

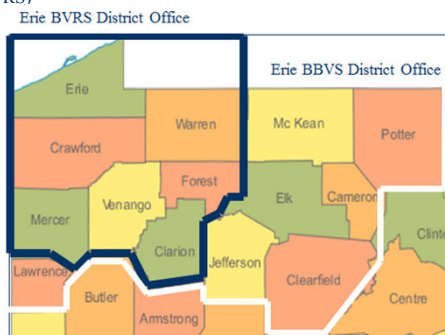


## Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

- ♦ **Mission**  
To assist Pennsylvanians with disabilities to secure and maintain employment and independence.
- ♦ **Vision**  
*Through our actions, we shall earn and maintain the highest degree of respect from our customers and be viewed by them as a world-class organization.*

## OVR: Agency Organization

- ♦ Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR)
  - Executive Director = Mr. David DeNotaris
    - Bureau of Central Operations (Central Office)
      - Training, Administration & Fiscal, Special Programs
      - Bureau Director = Mr. Ryan Hyde
    - Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (BVRS)
      - 15 District Offices
      - Bureau Director = Ms. Denise Verchimak
    - Bureau of Blindness & Visual Services (BBVS)
      - 6 District Offices
      - Bureau Director =
    - Office for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing (ODHH)
      - 3 District Offices
      - Director = Ms. Sharon Behon
  - ♦ Hiram G. Andrews Center (HGAC) =
    - Commonwealth Technical Institute
    - Director = Ms. Jill Moriconi



# OVR/BVRS: Eligibility

- ◆ Presence of Impairment
- ◆ Impediment to Employment
- ◆ Benefit from Services to Achieve Employment Outcome (presumed)

(at the time of application)

# Services Overview

- ◆ Diagnostic Services & Assessment
- ◆ Guidance & Counseling
- ◆ Vocational Evaluations
- ◆ Restoration Services
- ◆ Transition Services
- ◆ Training Assistance
  - College/University/Technical Schools
- ◆ Placement Services
- ◆ On-the-Job Training (OJT)
- ◆ Job Coaching
- ◆ Vehicle Modifications
- ◆ Home Modifications
- ◆ Small Business Development
- ◆ Assistive Technology





## Employer Services



- ◆ **Business Solutions**
  - Staffing: pre-screened candidates; consultation services; accommodation solutions
  - Accessibility Analysis: Job analysis & Worksite modification consultation; Reasonable accommodations consultation; Assistive technology information
  - Financial Incentives: On-the-Job Training reimbursement; Tax credits
  - Disability Awareness: Sensitivity & Disability Etiquette training; Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) consultation
- ◆ **Consultation Services**
- ◆ **Publication of “How to Hire PwD Guide”**
- ◆ **Recruitment**
- ◆ **Qualified Employees**
- ◆ **Learn about disability-related issues**
- ◆ **Short & Long Term Support**
  - Hiring Process; Employment; Promotions; Issues; Separation; Layoffs; Questions; Accommodation Guidance; and much more.



## OVR/BBVS

- ◆ **Bureau of Blindness & Visual Services (BBVS)**
  - 6 District Offices
  - Bureau Director = Mr. David DeNotaris
  - Erie District Administrator = Ms. Dawn Sokol
  - Eligibility
    - Vision 20/70 or worse in best eye with correction & Visual Field of 20 degrees or less
  - Services
    - Vocational Rehabilitation Program
    - Rehabilitation Teaching
    - Orientation and Mobility Instruction
    - Independent Living for the Older Blind (ILOB) Program
    - Specialized Children’s Program
    - Specialized Services for Adults



# OVR: ODHH

- ◆ Office for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing (ODHH)
  - 3 District Offices
  - Director = Ms. Sharon Behon
  - Erie Office = Mr. Gerald Penna
  - Eligibility
    - Anyone seeking information regarding Deaf & Hard of Hearing
  - Services
    - Advocacy
    - Information
    - Referrals



# OVR: HGAC

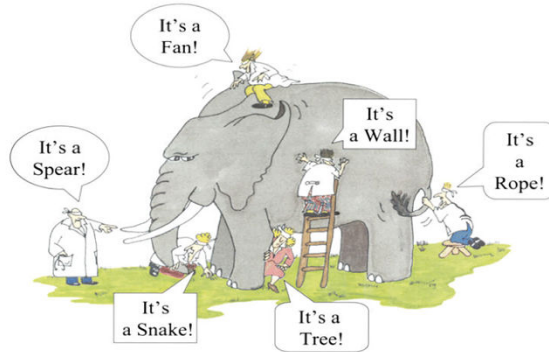
- ◆ Hiram G. Andrews Center (HGAC)
  - Commonwealth Technical Institute
    - Acting Director = Ms. Jill Moriconi
    - 12 acre barrier-free campus
  - Eligibility
    - OVR Customer
    - Acceptance via application process
  - Services
    - Associate Degrees
    - Certificate Programs
    - Support Services
    - Independent Life Skills





Office of Vocational Rehabilitation  
3200 Lovell Place | Erie, PA 16503  
814.871.4551 | 800.541.0721 [www.dli.state.pa.us](http://www.dli.state.pa.us)

**If eligible OVR can help.....But not alone.  
With the person and their support team involved!**



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**◆ Thank you!**

**Jack J. Hewitt, M.A.** | District Administrator  
PA Department of Labor & Industry | Office of Vocational Rehabilitation  
3200 Lovell Place | Erie, PA 16503  
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814-871-4551 (switchboard) | 1-800-541-0721 (PA toll free - switchboard)  
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[http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/disability\\_services/10355](http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/disability_services/10355) = OVR webpage  
<http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=514&objID=606842&mode=2> = OVR Publications  
<https://www.cwds.state.pa.us> = Commonwealth Workforce Development System (CWDS)  
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