



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Human Services

Vocational Rehabilitation

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To: Co-Chair Senator Elizabeth Steiner-Hayward,
Co-Chair Representative Dan Rayfield,
Human Services Subcommittee members

FR: Department of Human Services

RE: DHS VR Presentation Questions

- **How much does VR spend helping someone like Rusty and over what period of time?**

The average cost per case was incorrectly stated during the hearing at approximately \$3,600. The December 2016 the cost per case was \$6,498. The cost of services does not include VR staff time.

Rusty was self-referred on February 23, 2016, determined eligible on March 15, his plan started March 22, employment started March 30 and he exited the VR program on June 30. Rusty was receiving SSI, so benefits counseling from the Work Incentive Network (WIN) was crucial. VR spent \$622 on paid services (medical exam, DMV fees and occupational clothing).

- **How did you identify Amelia for the Youth Transition Program?**

Amelia was a student at Rex Putnum High School on Individual Educational Plan (IEP) services. The VR grant-funded Youth Transition Specialist met with her as well as others for an introduction to VR and YTP services. She wished to participate, was enrolled into YTP/VR and found eligible. Her plan included various YTP activities, bus rider training, job search, transportation support and occupation-specific clothing.

The plan cost VR \$563 in addition to the staff time for the Vocational Counselor and Transition Specialist.

- **Why are four Portland Metro area school districts (Beaverton, David Douglas, Gresham-Barlow and Lake Oswego) not participating in the YTP Program?**

We will set up an in-person meeting with Senator Steiner-Hayward and the VR Workforce and Youth Program Manager to go over the history of the Portland Metro school districts and the YTP program.

- **What is the cost per student for the YTP program?**

We anticipate having the analysis completed on Friday, April 7 and will submit it in a separate response.

- **Has the VR Program tracked the outcomes of the youth program efficacy? Since there are large school districts not participating could they be the control group for comparison?**

We will set up an in-person meeting with Senator Steiner-Hayward and the VR Workforce and Youth Program Manager to go over the current outcome data for the YTP program, its limitations and future data collection plans.

We hope this letter addressed the identified questions adequately. If you have additional questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Respectfully submitted,



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cc: Laurie Byerly