages from each of these documents are attached, with client identifying data removed. Information Services also has an extensive edit system (556 items) which prevents the computer from accepting Client Master Files of Changes or Requisitions (purchase orders) with erroneous input data, as per the enclosed sample pages (Atchs. 13 and 14).
STATE OF TENNESSEE
DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
TVTC QUALITY ASSURANCE
CASE REVIEW FORM

Client Name ___________________________ Referring Counselor ___________________________ Status ___
Training Center ___________________________ Reviewed by ___________________________ Date ___

I. Intake Information

Counselor's Page ___________________________ Yes No
R-2 Completed ___________________________ Yes No
General Medical Specialist Examinations ___________________________ Yes No NA

Summary Rating 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. NA

II. Vocational Appraisal

Plan of Evaluation Developed ___________________________ Yes No NA
Appropriate tests Administered ___________________________ Yes No
Client problems identified ___________________________ Yes No
Client interests considered ___________________________ Yes No
Program manager designated ___________________________ Yes No
All documents signed ___________________________ Yes No
Evaluation summary in file ___________________________ Yes No
Job tryouts used In Center ___________________________ Yes No
In Community ___________________________ Yes No

Summary Rating 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. NA

III. Adjustment Services

Plan of adjustment indicated ___________________________ Yes No NA
Plan of adjustment developed ___________________________ Yes No
Problems discussed with client ___________________________ Yes No

Service provided ___________________________ Yes No
Program manager designated ___________________________ Yes No
All documents signed ___________________________ Yes No

Weekly progress reports sent to counselor ___________________________ Yes No
Are quarterly R-11's in file ___________________________ Yes No

Summary Rating 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. NA

IV. Provision of Services

Justification for services in file ___________________________ Yes No
Evidence of community resources solicited as needed ___________________________ Yes No
Proper use of statuses ___________________________ Yes No
Completion of agency forms adequate ___________________________ Yes No
Does case recording clearly document services provided by center ___________________________ Yes No
Case folder arrangement adequate ___________________________ Yes No

Summary Rating 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. NA

V. Placement and Follow-up

Closed rehabilitated ___________________________ Yes No

If no, give reason ___________________________

Was there evidence center staff assisted client in placement ___________________________ Yes No NA
Employment at closure ___________________________ NA
Weekly wages at time closed ___________________________

Evidence center services contributed to rehabilitation closure ___________________________ Yes No NA
Evidence client contacted followed employment for 60 days employment ___________________________ Yes No
Discharge summary signed by supervisor ___________________________

Justification for sheltered closure ___________________________ Yes No NA
Sheltered client program reviewed annually ___________________________ Yes No NA

Summary Rating 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. NA

Key to Summary Rating

1. Excellent
2. Good
3. Acceptable
4. Poor
5. Unacceptable
NA. Not Applicable
The most formal of all reports are produced by Program Audit which in the 12 months ending October 31, 1980, had examined 4,675 cases, nearly 5 percent of the total clients served in FY 80 (100,254). The entire audit of a caseload is directed at quality of services with particular attention devoted to possible undue delay through examination of any large numbers (34 percent of caseload, or above) of cases in applicant status; all cases in status beyond 12 months, and all active cases 60 months or more since referral.

So, as you can see, the provision of quality services to clients and the avoidance of undue delay are matters being attended to by various individuals and groups of individuals within the management chain and not entrusted to any single individual or single group.

I hope the materials enclosed will be helpful to you in your project. We hope also that the final product of Berkeley Planning Associates will result in an improved, uniform method for all rehabilitation agencies to utilize in the pursuit of quality VR services.

Sincerely,

[Vernon M. Arrell
Commissioner

VMA:EJ:sm

Attachments: 1 thru 14
Corrected Copy

Texas Rehabilitation Commission

Program Audit
The Program Audit Division is assigned to the Office of the Commissioner. The Division Head receives instruction from and reports directly to the Commissioner. At this writing, the division is comprised of a Director, and a secretarial support section of members. The audit teams are responsible for program audit activities at all agency locations throughout the state of Texas.

Audit team members are selected on the basis of fact-finding and analytical ability, report writing skill; plus demonstrated characteristics of maturity and objectivity. While sometimes beneficial, counselor experience is not an essential prerequisite. However, former counselors have been assigned to the division in the past, are presently, and it is anticipated there will be counselor representation in the future.

In the conduct of their work, program auditors are guided by the fact that they are performing a staff function. It is, therefore, inappropriate for them to make decisions or issue directives concerning the administration or operation of any program.

The purpose of this publication is to acquaint all personnel with the function and scope of Program Audit. It is not intended to describe detailed methodology, but rather to set forth in general terms a description of the activities which will be observed by field personnel.

Although the procedures and forms referenced in this pamphlet may experience minor changes in the future, it is anticipated that the basic audit philosophy expressed herein will remain relatively constant thereby negating the necessity for changes or revision.

Program Audit Division Activities

The Program Audit Division has the responsibility to engage in at least eight distinctive types of audit.

1. Routine Audits
These are customary, regularly scheduled examinations of the administrative and operational activities of any TRC office designed to measure quality and effectiveness in the delivery of TRC services. The focus of attention in these audits is the record established in individual client case folders.

2. Special Audits
These are nonscheduled, irregular audits of any TRC activity, usually requested by someone with line authority, to determine facts relative to a given problem or area of concern. The activity of the audit team may vary, depending on the exact nature of the audit, but usually includes an extensive examination of case folders and other agency records.

3. Facility Audit
These are unscheduled examinations of state and private facilities serving TRC clients, accomplished on request, for the purpose of determining quality of services.

4. Special Investigations
These are also unscheduled, special inquiries accomplished on request, to determine the facts concerning any legitimate TRC interest or matters relating to internal affairs.
It is our conviction that the best way to insure quality services to the handicapped citizens of our state is to have agency policy clearly set forth in manuals designed for use by those who have responsibility for the delivery of rehabilitation services. We seek constantly to improve our systems by continuously soliciting suggestions from those persons affected by, and responsible for, implementing existing policy. We test the effectiveness of our methods by frequent and various examinations.

Program Audit is a staff function designed to insure that published policy is being carried out. Audit activity is accomplished by means of case folder and ancillary records examination which tests the integrity of the record and the conduct of affairs within the Commission. Audits are carried out on a random basis as well as upon request by supervisory personnel in special instances. All Program Audit work is reflected in formal reports which provide a basis for evaluation of the manner in which our personnel are performing their duties and which enable supervisory personnel to pursue such courses of action as are indicated and appropriate.

Program Audit represents but one aspect of the on-going effort to provide continuing statewide studies and program evaluation. Other agency divisions regularly involved in this shared responsibility are the Research and Statistics Division, Internal Audit Division, Planning and Technical Programs Division, Facilities Division, the Program Specialist Staff, and individuals with management responsibilities at all levels. In combination, input from all these departments enable me to monitor and judge the well-being of the Commission.

