program of training, dissemination, utilization, and technical assistance activities that are well-anchored in the research program and address the needs of stakeholders.

Find out more at: www.rdinfo.net

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Workplace Supports and Job Retention, Virginia Commonwealth University (H133B040011) led by Paul Wehman, PhD. Edna Johnson, Project Officer. Abstract: The purpose of the RRTC on Workplace Supports and Job Retention is to study those supports which are most effective in the workplace for assisting persons with disabilities to maintain employment and advance their careers. Research includes two long-term prospective randomized experimental control research projects: (1) determining the efficacy of public/private partnerships, and (2) determining the efficacy of business mentoring and career based interventions with college students with disabilities. The RRTC is partnered with Manpower, Inc., several community rehabilitation programs, and the VCU Business Roundtable. Additional projects look at disability management practices, extended employment supports, job discrimination in employment retention, benefits planning and assistance, and workplace supports. These studies are done in conjunction with Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Society of Human Resource Professionals, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Find out more at: www.worksupport.com

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Measuring Rehabilitation, Boston University (H133B9900005) led by Alan M. Jette, PhD. Ruth Brannon, Project Officer. Abstract: This Center develops new, more effective outcomes measurement tools and applies these tools to determine the effectiveness of medical rehabilitation interventions. Research components include: (1) identifying gaps in existing outcome measures and developing new instruments that address these gaps as part of a rehabilitation outcomes system; (2) critically evaluating the newly developed instruments against tools currently in use; (3) implementing the newly developed outcome instruments across impairment groups and across rehabilitation settings to assess their feasibility, responsiveness, and validity; (4) investigating the extent to which specific rehabilitation interventions affect outcomes following the onset of a stroke; and (5) applying modern psychometric techniques to develop dynamic outcome instruments that can also be used with individual patients in a clinical setting. Several components have been designed to enhance the translation of research findings into rehabilitation practice and to provide stakeholders with the opportunity to provide input into the Center including surveys of the use of rehabilitation outcomes data, consensus conferences, institutes, fellowships, a web site, and a consumer guide to choosing postacute care services.

Find out more at: www.bu.edu/cre/rehaboutcomes

The Employment Discrimination Experience of Americans with Diabetes: An Empirical Analysis of the EEOC Charge Data System. (H133F040034) led by Brian T. McMahon, PhD. A. Cate Miller, PhD, Project Officer. Abstract: The project documents the employment discrimination experience of Americans with diabetes. The project uses the data from the Charge Data System of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to addresses the following research questions: (1) What is the employment discrimination experience of persons with diabetes with respect to: the demographic characteristics of the charging party? What is the industry and size of employers against whom complaints are filed? What is the nature of discrimination (i.e., type of adverse action) alleged to occur? What is the prevalence of “regarded as” disability charges? What is the prevalence of “record of” disability charges? What is the prevalence of discrimination against associates? (2) What is the legal outcome or resolution of these complaints? (3) How does the employment discrimination experience of Americans with diabetes compare and contrast to that of Americans with other disabilities with respect to these same questions? (3) Using four US census track regions, are there geographic differences with respect to the employment discrimination experience of Americans with diabetes?

Standifire, R., Lakin, C. (2005) Costs and outcomes of community services for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities. NARIC Accession Number: R08567. Project Number: H133B031116. Abstract: Book compiles information on the costs and outcomes of community services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Topics include: differences in outcomes and costs among various community service models; direct and indirect costs of family care; the criteria used to allocate funds for community services; ways to develop a rational, equitable budgeting process that facilitates the desired lifestyle of each person; public policy considerations involved in developing individual budgets in a statewide system of services; the debate over independent budgets versus traditional funding; costs and outcomes of consumer directed services; the question of whether greater expenditures and more staff lead to better outcomes; the impact of residential setting size and institutional downsizing on per-person expenditure; and recommendations for future policy and practice.

Larson, S., Hewitt, A. (2005) Staff recruitment, retention, and training strategies for community human services organizations. NARIC Accession Number: R08569, Project Number: H133B031116. Abstract: Book offers supervisors, managers, and administrators guidance for facing the three most challenging issues facing community human services organizations; recruitment, retention, and training of direct support professionals. Each chapter focuses on a critical workforce issue such as recruiting and hiring employees, socializing and supporting staff, strengthening commitment and skills through mentoring programs, building effective teams, fostering diversity and cultural competence, and designing and surviving organizational change. To help readers meet each of these challenges, the book lists specific competencies every manager or supervisor should develop to address that issue.
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Rehabilitation Research and Training Center in Neuromuscular Diseases, University of California, Davis (H133B031118) led by Craig McDonald, MD. Theresa San Agustin, MD, Project Officer.

Abstract: The purpose of the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center in Neuromuscular Diseases (RTC/NMD) is to enhance the health, function, and quality of lives of persons with neuromuscular diseases (NMD). The goals of this project are to: (1) develop a program for multicenter rehabilitation research in NMD through the Cooperative International Neuromuscular Research Group (CINRG); (2) conduct research that continues to address new or emerging technologies and interventions that provide the information needed to enhance employment, community integration, and quality of life outcomes for this population with neuromuscular diseases (NMD). The goals of this project are to: (1) develop a program for multicenter rehabilitation research in NMD through the Cooperative International Neuromuscular Research Group (CINRG); (2) conduct research that continues to address new or emerging technologies and interventions that provide the information needed to enhance employment, community integration, and quality of life outcomes for this population with neuromuscular diseases (NMD).

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