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Authorized Signature

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Issue Date: 6/5/2008

Topic: Developmental Disabilities

Subject: Office of Developmental Disabilities ReBAR Assessment Unit

Applies to (check all that apply):

- |                                     |                               |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | All DHS employees             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | County Mental Health Directors  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Area Agencies on Aging        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Health Services   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Children, Adults and Families | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Seniors and People with Disabilities  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | County DD Program Managers    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Other (please specify): ReBAR Project Stakeholders, DD Service Providers, DD Advocacy Organizations, Brokerages |

MESSAGE:

**ReBAR**, "Restructuring Budgets, Assessments, and Rates," is a multi year project to develop a standardized system of individual assessments and service funding for the support needs of individuals in 24 hour residential, supported living and employment and community inclusion services.

During the summer of 2007, the ReBAR Project conducted a Pilot Test of the **Supports Intensity Scale (SIS)** for a randomly selected sample population of individuals living in 24 hour residential settings (DD50), supported living (DD51) and employment and community inclusion services (DD54).

The **SIS** is a nationally recognized, structured interview, assessment tool designed to identify the support needs of a person with developmental disabilities. The SIS was developed by the American Association on Intellectual Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD) formerly AAMR. It has proven validity and reliability and is presently being used for individual, agency and system planning in at least eight (8) states.

The information obtained from the Pilot Test and the concurrent "Cost Survey" that DD Providers completed, has served to inform and direct the work of SPD in restructuring the way in which service rates are determined and the funding formulas necessary to ensure standardization throughout the Statewide system of DD Services. With the help of the ReBAR Project Stakeholder Advisory Group, Oregon selected the **SIS** as

the tool to be used in assessing the support needs of adults with developmental disabilities.

The ReBAR Project is now in its third year and is nearing time to implement activities associated with one of the goals outlined in the original Grant. That is, the assessment process for the individuals living in 24 hour residential services (DD50).

**SPD is establishing a state-operated Assessment Unit to formally conduct all support needs assessments using the SIS instrument for individuals living in DD50 facilities.**

The new DD Assessment Unit will initiate SIS Assessments in phases over the course of the next few years, beginning as early as November 2008. The Unit will be a part of the ReBAR Project that is continuing the planning and development necessary to establish funding models for residential programs, supported living settings and employment and community inclusion services. Staff of the Unit will assume additional responsibilities in subsequent years.

The Assessment Unit will be managed by Jan Morgan, the ReBAR Project Manager, and will include two Senior Assessment Specialists and ten Assessment Specialists, whose offices will be located in various parts of the State. The Senior Assessment Specialists will supervise up to 5 Assessment Specialists each. The Senior Assessment Specialists will be operating out of Salem at DHS.

Recruitment for these positions is underway currently. Additional information and the application process can be obtained from the Department of Human Services website under "Jobs at DHS," at [www.oregon.gov/DHS/jobs/](http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/jobs/). The Department anticipates that these individuals will be selected during July and August of this year. Once hired, employees will be required to participate in SPD sponsored, specialized training conducted by authors of the SIS assessment instrument, the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD, formerly AAMR). Staff must successfully pass this training as a condition of their employment.

**IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINES**

The following are approximate timelines associated with implementation:

Positions posted:	May 29, 2008
Positions close:	Within 3 wks of closing or until filled
Job interviews conducted:	July 2008
Staff hired:	July through August 2008
SIS Intensive AAIDD Training:	September and October 2008
Staff conduct SIS Assessments	November 2008

Many critical details associated with the start-up of this new Assessment Unit are still “in progress.” It will take several months to appropriately coordinate these details and familiarize personnel and communities with the Assessment Process before actual SIS Assessments begin being conducted.

This is the first of several information transmittals that will be distributed in hopes of keeping you informed on the development of this new Unit and the rollout of activities that will follow.

**FURTHER INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION**

As details are confirmed, additional information will be made available as follows:

- ReBAR related Information Memoranda (IMs) can be found at <http://www.dhs.state.or.us/dd/rebar>
- Supports Intensity Scale (SIS) general information may be found at [www.siswebsite.org](http://www.siswebsite.org)
- You may also contact the Project staff directly via email at [rebar@state.or.us](mailto:rebar@state.or.us) or by phone at (503) 947-5099.

*If you have any questions about this information, contact:*

<b>Contact(s):</b>	Jan Morgan, ReBAR Planning and Assessment Manager		
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