All personnel are encouraged to view Program Audit as a supportive activity which, when properly heeded, leads to higher efficiency, greater professionalism, and improved service to our clients -- which should be the constant goal of all TRC employees.

[Signature]
Commissioner
Texas Rehabilitation Commission
by a purely random method. The regular sample size consists of ten active cases, although a greater number may be chosen under special circumstances. The sampling method does not preclude the selection of cases which also appear with one or more asterisks on the Attention List, but it is to be emphasized that such cases appear as a result of the "luck of the draw" and not because they were especially chosen.

An examination is made of the travel vouchers submitted by the counselor controlling the caseloads to be audited for the purpose of identifying those clients whom the counselor contacted. The case folders of those identified are later called for at the District Office to determine if the required corresponding entry has been made in the client case folder.

The various data collection instruments employed by the audit team are assembled and the team is prepared to depart for the field.

---

**DISTRIBUTION OF ACTIVE CASES INDICATING BALANCE**

**STATUSES:** 02 + 06 + 10 + 12  14 + 16 + 18  20 + 22 + 24

Ref: Time-In-Status Report

/> The balances reflected hereon are not to be considered rigid and may vary by type of caseload and time of year.

PAA-I
Revised 9-1-77

233
5. Surveys
These are irregular on-site, wide-ranging studies undertaken to determine adherence to standards or policy, and program effectiveness, e.g., post-closure surveys of self-employment enterprises, Status 26 closures, etc.

6. Field Administrative Services Audits
Audit of Field Administrative Services activity is ordinarily an integral part of routine audits, but may occur as a separate function to satisfy a particular need or in circumstances where a routine audit is inappropriate, e.g., at Regional Offices.

7. Civil Rights Audits
Civil Rights matters are also normally included as part of a routine audit. However, special independent audits may be necessary to respond to specific complaints or circumstances relative to Equal Opportunity or matters of alleged discriminatory practices on the part of private vendors or TRC employees.

8. Analyses
Periodically, the various Central Office originated computer printouts are examined and analyzed for the purpose of acquiring statistically significant data which may identify problem areas where improvement is possible and necessary, e.g., Analyses of the Supervisors' Composite Report/Attention List.

---

**pre-audit activity**

The remarks in this section relate primarily to routine audits, however, similar activity will precede any of the various other audits.

Whether internally scheduled or requested by competent authority, certain preliminary information is assembled by the audit team prior to departure for the field. Through examination of the Time-In-Status Report, the balance in the individual caseloads to be audited is established (p.9). No particular significance is attached to the findings due to the great variety existing between the various general and special programs. However, extreme out-of-balance conditions in any of the Pre-Service, In-Service, or Post-Service areas may be indicative of existing or developing problems and may govern the direction the audit team takes in the audit.

The Time-In-Status Report also serves to identify the statuses in which the cases in the caseload are distributed (p.8) and the number of cases that have remained in-status over six and twelve months. This distribution determines, for the most part, the number of cases to be selected for audit from among the various statuses. The selection would not necessarily conform to the distribution if, for example, an extraordinarily high percentage of cases were found in Statuses 00 and 02. The best evidence of the nature of the casework is to be found in cases that have advanced beyond these statuses. However, if the condition described above is encountered, a separate examination of the Status 00 and 02 cases could be undertaken to determine the reason(s) for the condition.

Once the number of cases to be examined in the statuses indicated by the distribution has been determined, the actual cases to be audited are selected.
The ten most recently closed cases in Status 08 will be examined to determine that the most significant of an entirely different nature. All documents or pages are considered to be follow-up, which reduces the necessity to rely upon memory and may provide the basis for subsequent discussions with program managers at various levels. The ten most recently closed cases in Status 08 will be examined to determine that the closure information will be extracted for follow-up by the audit team. Normally, closure information will only serve as follow-up in the event difficulty is encountered during the extraction and documenting pertinent data. Considerable copying of care provider material may be anticipated. Some documents may be copied to add to the store of analysis. All copied documents or pages are considered back-up material which will be examined to determine that the ten most recently closed cases in Status 08 will be examined to determine that.

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Case Title</td>
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the audit procedure

In keeping with accepted, traditional audit practices, visits by the Program Audit team are unannounced. This is not done for any ulterior motive to surprise or embarrass the unit or individual staff, but rather to arrive and be able to examine records and case folders in the condition they would exist on any given day. In fact, audit teams are instructed to make discreet inquiry before selecting a caseload for audit to determine if there are any legitimate reasons why it should not be audited at that time.

Upon arrival at a District Office, the Audit Team Chief informs the Regional Director of the team's presence at the location and asks if the Regional Director has any special interest area he would like the team to examine. As soon as practicable after arrival, the team meets with the Unit Supervisor and the counselors whose caseloads are to be audited, as a minimum. Other staff are invited to attend, if they have an interest and if their duties permit. The purpose of the meeting is to acquaint, or reacquaint, the team with the staff, to describe briefly the nature of their planned activity, to reduce insofar as possible the natural apprehension attending an audit, and to establish a comfortable, harmonious working relationship for the duration of their visit.

Once a work area has been established for the review team, each member will normally request the ten-case, pre-selected sample from one of the caseloads to be examined. Auditors are not bound to this procedure, but it is the logical starting place most frequently used. The number of caseloads to be examined will vary according to the size of the unit. Normally two caseloads will be audited in a smaller unit and four or more in a larger unit. Several data collection instruments are used in the audit process. An important form is the PAB-4a (p.12). A separate form is
the audit report

Once the information has been gathered the audit team begins immediately to prepare the audit report. The elapsed time from the start of an audit until the report is distributed ranges from approximately three weeks for a two-caseload audit to six months for a four-caseload audit.

The Division Chief and the audit team conduct a critique of their findings with the Regional Director before the report is finalized. This allows the Regional Director to contribute any special information or knowledge he possesses that might have a bearing on the findings.

Departures from agency policy are identified in a List of Exceptions preceding the Table of Contents in the report. Regional Directors are required to respond to the exceptions within 45 days after receipt of the report.

The audit report is a combination of narrative and graphic presentation of the audit team findings. As previously indicated the balance and distributions of cases within the audited caseloads are indicated by completed PAA-1 and -2 forms. Departures from agency policy within audited caseloads are shown on a completed PAB-4, Profile of Case Deficiencies (p.17). The presence of three or more entries on the horizontal plane is considered to constitute an undesirable trend. A short narrative description of each deficiency reflected on the profile is included in the report.

Four copies of the report are distributed to the Regional Director. Reports are constructed in such a manner that all information pertaining to a specific caseload is contained in one section, allowing convenient reproduction and sharing of the contents with the counselor involved.

