

Functional Capacity Evaluation Summary

November, 2006 thru May, 2012





What is a Functional Capacity Evaluation?

- A functional capacity evaluation (FCE) assesses a person's ability to perform work from a physical, medical, behavioral or mental perspective.
- One result from the FCE is a finding that the participant has no capacity for work, and this finding may assist the participant in the Social Security Disability benefits process.
- An alternative finding is that the participant has full or limited work capacity.



Work First started FCE testing in November, 2006

- At that time Gaston County had a caseload of 156 long term disabled clients.
- In July, 2007 our disabled caseload had decreased to 12 clients.
- Gaston County presently has 5 long term disabled clients.

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- Since Gaston County first started requiring FCE's, we have scheduled 95 clients for testing.



Results of the testing for these 95 clients:

- 30 clients were unable to work.
- 30 clients were able to work at least 8 hrs a day.
- 4 clients were able to work at least 6 hrs a day.
- 13 clients were able to work at least 4 hrs a day.
- 1 client was able to work at least 3 hrs a day.
- 1 client was able to work at least 2 hrs a day.
- 2 clients were given incompletes.



Results of the testing for these 95 clients Continued:

- Gaston County had 14 clients that were no shows for their FCE appointments after their appointments had been scheduled.

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- Out of the 95 clients that were scheduled for testing, 67% now have some type of income other than TANF:

How that income breaks down:

- 22 clients began receiving SSI.
- 13 clients began receiving SSA.
- 4 clients began receiving both SSI & SSA.
- 25 clients began working.
- 21 clients have gone off the program without any income.
- 10 clients have gone off the program, and Gaston County cannot find any income data on them.

Side note

- When a client discovers that FCE testing is a requirement they often request to withdraw from the TANF program.
- When the case closes, without a test being scheduled, Gaston County does not keep names of these clients.
- This explains why all one hundred and fifty six clients were not tested in the beginning and why the figures look like Gaston County is not testing new clients.
- Gaston County continues to complete FCE testing, and averages sixteen tests a year.