

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DIVISION**  
**Workforce Service Delivery**

Technical Assistance Bulletin #98

**Program:**     **Employment Services, Veterans' Services, and Project Reintegration of Offenders**

**Topic:**       **Combined Employer and Job Seeker Peer Resource Panel**

**Date:**         **May 27, 2005**

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This Technical Assistance (TA) Bulletin addresses questions and requests for updated information submitted during group discussions at the three-day February 2005 Combined Employer, Job Seeker, Veterans, and Project Reintegration of Offenders Peer Resource Panel (Peer Resource Panel) held in Austin, Texas. Questions and answers, presentations, handouts, and contact directories are included as attachments to this TA Bulletin.

Of the 158 registered contractor and Board staff, 149 attended one or more sessions of the conference. An average of 120 staff attended individual sessions, substantially more than during the May 2004 Peer Resource Panel.

At the conclusion of the February 2005 Peer Resource Panel, participants were asked to provide critiques. The resulting feedback indicates, in part, that:

- most participants feel that the Peer Resource Panel, specifically the discussion regarding ideas and best practices, was very beneficial and that future Peer Resource Panels should be scheduled;
- although many participants indicate that group interaction generates more audience participation, a majority believe that the use of LiveMeeting will effect the widest dissemination of information, and be the most cost-effective because of travel expenses saved; and
- a semiannual conference held on one full day instead of three, supplemented with shorter sessions conducted at other statewide functions, could also be effective.

The Texas Workforce Commission's Workforce Contract Management department will explore ways to coordinate and schedule future Peer Resource Panels.

If you have questions, please contact the assigned contract manager for your local workforce development area.

Attachments



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A5 Colaborative



A6 Employer



A7 Entered



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A9 Final Board