

August 2012

Tip of the Month: Sales

One of the wisest ways to succeed in business is to start each day with a focus on selling.

To do this, write down five things to do that day that directly lead to a sale, such as call "x" number of new customers, ask existing customers if they want to reorder, run a sale that promotes larger orders in return for a discount.

Other Resources Tailored to Supporting VR Customers in Business

- 5 Steps to Self-Employment
- 10 Steps to Venture Launch
- SBA Loan Programs
- Strategies <u>for improving</u> <u>cash flow</u>
- What's a <u>business</u> incubator?
- How do I <u>incorporate</u> my business?
- Can <u>business payroll</u> be outsourced costeffectively?
- Can I sell my products/services to the government?
- Common <u>Business</u> Terms
- Assessing <u>strengths and</u> <u>weaknesses</u>
- Researching <u>business</u> <u>opportunities and</u> <u>threats</u>

Counseling Versus Consulting:

Why Focusing on the Individual is the Key To Promoting Success

Elbert Hubbard, a prominent American writer, publisher, artist, and philosopher wrote;

"There is no failure except in no longer trying; There is no defeat except from within; No really insurmountable barrier save our own inherent weakness of purpose."

In essence, all of us can pretty much achieve anything when we want it badly enough. This holds particularly true with self-employment and small business pursuits.

As experienced Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors, you've witnessed firsthand the difference between customer's who truly want to advance and those who may lack the self-confidence, conviction and drive to go the distance. You've also seen the positive results of helping your customers to overcome feelings of self-doubt by teaching them how to learn about and effectively utilize the resources they require. You also know the value of encouraging them to celebrate progress along the way.

This month's News Brief reinforces the power of your role as counselors in this regard. By sharing the following FAQs with your customers, you can further assist them with self-discovering their strengths, rediscovering their will to succeed and launching an action plan that drives results!

- Do I have what it takes to be, <u>Self-employed</u>? <u>Own a business</u> franchise? Start a small business?
- Is my business idea valid?
- Is there an <u>experienced business mentor</u> that I can talk to free of charge that will work with me over the long-term?
- Is there a simple way to look at <u>what a total business operation</u> requires?
- Do I need to register the name of my business?
- Do I need to trademark my business or product name?
- What is a Tax I.D. Number? Do I need one?
- How can I project <u>how many products I need to make each month</u> to reach my financial goals?
- How do I calculate profits when I have multiple products?
- Are there templates and sample business plans I can look at?

For help with these and other questions your VR customers may have, feel free to <u>AskBUZ</u>. Thank you.

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