

MDD VIDEO SCRIPT

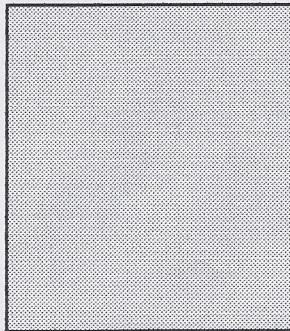
PROJECT TITLE: Vocational Rehabilitation for the Visually Impaired

DATE: Sept 23, 1998

PRODUCER: Jennifer Mueller

DRAFT VERSION: 4-Final Approval

CLIENT APPROVAL (final draft only): Initialing indicates client has obtained script approval from everyone who will review this project.



PLEASE LIST THOSE INVOLVED IN THE APPROVAL PROCESS:

Objectives:

1. Inform audience about the services provided (a review of what they've been told on their first visit to their counselor)
2. Inform audience about their rights
3. Inform audience about their choices

(Introduction)

(pleasant, energetic music under)

(Male Narrator-suggest Juan Conde)

"Hello and welcome to the Vocational Rehabilitation program from the Department for the Visually Handicapped. Thousands of Virginians like you have participated in this program since its introduction over seven decades ago. They enjoy the success and fulfillment of making the most of their assets and living life to its fullest."

(Music slowly fades out)

"The Vocational Rehabilitation program, also called the 'VR program', provides services to customers throughout the Commonwealth. You, too, have discovered this program, talked with a counselor, and applied to use our services. This tape will help you review the information your counselor gave you and remind you of the excellent opportunities that are out there.

This tape is divided up into three sections. First, we'll talk about the services available. Then, we'll review the application you submitted and the eligibility requirements to use our services. Finally we'll cover the rights and choices you have regarding the use of our services.

You can forward or reverse search to specific sections by listening for this tone." **(tone sounds)** "This tone begins each section. Cassette players with an automatic search function will go to the next section if you press stop and then fast forward or rewind." **(music slowly fades in)** "Again, Section 1 explains the services available to you, Section 2 reviews the application and eligibility requirements and Section 3 will help you understand more about your rights and choices throughout the process."

(music fades out)

(Tone sounds)

(Part 1 - Background Information/Services provided)

(A) Mission/Philosophy)

"Vocational Rehabilitation Services Available To You" (pause)

"Our mission is to provide you with the services you need to get or keep a job. We hope that by using them, you can pursue a career consistent with your strengths, resources, priorities, concerns, abilities, and capabilities.

The VR program has close to 20 counselors located in six regional offices around the state. We are dedicated to providing superior customer service and want you to achieve your goals and fully participate in the mainstream of life. We need your commitment to make this happen."

(B) Adjustment Services - specifically, the VRCBVI)

"Your commitment begins with adjusting to a new lifestyle. Whatever your experience with visual impairment, you'll likely encounter situations in the workplace you've never dealt with before.

We offer invaluable programs through the Virginia Rehabilitation Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired, called the VRCBVI for short. Virginians age 14 and over can stay at this Center located in Richmond for as long as they need to develop their skills.

In your career, you'll be working with persons without visual impairments. So, skills like using braille, tape recording, keyboarding, and exciting new computer technology to communicate come in handy.

You'll also need to get to and from work, and navigate around the workplace. Learn to use independent travel skills such as using long canes and/or low-vision aides in order to ride public transportation and move around your work environment safely.

These are just a few examples of the benefits the VRCBVI has to offer, and best of all they come at no cost to you. We can also arrange for you to receive adjustment services in your home or community. Attending classes at the Center, however, is the best and quickest way of learning how to do those things that will help you do your job and do it well.

No matter what your skill level, the Center provides individualized attention to students learning the skills necessary for greater independence, efficiency and safety on the job, at home, and in social settings."

(C) Vocational Rehabilitation services-see items 1-11 and 3 special vocational programs (counseling) "Speaking of individualized attention, let's talk about your Vocational Rehabilitation counselor. He or she will work with you to develop an Individualized Plan for Employment, or IPE - formerly the Written Rehabilitation Program, or IWRP. During this process, your counselor will help you identify your goals and find the best way to attain them."

(list of additional services) "In addition, we offer a wide array of services including vocational training... job placement... the purchase of adaptive computer and other equipment... the maintenance necessary to participate in vocational training or to begin a new job... and the transportation necessary to participate in vocational training or to begin employment. Even after you're employed, you may qualify for post-employment services when they're necessary for you to maintain employment.

The VR program arranges for the purchase of most vocational training from third-party vendors such as colleges and universities, community rehabilitation programs, on-the-job training with employers, and vocational training centers. There are three additional programs provided by the