Copies of audit reports are also distributed to the Commissioner, the Deputy Commissioners, the Assistant Deputy Commissioners and other interested Central Office staff who may be able to identify causes and implement corrective actions for deficiencies or weaknesses reflected in audit reports. A master copy of the audit report is retained permanently in the Program Audit files. Back-up material is retained for a minimum of six months or until litigation is final in those instances involving civil or criminal matters.

The Program Audit Division is particularly alert to identify and report exemplary casework to the Commissioner. Official recognition of quality service to TRC clients from the Commissioner to the responsible counselor can be anticipated and such recognition serves to enhance the development and career progression of the individual involved.
follow-up process. Contact is established with the client and/or the employer to determine that the conditions of employment set forth on the Closure Contact Report (TRC-418) are accurate; that the client was employed on the date of closure, and was employed for the required minimum period. The audit team will normally respect the counselor's restriction if there are compelling reasons why a client's employer should not be contacted and those reasons have been documented on the TRC-418. However, under certain circumstances, such as wholesale, poorly documented restrictions, the audit team may make discreet inquiries in a manner that will not compromise the client for the purpose of verifying closure information.

From time to time, additional ten-case samples will be obtained of cases closed in Statuses 28 and 30.

Copies of client services requisitions issued since the beginning of the fiscal year or within the last six months, whichever period is greater, are examined to determine that none are missing; that supervisory approval has been obtained for those back-dated over ten days; to discern payments in excess of the Maximum Affordable Payment Schedule (MAPS), and to identify any unusual or exceptional trends or patterns of expenditure.

A cursory examination is made of all cases in the District Office that have remained open in excess of five years for the purpose of determining that continued services are justified and that reasonable progress is being made in the rehabilitation process.

An after hours security check is accomplished to ascertain if appropriate care is being taken to safeguard the confidentiality of client information and that TRC property and supplies are secure in the absence of TRC employees.

Selected areas of interest relative to personnel, purchasing and supply, and staff services are examined based on a checklist provided and kept up-dated by the Assistant Commissioner for Field Administrative Services and the appropriate department heads.

Unit personnel are tested regarding their knowledge of Civil Rights, and unit files are examined to determine the scope and extent of activity related to Civil Rights/Equal Opportunity training, recruitment, staffing, etc. The responsibilities of Program Audit in monitoring these activities are more fully described in the TRC Civil Rights Manual.

Supervisory Case Service Reviews accomplished by the Supervisor in the last two full calendar quarters are examined to determine the adequacy of review, method of control, promptness of counselor corrective action and the Supervisor's system of follow-up. Patterns of recurring deficiencies are identified, where they exist.

Structured interviews are conducted, as a minimum, with the unit supervisor and the counselors whose caseloads have been audited to permit the opportunity for their input. Other personnel may be interviewed if they indicate a desire or as may be appropriate to the circumstances.

Depending on the number of caseloads being audited and the conditions encountered, the audit team may be required to return to the office for a second visit. There may or may not be an interval between visits. If there is an interval, that time will be used by the audit team to analyze their findings thus far, to begin drafting a report and to determine what remains to be done on their return to the office.
Ms. Susan Stoddard
Berkeley Planning Associates
3200 Adeline Street
Berkeley, California 94703

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

This letter is in response to yours of April 6, 1981 concerning our agency's use of case flagging and quality assurance techniques. The following is an item-by-item breakdown of the tools and techniques we currently use in monitoring case movement and potential undue delay:

- **Case Flagging**
  We do not have a computerized case flagging procedure at this time. The tools we use are as follows:

  - **Time In Status Report (attachment #1).**
    We teach our supervisors and counselors to draw a line as shown on the attachment. Cases appearing outside of this line require explanation. This is not to say that a case outside of the line is necessarily being mishandled, but it does require the counselor and supervisor to discuss why the case has been in status so long.

  - **Masterlist (attachment #2).**
    This is used in conjunction with the time in status report. The information available is generally well known and self explanatory.

  - **Area Supervisor Case Reviews.**
    They are required to review a minimum number of cases a month to assure both technical and service delivery quality.

  - **Management Review Team.**
    A team of rehabilitation supervisors who, on a periodic basis, review cases in a region of the state to assist in assuring quality control.
### Profile of Case Deficiencies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deficiency Description</th>
<th>RSM Reference</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Application</td>
<td>02-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diagnostics</td>
<td>02-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disability Code</td>
<td>02-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSI/SSDI Coding</td>
<td>02-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of Medical Consultant</td>
<td>02-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eligibility</td>
<td>02-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eligibility Certificate</td>
<td>02-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Documentation Emp. Handicap</td>
<td>02-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IWRP</td>
<td>02-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocational Assessment</td>
<td>10-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocational Objective</td>
<td>10-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquisition of Economic Data</td>
<td>10-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justification of Economic Need</td>
<td>10-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>18-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Similar Benefits</td>
<td>02-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Status</td>
<td>18-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Client Contact</td>
<td>02-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counseling and Guidance</td>
<td>02-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Progress Reports</td>
<td>08-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Placement</td>
<td>12-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supervisory Approval</td>
<td>xi, xii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corrective Action</td>
<td>18-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-Employment Service</td>
<td>14-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recovery of Tools/Equip.</td>
<td>22-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-Employment Service</td>
<td>14-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corrective Action</td>
<td>18-6</td>
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<td>14-2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As with any audit or inspection report, its value lies in the use to which it is put. While the Program Audit Division has no authority or control over the use of the reports it produces, it is anticipated that where weaknesses are identified, the report can be utilized to encourage continued quality performance.

And, where strengths are identified, the report can be utilized to encourage continued quality performance.

---

It appears there might be a layout issue with the table not displaying correctly. If you have any specific questions or need further assistance, feel free to ask!
Ms. Susan Stoddard  
May 29, 1981  

- Caseload Inventory.  (attachment #9)  
  A reference document that shows the make-up of a caseload  
  by disability group and status.

- Rules Of Thumb:  
  - A contact with any case at least every 90 days  
  - 30% or less of the caseload in statuses 00 and 02.

The agency is in the process of converting to its own computer and this move,  
will expand its capabilities to more efficiently monitor caseload management.

Also attached is a copy of the participative Management-By-Objective system that  
we use with VR Counselors and Supervisors. This material is somewhat dated but  
it gives the basics of the results-oriented system that we use. (attachment #10)

If you need more material or explanation, please do not hesitate to call on us.

Sincerely,

Terrell I. Murphy  
Supervisor  
VR Field Services  

TM/csm  
Attachments
Quality Assurance
Many of the items mentioned above, and:

- Quality Assurance Training.
  Our Area Supervisors received the J.W.K. Program in 1979 to heighten agency awareness.

