

- In FY 17 DVR lost \$4.4 million in federal re-allotment funds.
- For State Fiscal Year 17, AHS covered the VR shortfall in part using Global Commitment to fund DS supported Employment and JOBS. This was a one-time commitment only. For State Fiscal 18, VR had to develop a budget with about 25% less funding.
- The proposed DAIL/VR budget for FY 18 has a proposed a \$344,454 reduction in DS supported employment and a \$600,000 reduction in the JOBS program. This will have a significant impact on consumers of both programs.
- In addition to the above, for FY 18 VR is proposing broad cuts to other VR services that will also affect DS and JOBS consumers. For example, the budget includes cuts to Creative Workforce Solutions, progressive employment and case services.
- The FY 18 budget also includes deep cuts in other programs that support Vermonters with disabilities go to work.
- The VR funding picture may get worse in FY 18 if VR receives a further reduction in re-allotment and/or federal sequestration is reinstated under the Balanced Budget Act. This would result in further reductions.
- If the above happens, DVR will be forced to make additional cuts in FY 18 or FY 19. This makes the current DS and JOBS funding situation very unstable.
- The solution: Make the one-time FY 17 Global Commitment funding for DS supported employment and JOBS permanent. This would:
  - Keep the DS supported employment and JOBS programs whole at the FY 17 funding levels
  - Put those programs under a much more stable funding mechanism so they are not vulnerable to future federal VR grant reductions
  - This would relieve DVR for the funding commitments to DS supported Employment and JOBS (about \$2.5 million for FY 18)
  - These funds could then be used to support VR programs and services that have been cut or zeroed out in the FY 18 budget