

OVR Staff:

I hope this message finds you all well and staying warm on this cold December day! I have quite a few things to update today, so settle in.

SGA

The benefits to Kentucky as a result of the Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA) project are continuing. In the last two weeks, a team has been formed to develop a statewide training next spring! The focus of this training will be specific to procedures and tools we wish to utilize and implement as part of delivering services to eligible individuals in Kentucky. There will be more information forthcoming, as we are still in the process of ironing out the details, but we are excited to have the opportunity to provide training on this scale in 2017! Another wonderful product of the SGA project was the development of videos which highlight the stories of some individuals who have benefitted from this project. Please take a few minutes to click this link <https://icimedia.wistia.com/projects/5yxbx2eqoh> and see more examples of our successful consumers!

WIN

On November 29th, Susie Edwards emailed specific information about the Worldwide Interactive Network (WIN) software to all Field Branch Managers. Many of you across the state have heard about the WIN software through local partners, at our Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) training in October, etc. WIN is a valuable and free resource available to our consumers. If you have not received that information from your manager, please seek that information out. My thanks to Susie and to Matt King for coordinating the sharing of this information and ensuring staff are aware of it and able to access it!

Awards

I have enjoyed seeing the announcements of the District Cases of the Year these past couple of weeks! I want to thank Brent Sturgill, for stepping in at the last minute to coordinate that effort after the resignation of Jason Jones. So far, we have seen three examples of the amazing work you all do every single day and those have come from the Bluegrass, Florence and Bowling Green Districts. Many of you have asked about our annual awards in the past few weeks. Due to our budget and travel restrictions, the decision was made in September that we would not be able to have an awards ceremony in Frankfort as we have done in years past. Rather, we are sharing this information with all of our staff through email announcements during the month of December. While we are running behind in getting this done, the remaining awards that we have traditionally recognized will still be acknowledged. Look for more information on the solicitation of nominations to be coming out in the next three weeks.

Quarterly Reporting

At our WIOA training in October, information was shared regarding quarterly closeouts. While we have learned that we will not be *reporting* information on a quarterly basis until next July, it is

important that Counselors begin implementing this process now to minimize the amount of work to be done when it is an absolute requirement. Many of you have already been doing this for some time and, from what I hear, are finding it very beneficial. I appreciate those of you who are proactively incorporating this process.

I hope all of you stay warm as this weather continues to get cool. If you have any questions about this information, please don't hesitate to give me a call.

Holly Hendricks