- Federal Case Review Schedule.
  All supervisors are trained in the use of the Case Review Schedule (formerly San Diego Case Review Schedule)

- The Program Evaluation Unit.
  This unit is constantly doing studies to assess the quality of our service delivery division. The last five study topics were:
  
  - Study of Utilization of Similar Benefits
  - Study of Variables that Impact on Employment and Income of Legally and Totally Blind Rehabilitants
  - Study of the Use of Personal Skills by Blind Persons
  - Study of the Use of Low Vision Services and Facilities
  - Study of Counselor Responses to Medical Abnormalities

- Chapters 2 (The V.R. Process) and 18 (Standards for Service Delivery and Case Recording) (attachment #3).
  These two chapters speak to the issues of proper process. Our entire V.R. Manual has been redone in the last year-and-a-half using the Information Mapping style shown in these two chapters and our staff find it very easy to read.

- Supervisors Composite Report (attachment #4).
  This report shows key case flow data for an entire area to help monitor trends that will help the supervisor know what area(s) to emphasize with staff in general.

- Supervisors Cumulative Report (attachment #5).
  This gives the supervisor key data about the various caseloads in an area allowing for more detailed analysis begun with the preceding form.

- Monthly Case Service Expenditure Report (attachment #6).
  This allows the supervisor to easily see exactly where a VRC is spending money in any given month and on which clients.

- Case Services Cumulative Expenditure Report (attachment #7).
  This enables the supervisor to readily see the major items on which each counselor in the area is spending during the year and gives an areawide total.

- 26 Closure Report (attachment #8).
  With this, the supervisor and counselor can, on a monthly basis, assess the types of closures on a caseload, their cost, and other pertinent data.
April 24, 1981

M A S T E R L I S T

This document is generated on the 300 and monthly update by the counselor. A new computer printout of the master list is sent to each counselor once a month. From the master list coordinators, supervisors, and counselors can quickly review the statuses of their cases by name, referral source, months in status, and severely disabled designation. This document also gives information as to SSDI/SSI allowed or denied status. Cases that are in statuses beyond a specified time are then reviewed and action taken. This computer produced document is the most accessible printout to measure problems and concerns of specific clients in any given caseload. This also prints out closed cases by status which then is compared to their progress as projected by each counselor for the year.

Attached is a copy of a master list.
April 24, 1981

Susan Stoddard
Project Director
Berkeley Planning Associates
3200 Adeline Street
Berkeley, California  94703

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

Enclosed please find information requested by your letter dated April 6, 1981. I believe that this information is self-explanatory.

In addition to quality and quantity control, we conduct periodic caseload reviews by coordinators, supervisors, counselors, and our evaluation specialist. I am sure you are aware of the state and federal administrative program reviews that are conducted which aids us a great deal in taking an objective look at our procedures.

I hope this information will be useful to you, and if we can be of any further help, please let us know.

Sincerely,

HARVEY C. HIRSCHI, Administrator
Division of Rehabilitation Services

ac
Attachments
MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: CASE FILE REVIEW--DRS-19

Client identification is made from a computer sample on a random basis which is sent to the district supervisors for case review each month. The form is completed by the supervisor and counselor with copies appropriately distributed with the original being sent to the state office. This information is compiled on a district level by percentages with the report then going back to the district supervisors. General and specific trends can be identified as to the adequate services being directed to clients so identified.
MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: QUARTERLY CUMULATIVE STATISTICAL REPORT

This document is generated from the R-300 and the update of the Master List. This information is sent to the field where district supervisors and counselors can compare their caseload functions not only with their own progress, but with their colleagues, district and state.

This information is used by the supervisor and state personnel for selected caseload reviews in identified areas of concern that are printed out by the computer.
April 21, 1981

Ms. Susan Stoddard
Project Director
Berkeley Planning Associates
3200 Adeline Street
Berkeley, California  94703

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

This is in response to your request for materials regarding case flagging and quality assurance procedures. Enclosed for your review are the various forms utilized to facilitate these monitoring processes. These reports are submitted on a regular basis and progress (or lack of it) can be readily identified.

In the Casework Requirements series, certain conditions have to be met before a status change can occur. Before a counselor can effectuate a status advance for any client, the Requirements must be reviewed and signed by the supervisor. In addition to the above, I have included a copy of our Manual's, Table of Contents, in the event you might want additional information on a specific subject.

I hope that this material is useful to you. Please feel free to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Respectfully,

David M. Mentasti
Director
See Case Service Manual Appendix F for detailed instructions.

Review Codes: 1 - Coordinator; 2 - Supervisor; 3 - (other)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Time in Status months</th>
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District No: [ ] Counselor No: [ ] Client No: [ ]

1. **R-4**, Application complete/signed 1 No 2 Yes
2. **R-300**, Case Service Report in file

3. Adequate diagnostic records in file
4. **R-31**, Disability Consultation, complete/signed
5. **R-62**, Certificate of Eligibility, complete/signed
6. **R-62a**, SSI/SSDI Selection Criteria, complete if appropriate
7. **R-11**, and **R-300** Case appropriately classified as SD or non-SD.

**Reviewer comments:**

8. **R-4a** and **R-48** complete/up-to-date, if appropriate
9. **R-11** entry relates client's disability to substantial vocational handicap through a diagnostic statement of the handicap, and a description of client's functional limitations?

**Reviewer comments:**

10. **R-5**, IWRP completed and approved with current amendments, to include 5a and 5b as appropriate.
11. **R-5** and **R-11**, Is Client's vocational goal (IWRP) compatible with diagnostic studies, medical consultant recommendations, job market demands, client interests, etc. and justified by R-11 entry detailing counselor rationale?
12. **R-5** and **R-11**, are IWRP intermediate objectives measurable, and is there (R-11) evidence that the objectives have been monitored and amended as necessary?

**Reviewer comments:**

13. **R-5** and **R-11**, Has action been documented of counselor effort to seek similar benefits (if appropriate), when DRS funds are utilized?
14. **R-59** (or letter), Has information been shared with referral source(s)/cooperating agencies as appr?
15. Are progress reports (vendor, service agency, training, etc.) in case file complete and up-to-date?

**Reviewer comments:** 1 Inadequate 2 Adequate

17. Organization/content of case folder.

**Reviewer comments:**

18. Reviewer's judgment of overall quality of case management.

**Reviewer comments:** 1 Below Standard 2 Acceptable 3 Above Standard

19. **R-11**'s Initial interviews, contact reports, etc.
20. Are receipts of equipment/prosthetic appliances, restoration checklists, etc. in case file, as appropriate?
21. Has appropriate action been taken regarding reusable equipment?
22. Recommendations of the Reviewer.

1 Continuous monitoring of case activity until acceptable performance is achieved
2 Case to be followed up by supervisor in ___ days
3 Routine review

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Reviewer's signature

249
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNSELOR:</th>
<th>DATE:</th>
<th>OFFICE:</th>
<th>REPORTING PERIOD:</th>
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<tr>
<th>INWR's to be written by</th>
<th>Month</th>
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<td>Client's Name -</td>
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</table>

Cases to be closed in status 08 by

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<th>Month</th>
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Cases to be closed in status 26 by

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<tr>
<th>Client's Name -</th>
<th>Month</th>
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Cases to be closed in status 28 by

<table>
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<th>Client's Name -</th>
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Cases to be closed in status 30 by

<table>
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251

Supervisor's Signature
Agency of Human Services  
Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services  
VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION DIVISION  
Waterbury, Vermont

MASTER LIST OF CASES  
(Individual Case Progress Sheet)

<table>
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<th>Counselor</th>
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252
When closing the case in 08 or changing the status from 02-10 to 06-10, each counselor will complete this form and attach it to the certificate of eligibility or closure summary.

Depending upon the case action, this form should be completed as indicated below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>00 - 08</th>
<th>02 - 08</th>
<th>06 - 08</th>
<th>02 - 10</th>
<th>06 - 10</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 - 8</td>
<td>1 - 15</td>
<td>1 - 23</td>
<td>9 - 12, 19 - 19, 24</td>
<td>9 - 12, 17 - 22, 24</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Explanation of requirements with not applicable (N/A) designation.

12. Meeting and review with the client/referral and/or representative for full discussion prior to the closure action, except when:
   a. There is evidence in the record to substantiate counselors efforts to arrange appointments (at least two letters) issuing or confirming appointments, which are not kept and there is no response.
   b. The client/referral by own written statement or by that of a legal representative refuses the discussion.
   c. The client/referral or representative, requests the closure, in writing or verbally.
   d. The client/referral or representative, requests the closure, in writing or verbally.
   e. The client/referral or representative requests the closure, in writing or verbally.
   f. There are intervening reasons which would make such a meeting impractical or impossible: 1. died; 2. moved out of state; 3. unable to contact; 4. institutionalized and unavailable; 5. other reasons similar to the aforementioned.
   g. In every instance where intervening reasons other than death prevent a meeting and discussion with the client/referral or representative, a letter will be sent informing of the right to reconsideration/appeal if it is so desired. (Also, a copy to referral source or other appropriate individuals.) At least 3 weeks advance notice should be given.

16. Applies only to client receiving SSI/SSI benefits at time of closure.

17,15. Checked according to type of closure action.

13. Determinations of eligibility may be based on factors of no disabling condition.
   a. No vocational handicap, handicap too severe, or unfavorable progress. If the case is closed handicap too severe, the closure narrative will indicate the date of annual review after closure.

12. If client has no mental or emotional disorders this requirement would be checked not applicable (N/A).

19. If no specialty examinations and/or evaluations were necessary this would be checked not applicable (N/A).

The section "Notes/Comments" is to be used by the supervisor to note remarks relating to the need for corrective action or additional information to meet the casework requirements.

Special Note

Supervisors are not to sign the form unless the record meets all casework requirements. If corrections or additions are necessary the supervisor should note this and return to the counselor, unsigned.
### Casebook Requirements A

#### Closure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status Code</th>
<th>00 - 08</th>
<th>02 - 08</th>
<th>06 - 08</th>
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#### Status Change

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<td>17 - 12</td>
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</tbody>
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1. [ ] R-300 is completed with referral information - Name, address, sex, D.O.B., disability, referral source, date of referral.

2. [ ] Prior to closure action the basis was discussed with the referral/client, parent or guardian. N/A

3. [ ] Letter sent to referral/client informing of the determination to close and rights of reconsideration/appeal.

4. [ ] Letter sent to referral source indicating reasons for closure and closure action.

5. [ ] Referral is made to other agencies as appropriate, contacting the receiving agency and forwarding of necessary information.

6. [ ] 853 document completed. N/A

7. [ ] R-300 is completed 00 - 08, closure information correctly coded. N/A

8. [ ] Closure narrative; completed and stating counselor's basis for closure.

9. [ ] Application completed and signed.

10. [ ] Initial interview completed within 30 days of client signing application; observations, medical/psychological history, employment history, vocational objective, educational history, socio/economic, family history, clients expectations from VR and counselor actions.

11. [ ] Evidence that medical documentation was requested and/or authorized.

12. [ ] Evidence that goals of the next meeting were discussed with client.

13. [ ] Signature of medical consultant to indicate agreement with closure for ineligibility. N/A

14. [ ] Certificate of ineligibility is completed and signed. N/A

---

15. [ ] The conclusion of any outstanding business - cancellation of unused authorizations, all bills processed and paid.

16. [ ] R-300 is completed 02 - 08, closure information correctly coded. N/A

17. [ ] General medical is completed and recent (within 6 months).

18. [ ] Psychological, psychiatric examinations are obtained if applicant has mental or emotional disorder. N/A

19. [ ] Specialty examinations and/or evaluations were obtained. N/A

20. [ ] Certificate of eligibility for extended evaluation is completed and signed by counselor and supervisor.

21. [ ] Extended evaluation - IMP completed objectives and services indicated and a narrative including the basis for Extended evaluation and benchmarks to be reached to determine feasibility.

22. [ ] Progress in extended evaluation was evaluated according to the IMP at least every 90 days.

23. [ ] R-300 is completed 05 - 08, closure information correctly coded.

24. [ ] Certificate of eligibility is completed and signed by counselor and supervisor.

---

**NOTES/COMMENTS (BY NUMBER)**

---

Counselor: ______________________ Date: ____________

Supervisor: _____________________ Date: ____________

---

254
When writing any Individualized Written Rehabilitation Plan (IWRP) this form will be completed and attached to part 2 of the IWRP document.

Depending upon the type of plan being written, Vocational or Extended Evaluation, this form should be completed as indicated below.

| 10 - 12 | 1 - 3, 5 - 9 |
| 02 - 06 | 1 - 9 |

Note

Cases in which a plan for Extended Evaluation and Vocational Plan are written will each have a separate form attached to the IWRP document.

Explanation of requirements with not applicable, (N/A □), designation.

#1.b. As this requirement deals with a vocational direction it will apply only to vocational plans. Extended Evaluation plans would be checked not applicable.

#3. This requirement deals with vocational goal. (See above)

#6. Applies only to SSDI/SSI cases.

The section Notes/Comments is to be used by the supervisor to note remarks relating to the need for corrective action or additional information to meet the casework requirements.

Special Note

Supervisors are not to sign the form unless the IWRP meets all casework requirements. If corrections or additions are necessary the supervisor should note this and return to the counselor, unsigned.
A plan rationale which indicates:

a. That pertinent problems and questions have been thoroughly checked out and appropriate service needs identified.

b. Sufficient exploration in choosing a vocational direction, through the process of assessment and evaluation.

