

STATE REHABILITATION COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: January 31, 2024
Time: 9:00 am - 11:00 am
Location: Zoom

Members Present:	Lavinia Gripentrog	Christine Anderson	Steven Phelps
	Austin Oseguera	Jenni Thompson	Matthew Huskinson
	Rob Ferris	Jennie Dopp	Brian Lahti
	Dani Williams	Bianca Gonzalez	Jasi Sefcik
	Amber Marsh	Hayden Johnson	

Excused:

<i>Absent:</i>	<i>Julie Beckstead</i> <i>Velma Spencer</i>	<i>Selena Harris</i>	<i>Heather Mousley</i>
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Quorum: YES

USOR Staff:	Aaron Thompson Nicole Fraedrich	Gordon Swensen	Sylvia Gines
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OTHER ATTENDEES: Shannon Wilkins

ACTION ITEM(S):

- Utah Schools for the Deaf & Blind would like to present
- Lora Bench would like to speak to the Council (date to be determined)

WELCOME & OPENING BUSINESS

- Lavinia Gripenrog welcomed everyone to the SRC meeting on Wednesday, January 31st at 9:00 am.
- Review & Approval of previous meeting (November): **Motion to approve**: by Christine Anderson and Jennie Dopp with the second, council approved min.
- Mission Statement & Values read by Dani Williams & Steven Phelps.

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

- **Consumer (Brian Lahti)**: Nothing to report.
- **BI&L (Rob Ferris)**: Nothing to report.
- **Consumer (Selena Harris)**: No report.
- **CAP (Bianca Gonzalez)**: outreach events coming up
- **Special Education (Lavinia Gripenrog)**: Planning the Annual Conference coming up June 11&12th
- **UCAT (Austin Oseguera)**: New Rehab Tech in UCAT (Susanna Aguinaga); had a training yesterday using AI.
- **DSDHH (Jasi Sefcik)**: Providing Tax Assistance, excited to work with the School for the Deaf & Blind.
- **DSPD (Hayden Johnson)**: Discussion stage of long-term study, new updated plan in the works.
- **Navajo Nation (Velma Spencer)**: No report.
- **DSBVI (Jenni Thompson)**: Roads to Independence resource fair March 16th at Morgan High School; flier sent out after the meeting to the council.
- **VR (Steven Phelps)**: Job Fair April 9th @ the Sanderson Center 10-2 pm, Employer Workshop @ DSBVI on March 12th from 9-2pm. Mentoring Events - DPS; Public Safety; Crime Lab & facilities; LDS Hospital simulation lab; getting secondary students ready for college. Fliers were sent to the Council after the meeting.
- **USILC (Julie Beckstead)**: No Report
- **Utah Parent Center (Jennie Dopp)**: Link was seen in the chat. sent out info to the Council after the meeting. DLC Link:
https://disabilitylawcenter-my.sharepoint.com/:x/g/personal/ariggle_disabilitylawcenter_org/ETD9seHxNMdlufzXcrKiPoMBw9KbC5BUO76gllldZqq9Ybw?rtime=-xcj0ngi3Eg. There is a tab for the Senate and the House. This sheet really tries to summarize what is happening with respect to individuals with disabilities.
- **WDD (Heather Mousley)**: No report.
- **Consumer (Matthew Huskinson)**: Nothing to report
- **LSI (Dani Williams)**: Opened up the position for the 16th Career Advocate, which has now doubled in the state. Big emphasis on paid internships,
- **Align Community Employment (Amber Marsh)**: now with Utah State University (their Technical Assistance program), connecting with providers and helping students.

- **U of U Center for Disability & Access (Christine Anderson):** HB261 passed; don't know what that will look like yet. Peer Mentoring program has started. Health and Wellness Feb. 27th from 1-3pm https://utah.zoom.us/meeting/register/UcrdOyurT0sHNYJ1I7-cDD_0c6qZYfolua7 Link will be sent to you after you register. Enrollment continues to grow; excited for all the new opportunities here.

USOR DIRECTOR'S UPDATES :

Aaron Thompson - VR Performance- How are we doing?

- Jan. 30, 2023 - Jan. 30, 2024
 - New Applicants - 1947/ 2655
 - Closed Employed - 628/ 627
 - Measurable Skill Gain Rate - 27.5% / 32.5%
 - Ave. days to Eligibility - 32/ 28 days
 - Ave. Days to Employment - 48/ 44 days
 - Ave. Counselor Caseload - 94/99
- WIOA Combined State Plan
 - outlines strategies for increasing access to and opportunities for employment, education and training. It also includes support services available to Utahns to help them succeed in the workforce.
- Pre-ETs Update -
 - 13 New Contract Providers added as of Oct. 2023
 - 3 New Pre-ETs Instructors - Blanding; Cedar City; UWIPS
- SRC Member Opening
- SRC Member Survey - coming soon
- FY23: SRC Annual Report

Consumer Satisfaction Survey (CSS) - Nicole Fraedrich -

- Change started in July 2022
 - opening wording to forward all surveys to the DDs
 - training tool for counselors and program
- Changed to Qualtrics March 2023
 - align with the platform with DWS
 - Increased return rate from 14.92% - 18.1%
- Overall Results
 - VR staff treated me with respect - stayed at 83% for 4 years
 - Goal of VR is to be employed
 - reasons for leaving program
 - medical; moved out of state; frustrations; working; etc.
 - suggestions to improve program

- more information available up front; more time to get things started; better communication/ quicker assistance

Post High Survey Results 2023 - Lavinia Gripentrog

- Indicator 14 - 23 question survey related to: Post-Secondary Education & Training; Competitive or Other Employment; Adult Living; Agency Involvement; Barriers to employment/ higher ed.; Positive experiences in High School
- Indicator 14 Criteria - Higher Education; Higher Ed or competitive employment; Education, competitive employment, other post secondary education/training, and other employment.
- Survey Response Rates - 54% in 2023
- College Attendance - 18% 2023
- Competitive Employment - 48% 2023
- Minimum Wage or Higher - 95% 2023
- Youth w/ Autism - Higher Ed. 17%; Competitive Employment 36%; other Employment 10%; unengaged 26%
- