

## Distance Learning Conference Call April 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 16<sup>th</sup>

### Purpose of State Initiative

- Not about seats and hours-its about building infrastructure
- Partnering and delivering in a new way-sustainability of GED Online; options for the under skilled employed
- Reenergizing work with partner agencies
- New way to build community recognition

### *Growing Distance Learning in Montana* and reviewing where you are in the Distance Learning Process?

- Refer to this paper to review the Montana distance learning initiative
- Time to revisit your application for this program year and think about next year
- Don't forget the resources on LINC'S (Protocol Guide is chunked up) as you determine what needs to be done
- Suggestion: Set up a staff meeting to assess where you are in the distance learning process; write a summary of where you are, what you have accomplished, who are you serving, how partnerships have evolved, and next steps
  - This does not have to be sent into the state
  - Good records on distance learning will validate your efforts and outreach
    - Important information for stakeholders
    - Information for next year's plan

### Capturing Distance Hours

- Check NRS table 4C
  - Send list of students to Carol

### State Support

- License is for GED Online
- Skills Tutor is for remediation for distance learning students-not intended for student daily work
- No state license for Skills Tutor; intent was to use for remediation to GED Online students (Missouri set Montana up as one of their classrooms)
- Skills Tutor student monitoring
  - Send list of students to delete the first week of each month
- Our distance learning is geared for folks ready for GED
- If test prior to 50 hours, make sure you explain they are distance learning students in the Validation Error Box

### **Tracking Student Progress**

- GED Online: Course Tools in the Tool Box on students home page, then hit my grades
- Aligning TABE scores to GED Online levels? No, use the TABE score sheet to determine assignments
- Suggestion: Develop a tracking sheet to use each morning; next to each student name make a note that you have looked at the distance learning work and make a note if you e-mailed them (contact Miles City for more information)

### **Web Page-What's needed?**

- **Name change, do want GED Online**
- **Can personalize the home page, i.e. "Hello"**
- **Why on the top do have two links going to same place?**
- **Link to testing centers**
- **Link OPI GED page**
- **Add to the graphic**
- **Link to ABLE programs**

### **Distance Learning Meeting??**

- **September combined with Data Quality**
  - **This is the winner!**

### **Report Out**

#### **Where are you in the process? Highlights of your work:**

- **Partner agencies are seeking ABLE services; mixed ages and needs**
- **Working collaboratively with other ABLE programs that aren't distance learning providers for TABE and on site instruction**
- **Corrections is looking to ABLE distance learning (pre-release, probation)**
- **Blanket marketing is having more success than targeting a specific audience**
- **Participating in the local trade show brought referrals**
- **Planting the seed at community partner meetings-partners are interested in distance learning**
- **Master Lube has agreed to support 9 employees needing a GED-program is doing a lot of front-end work with employee and employees**
- **Schools have become the new partner-referring and supporting dropouts in online efforts**
- **Distance learning team meets every Friday to contact partners**
- **Distance delivery on work site with employer encouragement**
- **Interviewing all students to see if they are a distance learning candidate**

- **New partnerships are evolving**
- **Holding two orientations annually to promote distance learning**

**Tips for success!**

- **Have students come in for the GED practice test**
- **Don't forget students can come in for help in the traditional classroom**

**Words of Wisdom from a pilot site**

**"The first year is like swimming in muddy water. Stick with it, eventually you will see where you are going."**