N/A

c. That contingencies are anticipated before plan is formulated so that provision can be made.

d. The ultimate goal of the plan and how this is to be accomplished.

The plan rationale considers physical, psychological, social, vocational, educational and other factors which bear on or are pertinent to the applicants/clients rehabilitation process.

Clear and concise IWRF document in the case consisting of client identification, vocational goal, N/A, a fully developed listing of all the intermediate objectives, dates of beginning to completion and the cost to the Division as well as through other resources being applied.

The extended evaluation plan rationale specifically related to; the additional information needed to decide on rehabilitation potential and assess the possibility of overcoming problems and barriers related to employability.

5. Identified as severely disabled. Yes No

6. Special Selection Criteria Worksheet completed, signed and in the record.

N/A

7. Copy of clients rights and responsibilities signed by the client or parent/guardian, in the record.

8. Copy of the IWRF, signed by client or parent/guardian in the record.

9. IWRF is maintained as a separate part of the case record.

NOTES/COMMENTS (by number)
When moving any case into status 20, this form will be completed in its entirety and attached to the progress sheet on which the status change narrative is typed.

Explanation of the requirements with not applicable (N/A □) designation.

2. Applies only to those cases in which the planned services are longer than one year in duration.

The section "Notes/Comments" is to be used by the supervisor to note remarks relating to the need for corrective action or additional information to meet the casework requirements.

Special Note

Supervisors are not to sign the form unless the record meets all casework requirements. If corrections or additions are necessary, the supervisor should note this and return to the counselor, unsigned.
1. Movement to status 20 must include:
   a. [ ] A narrative evaluation which represents the basis for the status change and affirms in measurable terms the client's readiness to accomplish status 20's IMRP objectives.
   b. [ ] The narrative evaluation demonstrates how the client's IMRP and vocational goals are still consistent and supported by information obtained to date.
   c. [ ] The narrative record and IMRP supplement indicate what actions the counselor plans with the client to accomplish placement.

2. [ ] Review of the total IMRP (its outcomes and planned actions and objectives was conducted at least annually.)
   N/A [ ]

3. [ ] Actions planned and scheduled in the IMRP and possible amendments were accomplished or, if not, are explained.

4. [ ] Contact has been maintained with the client (at least once every 2 months), and the outcomes of the contacts are reflected in timely and concise case recording. If not, their absence is explained.

5. [ ] Additions and amendments to the IMRP are correctly reflected in the case.

6. [ ] The Review and Evaluation of Progress section of the IMRP is utilized to record completion of the various objectives.

NOTES/COMMENTS (by number)
When closing a case in status 30, 28, or 26, this form will be completed and attached to the closure summary.

Depending upon the type of closure, this form should be completed as indicated below.

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<th>10 - 30</th>
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<tr>
<td>14, 16, 18, 22, 24 - 28</td>
<td>1 - 12</td>
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<td>22 - 26</td>
<td>9 - 21</td>
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Explanation of requirements with not applicable (N/A √) designation.

#2. Meeting and review with the client, parent or guardian for full discussion prior to the closure action, accept when:

a. There is evidence in the record to substantiate counselor's efforts to arrange appointments (at least two letters) issuing or confirming appointments, which are not kept and there is no response.

b. The client, by own written statement or by that of a legal representative, refuses the discussion.

c. The client or representative requests the closure, in writing or verbally.

d. There are intervening reasons which would make such a meeting impractical or impossible; 1. died; 2. moved out-of-state; 3. unable to contact; 4. institutionalized and unavailable; 5. other reasons similar to the aforementioned.

e. In every instance where intervening reasons other than death prevent a meeting and discussion with the client or representative, a letter will be sent informing of the right to reconsideration/appeal if it is so desired. (Also, a copy to referral source or other appropriate individuals): At least 3 weeks advance notice should be given.

#5. Referrals may be made to mental health agencies, V.R. in other states etc., however, the referral should be discussed with the client in advance.

#6. In cases where more experience and/or new information leads to a finding of handicap too severe, with no reasonable expectation of employability, a certification of ineligibility is completed and annual review requirements are observed.

#8. Applies only to cases closed in status 28.

#11. Applies only to clients receiving SSDI/SSI benefits at time of closure.

#20. Applies only to those cases in the SSDI/SSI caseload.

The section "Notes/Comments" is to be used by the supervisor to note remarks relating to the need for corrective action or additional information to meet the casework requirements.

Special Note

Supervisors are not to sign the form unless the record meets all casework requirements. If corrections or additions are necessary the supervisor should note this and return to the counselor, unsigned.
1. The R-300 is complete and the closure reason is coded. Status 28 or 30.

2. Prior to closure action, the basis was discussed with the client, parent or guardian. N/A

3. Letter sent to client informing of the determination to close and rights of reconsideration/appeal.

4. Letter sent to referral source indicating reasons for closure and closure action.

5. Referral is made to other agencies as appropriate, contacting the receiving agency and forwarding of necessary information. N/A

6. Certificate of ineligibility is completed and signed. N/A

7. Closure narrative, status 28 & 30. To include; brief synopsis of services provided, the outcome and reasons for closure.

8. VR services for accomplishing the IWFP's objectives were provided as planned and scheduled, up to the closure, and if not, reasons are given. N/A

9. The conclusion of any outstanding business, cancellation of unused authorizations, all bills processed and paid.

10. Contact has been maintained with the client (at least once every 2 months), and the outcome of the contacts are reflected in timely and concise case recordings, if not, their absence is explained.

11. 853 document completed. N/A

12. Additions and amendments to the IWFP are correctly reflected in the case.

13. The R-300 is completed and the closure reason is coded. Status 26.

14. The Review and Evaluation of Progress section of the IWFP is utilized to record completion of the various objectives.

15. Planned actions were carried out as scheduled, or, if not, are explained.

16. The services provided in the IWFP are clearly contributory in a substantial way to the employment.

17. Substantial placement services by counselor were provided, or, if not there is an indication of how placement was accomplished.

18. There is a clear relationship between the services and vocational outcome.

19. The employment is determined to be satisfactory and has been maintained for a period of not less than 60 days.

20. The level of employment is commensurate with the SGA level. N/A

21. A complete closure summary which includes; a summary of services provided and the results, the employment situation including, employer, place, salary, type of job and a clear indication post-employment services were explained and planned where appropriate.

NOTES/COMMENTS: (by number)
each month. One copy is also retained in Central Headquarters for use as needed by the Quality Control staff or administrative personnel. The two left handed circled columns report the client's current status and the date the client entered that status. The set of columns on the right reports the number of months the client has been in each status from the date of referral to the date of the report.

