February 4, 2015

This communication is intended to provide an update on the status of closed Priority Categories. We recently completed the first phase of our internal analysis and evaluation of Vocational Rehabilitation Services and its processes, which required the temporary closing of Priority Categories on January 16, 2015 and we are glad to announce Priority Category 1 and 2 will reopen on March 2, 2015.

As you know, the Order of Selection, with respect to Priority Categories, allows for continuous evaluation of resources and priorities to ensure maximum service delivery to those with the most significant disabilities. For over 10 years, the TN VR program only served citizens with the most significant disabilities, known as Priority Category 1. In 2012, the department announced the opening of Priority Category 2 in order to serve citizens with significant disabilities. In 2013, the program served those on the waiting list for Priority Category 3 which enabled individuals the ability to develop a work plan for services. This is a fluid process, with continued analysis and planning.

We will continue our practice of determining the status and availability of each Priority Category throughout the year and communicate to clients and partners accordingly.

If you have questions please contact the TN VR Program Director, Yovancha Lewis-Brown at (615) 313-5004.

Sincerely,

Cherrill Campbell-Street
Cherrill Campbell-Street, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Rehabilitation Services