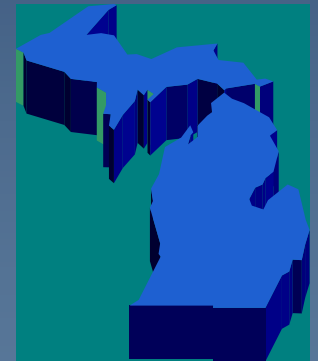


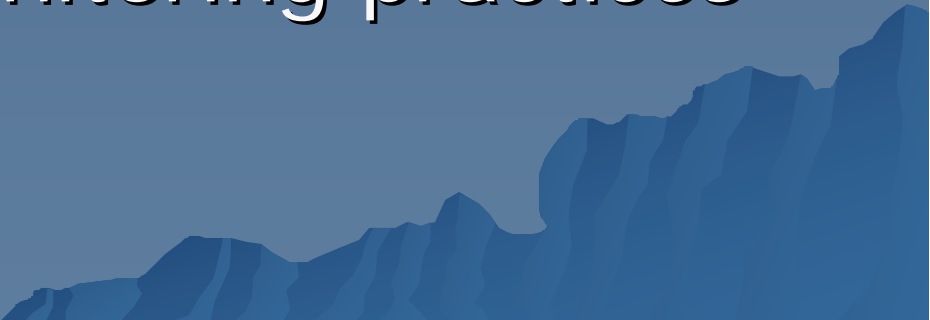
THE MICHIGAN REHABILITATION COUNCIL AND MICHIGAN REHABILITATION SERVICES

A SMART PARTNERSHIP



Presentation by: Jaye N. Shamsiddeen,
Director of the Michigan General State VR Agency
& Marlene S. Malloy, Executive Director for
the Michigan Rehabilitation Council

OUR PRESENTATION WILL INCLUDE

- ◆ An overview of the MRC History
 - ◆ Demonstrations of the MRC and MRS partnership
 - ◆ An overview of monitoring practices
- 

**WHAT DO WE
MEAN BY A
“SMART”
PARTNERSHIP ?**

MRC HISTORY

- ◆ The 92 amendments to the Rehab Act occurred.
- ◆ In a proactive stance, MRS established a workgroup comprised of both agency personnel and advocates from across the state to design the State Rehabilitation Advisory Council and the Statewide Independent Living Council.

MRC HISTORY

- ◆ The design plan focused on assuring autonomy from the state agency for both organizations.
- ◆ The plan for the MRAC included: two contract staff, establishment of a grant agreement with a statewide disability advocacy organization to serve as fiscal agent, and an operations budget.

MRC HISTORY

- ◆ In 1993, the Michigan Governor created the MRAC through an Executive Order.
- ◆ The grant was created for personnel expenses, office space and supportive equipment was provided as an “in kind” MRS service to the MRAC. The MRAC Operations Budget was established via the State of Michigan Financial Operations.

MRC HISTORY

- ◆ The MRAC office was established within the MRS Administrative Offices.
- ◆ The agency assigned a staff person to serve as Liaison to the MRAC.
- ◆ The MRAC appointments were realized within the first six months and the organization became operational, working toward the achievement of the federal mandates.

MRC HISTORY

- ◆ The relationship between the MRAC and MRS was paternalistic and adversarial.
- ◆ The relationship continued to evolve with the MRAC being utilized as a “rubber stamp” partner to the state agency.
- ◆ The passage of the 98 amendments had a significant impact on the growth and direction of the MRAC.

MRC HISTORY

- ◆ Simultaneously there was a change in MRS State Directors.
- ◆ The relationship between the Council and Agency continued to evolve, yet the MRC continued to be viewed as a resource to control, more than a partner.
- ◆ In 2003 there was a change in MRS State Directors.

