Fall Directors’ Meeting

The theme of this year’s Fall Directors Meeting is *Creating a Climate for Professional Growth: The ABLE Director as Instruction Leader*. Our keynote speaker will be Cristine Smith, Assistant Professor in the School of Education, University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Cristine will be speaking about the importance of ABLE Directors in taking an active role in promoting the professional growth of their staff. The role of ABLE’s professional development system in partnering with directors in this endeavor will be featured as well.

In preparation for the meeting, please review the staff competencies in the attached document, *Ohio ABLE Standards-Based Professional Development System*. Also, please bring a copy of this document with you to the Directors’ Meeting. These standards will be briefly reviewed at the meeting.

See you in on November 9 and 10!

FY 2010 ABLE LD Policy and Planning Guide

The Online FY 2010 ABLE LD Policy and Planning Guide has been revised and is now available for local programs to access and to update their online plans. ABLE programs must make updates to their plans by December 11, 2009. Directions for doing so are contained in the Directions for Updating the ABLE LD Policy and Planning Guide which is attached to this Friday Facts.

Federal New State Directors’ Training

Jeff Gove, Acting State ABLE Director, travelled to Arlington, Virginia last week to participate in the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education’s (OVAE) New State Directors’ Management Workshop. New state administrators from ten states and Puerto Rico participated in the intense three-day orientation. The orientation focused on the state administrators’ responsibilities and requirements in implementing the Workforce Investment Act Title II, Adult Education
and Family Literacy Act. Veteran directors from North Carolina and Delaware also attended and added value to the agenda by sharing their experiences.

The participants were fortunate to have time with the new U.S. Assistant Secretary of Education, Brenda Dann-Messier. She emphasized the importance placed on the adult education system to support the educational goals of the Administration. The goal referenced was to increase the number of adult students transitioning to postsecondary education and training. Ohio’s ABLE Program is well positioned to contribute to the success of this goal.

The OVAE staff presented important federal grant requirements and “how-to” strategies in a way that was easily understood and led to rich discussions between and among states. The OVAE staff shared the goal of the new administrators who want to be successful in their new and challenging roles. Rebecca Moak is Ohio ABLE’s Area III Coordinator and has been a valuable human resource to us. Other states in our area include: IA, IL, IN, KS, MI, MN, MO, ND, NE, SD, and WI.

A resource that was shared and may be of interest to you was the updated National Reporting System (NRS) Implementation Guidelines (September 2009). It can be downloaded from www.nrsweb.org

**Notes:**

*Grants* - By now, everyone should have received a final copy of the approved FY 2010 ABLE and/or EL/Civics grants. Many were sent electronically but those that were too large, were mailed in a CD format. If you have not received your approved grant(s), please contact Sharon Brannon at sbrannon@regents.state.oh.us.

*Assessment Alignments* - McGraw Hill is completing an alignment of the ABLE standards and benchmarks to the TABE 9/10. ACT is doing the same for WorkKeys. We hope to have the assessment alignments available on the ABLE website by January.

*ABLE Program Directory* - The FY 2010 ABLE Program Directory will be posted on the ABLE website next week. Check it out!

**Quote of the Week**

“Tempus fugit” (time flies) - Ovid (Publius Ovidius Naso)

Remember Eastern Standard Time begins at 2:00 a.m. on the first Sunday in November. For this year, that means that the clocks need to be turned back one hour this weekend on November 1, 2009.