

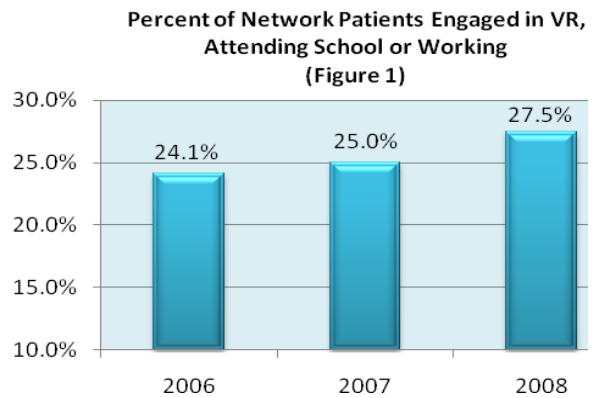


## Network 7 Vocational Rehabilitation Outcomes

Due to an identified need to improve VR rates in the Network 7 area, the Network initiated a quality improvement project, *Vocational Rehabilitation: Getting Back on Track*, during June 2008. The goal of this project is to increase the number of Florida ESRD patients, ages 18-54, either receiving services from VR, employed or attending school full/part time. The objectives of the VR Project are to:

- Promote vocational rehabilitation awareness;
- Engage facilities in conducting Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI);
- Demonstrate outcomes-driven social work practice; and
- Enhance the level of independence and quality of life for ESRD patients.

Network 7 set a statewide goal of 30% (a 5% increase over the 2007 baseline), by December 31, 2009. Additionally, the Network set a stretch goal of 35.7% of patients receiving VR services, working or employed (based on the top 25% of facilities during 2007). Figure 1 illustrates the percentage of patients in the Network 7 area that were working full/part time, attending school full/part time, and/or receiving VR services from 2006 – 2008. As demonstrated in the graph, as of December 31, 2008, 27.5% of Network 7 patients aged 18-54 were either engaged in VR services, attending school, or working. This represented an increase of 2.5% over the 2007 baseline.



As indicated in Figure 2, there continues to be opportunity for improvement regarding the percentage of patients engaged in VR, working and attending school. Although there was a 1.4% increase in the percentage of patients receiving VR services, the percentage of patients attending school has remained flat since 2006. Additionally, the percentage of facilities offering shifts after 5:00 p.m. continued to decrease during 2008, dropping to 12.1% (0.5% decrease). The final measurement for this project will be conducted utilizing 2009 data.

**Network 7 Vocational Rehabilitation Data  
(Figure 2)**