These flowsheets are used by counselor and supervisor to plan and monitor caseload management, including rate of service delivery. When there is question for a specific aspect of caseflow, the Director of Vocational Rehabilitation reviews the flowsheets or has the Quality Control staff perform any needed summary of data.

2. Statistical Tables I, II, III (exhibit #2) - These tables summarize the status of each counselor's caseload. They are distributed to all counselors, supervisors, and Quality Control staff. Among the items of information are the monthly referral backlog and monthly applicant backlog. This index is the number of cases on hand divided by the monthly average of cases processed, year-to-date. A high ratio is viewed as a "flag" by counselor, supervisor, and administrative staff. As a "flag", it may be used by staff to examine the flowsheets. This examination will determine if the high ratio is a function of an undue length of time in referral or applicant status for the caseload as a whole, or is a function of a high number of new referrals or applicants.

3. Report of Unusually Inactive Clients - The Vocational Rehabilitation Accountant annually compiles a list of open clients for whom there has been no financial expenditure for a two year period. This list of clients is forwarded to the individual case supervisor for
May 1, 1981

Ms. Susan Stoddard
Project Director
Berkeley Planning Associates
3200 Adeline Street
Berkeley, California 94703

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

Mr. Coppage has asked that I answer your request for information regarding the Agency's monitoring and control of the rate of service delivery to clients.

The primary responsibility for monitoring and control of the rate of service delivery lies with the counselors and the case supervisor. We do not believe it necessary to have an elaborate system specifically for identifying undue delay in service delivery. The reasons for this are twofold: First, comparison of our Agency's performance with that of others indicates that our performance in this area is very satisfactory. Second, reports available about caseload flow are widely disseminated among supervisors, counselors, administrative staff, and Quality Control unit. Hence, specific problems are likely to very quickly emerge without formal communication. The three reports containing information about rate of service delivery we use are:

1. Counselor Flowsheets (exhibit #1) - Copies of these are sent to the VR counselor, the VR field secretary, and the case supervisor...
BVR CASE RECORDING STANDARDS

Why have case recording standards?

There are two (2) basic reasons why the BVR is adopting case recording standards:
1. To promote good case planning and casework practices,
2. To comply with federal recording requirements.

The elements of BVR case recording which are being standardized are:

I. Contact Reports
II. IWRP Closure Narrative
III. Other

These three (3) elements of case recording to be standardized are discussed in more detail in the remainder of this paper.

* * * * * * *

I. Contact Reports

There will be six (6) instances in which narrative contact reports by the VR counselor will be required. These are:

A. Initial interview
B. When referral/applicant is determined to be eligible, ineligible, or is placed in extended evaluation (status 06)
C. When the initial IWRP is written (status 12)
D. Every six (6) months while case is in active status (statuses 10-24)
E. When client enters employment (status 22)
F. When client enters post-employment (status 32)

Required content for the above-listed six (6) type of contact reports is as follows:

A. Initial Interview

This contact report reflects the VR counselor's first interview with the referral. It must contain; at a minimum, the following information:

1. How the referral came to VR, including a brief summary of the referral information
2. A statement that VR services were explained to the referral/applicant
3. A statement that the referred individual has been informed of his/her civil rights, right to confidentiality of personal information, and the right to administrative review and fair hearing
4. Referral's apparent or self-reported level of independent functioning
5. Referral's apparent or self-reported limitations imposed by the visual disability

March, 1981
follow up with the counselor.

We have not felt the need to set explicit maximum standards for "time in status". We do not wish to emphasize the rate of service delivery at the expense of the quality of service delivery. However, we have recently adopted overall caseload recording standards (exhibit #3). These are intended to assist counselor and supervisor in managing their caseload. Implicit in these standards is that contact with the active client occurs at a minimum once every six months. We may shortly be developing plans to monitor the effectiveness and compliance with these standards.

I hope the enclosed information and attachments will be of help to you. Please contact me if you wish further information.

Sincerely,

Mary Arginteanu
Rehabilitation Specialist

WTC/MA:hcm

cc: Thomas C. Michael
    William T. Coppage

Attachments
for the status 10 and status 12 contact reports; or he/she may do two or three separate contact reports dated the same day, each moving the case through one status (Example: A client's case is being accepted and moved to status 16 on February 15. Technically the case moves from 02 to 10 to 12 to 16 on February 15. The counselor may do one contact report addressing the required elements for accepting a case and also addressing the required status 12 & 16 contact report items. If the counselor does one contact report, the "status this report" box on the contact report form should read "10-12-16". The alternative approach is to do a contact report moving the case from 02 to 10, another contact report moving the case from 10 to 12, and a third contact report moving the case from 12 to 16.

D. Every six (6) months while case is in active status (statuses 10-24)

Progress/contact reports will be required periodically (every six months seems reasonable) while client is in active status. The purpose of these reports is to document progress made in the case, significant developments or problems encountered.

The six month requirement for cases in active VR status should be viewed as a minimum requirement. Special circumstances sometimes arise in which the counselor should not wait until six months later to do a contact report. This is an area in which the counselor must rely on his/her own best judgment. Examples of situations in which the counselor may wish to do a contact report without waiting up to six months would include:

- change of vocational goal
- change of rehabilitation status number
- illness which interrupts client's rehabilitation program
- etc.

The SOAP model is recommended for structuring these contact reports. An explanation of the SOAP model is as follows:

S = SUBJECT (client's name, date, status, why the contact took place)
O = OBJECTIVE (what developments led up to this contact, what has been going on in the case since the last report, what happened during the contact/interview)
A = APPRAISAL (the VR counselor's interpretation of the facts covered in "O" above, the VR counselor's opinion as to the meaning of the developments reported in "O" above)
P = PLANS (what plans and/or action steps will the client and/or counselor make/do now)

E. When the client enters employment (status 22)

This contact report must contain:

1. The job title and a brief description of the job the client is entering
2. Explain how the job was located/acquired

March, 1981
6. Referral's family situation
7. VR counselor's observations as to apparent rehabilitation potential
8. What additional diagnostic studies/reports are needed to establish eligibility, and what is being done to obtain these studies/reports

B. When referral/applicant is determined to be eligible, ineligible, or is placed in extended evaluation (status 06)

ELIGIBLE
1. Summary of findings from the diagnostic studies; must address the following areas:
   - medical
   - vocational
   - educational
   - social
   Relate these findings to items 2-5 below.
2. Explain why the disabling condition(s) of the client is(are) handicapping to employment
3. Explain why the client has the potential to eventually obtain employment
4. Explain how VR services will assist the client to become employable
5. Mention any plans for further diagnostic or evaluative studies

INELIGIBLE
6. When a case is being closed in status 08 (not eligible for VR services), explain how the individual does not meet at least one of the following conditions:
   a. presence of a visual disability which causes a handicap to employment,
   b. presence of a reasonable expectation that VR services will improve the individual's employability

STATUS 06
7. When a case is being placed in extended evaluation to determine rehabilitation potential (status 06) the following requirements must be documented in the contact report:
   a. presence of visual disability, or a combination of visual and other disabilities, which impose(s) a handicap to employment.
   b. Uncertainty as to whether VR services can improve the individual's employability. Be specific as to areas of uncertainty, such as health, stamina, skills, level of intellectual functioning, etc.

C. When the initial IWRP is written

State the vocational goal and explain how planned VR services will lead to attainment of the goal. Also explain why this particular vocational goal has been developed for/with this particular client.

When a case is being accepted and moved through several statuses in one day, the counselor may do one contact report which addresses all required items

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This narrative must explain why the client no longer is expected to benefit from VR services. Occasionally a case will be approved for VR services and moved into status 10, then closed in status 30 before an IWRP is written. In such cases (closure in status 30 from status 10), a closing contact report must be done since there is no IWRP.

D. Closure from Post-Employment

Summarize what occurred during the time that the case was in post-employment services, what VR services were rendered, and the outcome of post-employment services. (Is client still employed? At what job?) Identify the post-employment closure status (status 33-39) in which the case is being closed.

III. Other

A. VR counselors are to continue to distribute to VR referrals/applicants, during the initial interview, the half-page civil rights statement (RD-37). This form is being updated to include additional rights for the handicapped which have come into existence in recent years.

B. VR counselors are to continue using the form letter (RD-6) to notify clients of closure in status 08.

C. The 1978 version of the Rehabilitation Act appears to state that the VR client has the right to see all the contents of his/her case folder. We are waiting for issuance of the final implementing regulations to include this requirement in our own policy. VR staff should be aware of the probability of VR clients in future having the right to see their entire case folder. This will mean that VR staff must be objective in their reporting of client behaviors. Any assessment or opinion of VR staff which appears in the case folder will have to be supported by "objective" facts. The counselor's observations of a client's behavior is "objective" if the counselor describes client behaviors and avoids making value judgments (do not say, "Client is lazy and unmotivated to work"; say "Client has failed to keep two employment interviews, and has turned down a job offer for a job which is compatible with his/her aptitudes and stated interests").

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3. Explain why the job seems suitable for the client.
   Explain any problems which the client may be having on the job (ability to do the job tasks, other workers, transportation, etc.); and what is being done to resolve any problems.

5. Mention any outstanding bills.

6. If the job obtained constitutes a major change in the client's vocational goal, explain how/why.

F. When the case enters Post-Employment Status (status 32)

This contact report is to contain:

1. A statement of problem(s).
2. An explanation of how additional VR services will solve the problem(s).

* * * * * * * *

Please note that a narrative contact report is not required when closing a case which has an IWRP (status 06-08, 26, 28, most 30's and 33-39). The narrative on the closure section of the IWRP form will suffice in those instances.

II. IWRP

A narrative must be done on the closure section of the IWRP form for those cases which have IWRPs (status 06-08, 26, 28, some 30's and 33-39). The required information for these reports follows:

A. Status 06 to 08 closure

Discuss the findings obtained from the diagnostic/evaluative studies; and use this information to show that the client cannot reasonably be expected to improve in employability as a result of VR services.

B. Status 26 closure

1. The basis on which the case is being closed as rehabilitated (client is employed or is functioning as a homemaker), weekly gross earnings at closure, whether the job is full-time or part-time.
2. A statement of how the client has made a satisfactory adjustment to the job.
3. A statement that the client and employer are both satisfied.
4. A listing of VR services which were rendered; and how these services helped the client obtain and maintain employment.
5. A statement of whether post-employment services are planned.
6. A statement that the client has been informed that his/her case is being closed.

C. Status 28 and 30 closure

March, 1981
If you have any questions feel free to contact me at (206) 753-0784.

Sincerely,

Carl H. Rennewitz, Program Manager
Office of Management Services
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
OB-21C

CHR: jaw

c: Bill Griffith
Les James
Dear Ms. Stoddard:

Two methods of addressing the potential problem of a client whose rehabilitation process has been delayed.

The first is the organization-function process. The counselor is responsible to maintain the agency relationship for planning and negotiation with each client, and to follow along with the client. The supervisor of the counselor has the responsibility of case review, documenting the review, analyzing any problems, and suggesting solutions to the counselor. Delays in case movement can be detected from narrative case recording entries, the basis of case documentation by the counselor.

Internal review teams composed of administrators, supervisors, and counselors from an organization unit other than that of a caseload counselor periodically review a sample of each caseload to look for compliance to established policy and procedure. Reports are assembled based on aggregated findings, not individual client records.

The second method employs the job functions discussed in the first method prompted by our Integrated Client System (ICS) reporting mechanism. Standard-times-in-status have been established for the non-plan VR statuses. The plan status time standard used is the projected ending date of the plan. Each month ICS prepares a listing of clients for whom the counselor is responsible which provides time in VR status and flags those clients who have been in current status greater than the standard time for the status.

The supervisor receives an exception listing of those "over-standard" clients. The exception listing also gives those clients whose plans have expired, those closed clients to be contacted for an annual review, and other client "out-of-policy" conditions which can be detected from client data base elements.

Each counselor, supervisor, and administrator receive monthly a summary report which shows a snapshot of each client population including the out-of-standard-time variable.
Susan Stoddard
Project Director
Berkeley Planning Associates
3200 Adeline Street
Berkeley, California 94703

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

Our "flagging" procedures are very simple. The Supervisors review any status 02's after longer than three months; status 06's approximately every six months; and any other status that would seem to be unusually long term. Enclosed you will find the statistical documents that bring this to our attention.

Because we review every case at least annually, we are interested in programmatic evaluation and rarely use status alone, except to help pinpoint counselor case management problems.

Quality assurance is accomplished through Program Evaluation (copy enclosed) and Supervisor review. Enclosed you will also find a general outline that we use. This is then individualized according to each counselor's particular needs and goals into much more elaborate detail. Enclosed are two typical Supervisor's reviews.

I hope this is of some help.

Aye,

Bernard W. Giese
Field Services Director

BWG/jk

Enclosures
Ms. Susan Stoddard, Project Director  
Berkeley Planning Associates  
3200 Adeline Street  
Berkeley, California 94703  

Dear Ms. Stoddard:  

In your letter of April 6, 1981, you asked for copies of any materials which we use in our agency for:  

- Case flagging (procedures, manual chapters, review techniques, etc. to identify undue delays in statuses);  

- Quality assurance (monitoring, control, standards, etc.).  

I am sure that you already have the materials issued by the Rehabilitation Services Administration. We use those materials extensively in our work. We do not have any additional materials which would appear to be in line with your request.  

Sincerely yours,  

Earl W. Wolfe, Director