

December 2011

Rehearse the Sale (page 2)

Counselor Tool Review

Marketing Tips & Tools

- Test Marketing
- Publicity
- Social Media
- SEO
- Loyalty Programs

Helpful Articles

- SWOT Analysis
- Avoiding Burnout
- Cash Management
- No-Cost, Low-Cost Marketing

Helpful Business Forms

- Breakeven Worksheet
- Cash Flow Worksheet; <u>Excel</u> or <u>PDF</u>
- Communication Log
- Revenue/Unit Forecasting Model
- Forecasting Worksheet
- <u>Functional Time Use</u> Analysis
- Financing Chart
- Organizational Mapping
- <u>Personal Financial</u> Statement
- Start-up Checklist
- <u>Time Planning</u> <u>Schedule</u>
- Web Marketing Checklist

VR Training Session Highlights

Below are highlights of some of the topics and information shared as a result of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) regional team meetings:

Marketing Resources: Programs and venues for helping VR customers market their goods and services...

- NHMade: Statewide on/off-line product positioning for members
- <u>Hannah Grimes Marketplace</u>: Regional on/off-line product marketing
- Monadnock Buy Local (MBL): Regional on/off-line product marketing
- <u>Women's Rural Enterprise Network</u>: Marketing, education and incubator assistance
- How to Market Your Business: YouTube Videos

Business Development: Programs providing VR customers with additional business and sales development assistance...

- <u>SCORE Chapters</u>: See <u>mentoring</u> and <u>template</u> options
- Small Business Development Centers: Counseling and training
- <u>Procurement Technical Assistance Programs</u>: How to sell to the government
- <u>Trade Associations</u>: Industry-specific networking and support
- How to Sell Better: YouTube Videos

Leveraging VR Support Networks:

- Connect with outside representatives trained in Tier I proposals
- Invite select <u>business assistance agencies</u> to present their offerings and develop a list of favorites
- Invite VR customers to visit <u>BuzVR</u> to self-select help by interest/need, such as <u>Business Tools</u> and <u>Mentors</u>

Counseling Tips Exchanged:

- Encourage sales/marketing brainstorming with others; e.g.,
 Other counseling agencies, family, friends, forums and other networks
- Help customers to purposefully "do" by encouraging routine sales activities; e.g., Have them write down and do 5 things each day (or as appropriate) that directly provoke sales
- Require tangible evidence of planned bookkeeping/accounting practices as part of the planning process; e.g., contact information for bookkeeper/accounting service provider

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<u>Knowledge Institute</u> specializes in entrepreneurial education and development through eLearning, curriculum development, publishing, interactive resource communities and philanthropic endeavors.



Rehearse the Sale

Overcoming Fear and Increasing Success

One way to improve sales performance is to rehearse the sale. This involves crafting up a script of what you will say to a prospective customer or client and rehearsing it several times with someone you trust.

To write a sales script, consider five (5) components; the introduction, the transition into offering the specific product or service, a list of questions to ask that help to close the sale or secure a follow on meeting, a summary statement of your understanding for moving forward, and confirmation on what's next. For more information and examples about how each of these parts might read, visit How To Write a Sales Script.

Other helpful online articles include <u>How to Write a Sales Marketing Script</u>, <u>How to Write a Winning Phone Script</u>, <u>How to Write a Telemarketing Script</u>, <u>How to Write a Business Script</u>, and <u>How to Write a Telesales Script</u>. Each article offers a slightly different perspective on how to succeed. Refer customers to these links to self-select what might be useful to their business development objectives.

Once your customer has developed a written framework of what they want to say that will motivate a purchase, have them try it out a few times with people that they are comfortable with. Encourage them to invite honest feedback and refine their script accordingly. The more they become comfortable and confident that it works, the more they will see themselves succeeding in an actual selling exchange.

