



MASSACHUSETTS

Workforce Investment Act

WIA Communication No. 01-23

Policy Information

To: Chief Elected Officials
Workforce Investment Board Chairs
Workforce Investment Board Directors
Title I Administrators
Career Center Directors
Title I Fiscal Officers
DET Regional Directors
DET Area Directors

cc: WIA State Partners

From: Elmer Bartels, Commissioner
Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission

Date: May 10, 2001

Subject: Individual Members Planning and Assessing Choices Together (IMPACT)

The Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission, (MRC) is pleased to announce, as a result of the Ticket to Work and Work Incentive Improvement Act of 1999, it has been awarded a grant through the Social Security Administration. The main objective of this grant is to provide benefit planning, assistance and outreach for persons with disabilities who are interested in working or returning to work.

The grant has been named “Individual Members Planning and Assessing Choices Together” or “IMPACT”. It will be administered through the Statewide Employment Services Department, (SES) of MRC. Some of the collaborators of the grant are the Institute for Community Inclusion (ICI), Independent Living Centers and Clubhouse programs. Services include the development of individual benefit plans for consumers in the following counties; Barnstable, Bristol, Dukes, Essex, Nantucket, Norfolk, Plymouth, Suffolk and the city of Somerville.

A similar grant was awarded to Massachusetts Project with Industry Inc., also known as the Resource Partnership. They have given their grant the title “Bene-Plan”. They will be providing services to the following counties: Berkshire, Franklin, Hampshire, Hampden, Worcester, and Middlesex (excluding Somerville).

In both cases, these grants will allow individuals with disabilities, their families and significant others, to access accurate and understandable information regarding Social Security Work

Incentives, Public Health Insurance, Long-term care services, Employment Based Health Insurance, Transitional Assistance to Families with Dependent Children (TAFDC), and Federal and State Housing Programs. In addition, Benefit Coordinators will be available to develop Individualized Benefit Plans.

Questions and Comments: Any questions related to this correspondence should be directed to Jim Fratolillo at (800) 734-7475.

Filing: Please file this in your notebook of previously issued WIA Communication Series Issuances as #01-23.