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 Healthcare’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
Self-Employment is considered a subset of Employment.

- Can be provided 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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