




CRCG Presentation – 3/20/08 Fort Worth, TX – Tony Guinn, MS, LPC


WHY USE ON-LINE BENEFIT SCREENERS?




Because trying to figure out what benefits are out there can be really confusing!

"Reports that say that something hasn't happened are always interesting to me, because as we know, there are known knowns; there are things we know we know. We also know there are known unknowns; that is to say we know there are some things we do not know. But there are also unknown unknowns -- the ones we don't know we don't know."

Former Defense Secretary, Donald Rumsfeld



Other good reasons to use “Benefit Screeners”

- Helps educate client about resources and empower them to work to address their own needs.
 - Can save caseworker time by having the client complete investigation of resources themselves.
 - Identifies resources that may not be familiar to most professionals.
 - Generates a printable report of resources the client can keep and investigate on their own.
 - Can help engage family members or others in helping to address the client’s needs.
 - Identifies documents needed to complete an application.
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What if my client does not have access to the internet?

- Most of the “Benefit Screeners” allow a person to complete the information for another person. A non-professional can complete the process (even a youth).
 - For example, a senior could call a relative with computer access and “talk them through” completing the screening over the phone. Results can be printed.
 - Help with the process could also be available from a friend, church member or volunteer project.
 - Caseworkers or other professionals can also help.
 - The public library is always a place where internet use is available.



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