MRC HISTORY

- ◆ The relationship quickly evolved, with the strength of the partnership being seen as mutual respect and trust.
- ◆ For fiscal year 2006, the MRC Budget is \$280,000. This supports three full time staff, the physical plant costs, and the funds needed to assure the active participation of the MRC members.

**DEMONSTRATIONS
OF THE
MRC & MRS
PARTNERSHIP**



MRC PRESENCE WITHIN MRS

- ◆ Staff Hiring Teams
- ◆ Monthly Executive Team Strategic Planning Meetings
- ◆ Monthly Senior Managers Meetings (top managers)
- ◆ Quarterly Bureau Leadership Council Meetings (mid management)
- ◆ Statewide Staff Conference Calls

MOST RECENT WORK GROUP INVOLVEMENT

- ◆ College Financial Needs Test
- ◆ Orientation Redesign
- ◆ Services to Minorities
- ◆ Resource Development with CIL Network
- ◆ Equity Workgroup
- ◆ One Stop Inclusion Workgroup
- ◆ MCTI Student Focus Groups
- ◆ DLEG Action Plan

MRC DISABILITY COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

**AN OPPORTUNITY TO
ADVOCATE FOR THE
CONSUMER AND ISSUES
RELATED TO QUALITY
EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES
FOR MICHIGAN CITIZENS
WITH DISABILITIES.**

SOME EXAMPLES INCLUDE:

- ◆ Transition Network Team
- ◆ Medicaid Buy-In
- ◆ SILC
- ◆ MI Association of Centers for Independent Living
- ◆ Disability Voice
- ◆ MI Disability Rights Coalition
- ◆ Disability Caucus
- ◆ MI Rehabilitation Association
- ◆ MI Rehabilitation Counseling Association
- ◆ Advocate Summit

OTHER MRC EFFORTS

- ◆ Interaction with RSA
- ◆ Letters of advocacy to the Governor, Michigan Legislature and Congress

MRS PRESENCE ON MRC


- ◆ Ex-Officio Members – including the State Director, MRS Ombudsperson, Hearings Manager, and MRS Counseling Staff
- ◆ MRC Meetings at MRS District Field Offices

MRC ORIENTATION PROJECT



PROJECT EXCELLENCE

The Project Excellence Contract has included:

- ◆ Customer Satisfaction
 - ◆ Comprehensive Needs Assessment
 - ◆ 911 Data Analysis
- 


**MRS
CUSTOMER
SCHOLARSHIP
PROJECT**

The background is a solid blue gradient that transitions from a darker blue at the top to a lighter blue at the bottom. In the bottom right corner, there is a silhouette of a mountain range with jagged peaks, rendered in a slightly darker shade of blue.


**MCTI
STUDENT
FOCUS
GROUPS**



MAY 2005
STATE LEGISLATIVE
DISABILITY CAUCUS
MEETING FOCUS ON
PUBLIC VR

A stylized, layered mountain range graphic in shades of blue, located in the bottom right corner of the slide.

**RECOGNITION OF
COMMITMENT TO THE
DISABILITY COMMUNITY FOR
HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE
GLEASON BY JOINTLY
HOSTING A RECEPTION IN
HIS HONOR**



CURRENT MONITORING PRACTICES

- ◆ The State Plan –
- ◆ The Process includes:
 - ◆ MRC authors Section 4.2, reviews the other sections as updated.
 - ◆ State Director responds to Section 4.2
 - ◆ Ongoing mutual communication and monitoring of Section 4.2 throughout the year has changed the State Plan from a perfunctory requirement, to a living, breathing, planning document.

ADDITIONAL MONITORING EFFORTS

- ◆ RSA 107 Site Visit Interviews
- ◆ CIL Site Reviews

IN CLOSING . . .

The image features a dark blue gradient background. In the center, the text "IN CLOSING . . ." is displayed in a bold, white, sans-serif font with a subtle drop shadow. At the bottom right, there is a silhouette of a mountain range, rendered in a slightly lighter shade of blue than the background.