## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES REHABILITATION SERVICES ADMINISTRATION WASHINGTON, DC 20202-2800

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM RSA-IM-10-05

DATE: July 13, 2010

ADDRESSEES:

STATE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AGENCIES

**SUBJECT:** 

Announcement of the Rehabilitation Services Administration's 2010

National Employment Conference

CONTENT:

The purpose of this information memorandum is to provide details regarding "In It To Win It," the 2010 National Employment Conference sponsored by the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA). The conference is scheduled for September 15-17, 2010, at the Key Bridge Marriot Hotel, located at 1401 Lee Highway in Arlington, Virginia. Joining RSA in the planning and implementation of the National Employment Conference are representatives from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation (CSAVR) and the George Washington University Center for Rehabilitation Counseling Research and Education (GWU/CRCRE), which is serving as the conference coordinator. We are also pleased to have many other Federal agencies joining us as presenters and panelists during the conference including representatives from the Social Security Administration, Health and Human Services, and the Department of Labor.

The 2010 National Employment Conference will bring professionals from federal, state, and local governments together with employers from private and public sectors to discuss ways we can work together and increase the employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities. Participants will hear from national leaders in the field of disability employment, network with other professionals to discuss ways to leverage resources, identify best practices and showcase systems that connect talented employees with disabilities to careers with unlimited potential.

I am pleased to announce that RSA will provide stipend support (transportation, lodging and registration) for a minimum of one participant from each state Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) agency. The state VR agency director will be responsible for determining stipend recipients or alternate designees. A letter will be forthcoming from GWU to state VR directors with instructions for submitting and registering the stipend nominees.

All other participants will be charged a registration fee of \$260 if registration is completed by September 1, 2010, and \$275 if registration is completed after September 1, 2010. Registration information and conference updates are available at http://www.regonline.com/2010nec, or you may call Lindsay Hill at 202-973-1550 or e-mail her at lmhill@gwmail.gwu.edu if you require additional information or assistance. The hotel room rates are \$196 per night plus tax, and reservations should be made by August 30, 2010, directly with the hotel by calling 1-800-228-9290. Please specify that you are making room reservations for the National Employment Conference.

The 2010 National Employment Conference promises to be an exceptional experience that will appeal to a diverse audience of stakeholders. I invite you to be a part of this outstanding opportunity to learn from each other and develop partnerships that will increase the employment opportunities for the individuals we serve. Please reserve the dates of September 15-17, 2010 on your calendar today. Together we can change the employment outlook for people with disabilities across our nation.

If you have comments or suggestions that you would like to share with RSA or need additional information about the 2010 National Employment Conference, please contact my staff: Traci DiMartini at 202-245-6425 or <a href="mailto:traci.dimartini@ed.gov">traci.dimartini@ed.gov</a> or Suzanne Mitchell at 202-245-7454 or <a href="mailto:suzanne.mitchell@ed.gov">suzanne.mitchell@ed.gov</a>.

Lynnae M. Ruttledge

Commissioner

Rehabilitation Services Administration

cc: Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation National Council of State Agencies for the Blind