

The Texas Customized Self-Employment Project



The **TEXAS**
Customized
Self-Employment
Project



Grant



- Self-Employment is a viable option!
- Grant funded by the Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities
 - Third Year
 - Amount \$115,211 Match \$ 33,064
- Grant targets Community Healthcore's nine counties

Grant Structure



- Grant includes:
 - 4 Trainings and 2 Technical Assistance + Follow-up
 - ✦ Roger Shelley, Montana
 - ✦ Kim Brown, Canada
 - ✦ Marsha Katz, Illinois
 - Demonstrations
 - ✦ Includes Business Startup Funds
 - DVD Grant Overview

DVD Overview



Overview



- Self-Identification
- Business Proposal
- Launch

Self Identification



- **Chose Self-Employment**
 - Better integration into the community
 - Ability to supply accommodations as needed
 - Ability to regulate income
 - Ownership of resources for employment
- **Identify their area of interest & ability**
 - Informational Interview

Business Proposal



- **Development of Business Design**
 - What *exactly* are you selling to make money?
 - What is the Name of your Business?
 - What type of Business Form?
- **Marketing Techniques**
 - Selecting the initial customer population
 - Plan to reach the target customer
 - Importance of modification of strategy as business activity progresses

Launch



- **Funding Capital for startup**
 - Grant funded
 - Future – KIVA model (kiva.org)
- **Nurturing the growth of the business**
 - Provide Support for up to 6 months
 - No additional funds
 - Have written 3 PASS plans

Accomplishments & Plans



- Assisted 20 individuals to develop their own businesses.
- 19 individuals continue in their business
- Worked with the Small Business Development Center and have 4 Business Plans

DADS & Self-Employment



- **Self-Employment is considered a subset of Employment.**
 - Can be provide to persons in HCS, TxHmL, and General Revenue services
 - HCS requires all employment to be provided in an integrated setting.
 - Goal: to have written verification of any and all guidelines pertaining to Self-Employment.

DARS & Self Employment



DALLAS Training

Tuesday, June 15

1-5 pm Introductions and Overview of Training Conference

Customized Self Employment—Beth Keeton & Roger Shelley

Overview of DRS Customized Self-Employment Initiative

National View of Customized Self-Employment

Success Stories

Wednesday, May 12

3:45-5:30 pm Break-out sessions

Medicaid Buy In (MBI) Program—Elizabeth Gregowicz

Customized Self Employment—Beth Keeton & Roger Shelley

The Arc of Texas Microboards



- **The Arc of Texas**
 - TCDD grant to establish microboards
 - Currently in their second year
 - Microboards can become an HCS Provider after going through the DADS HCS provider process
- **Currently exploring ways to cooperatively work together in the next grant year.**

For More Information



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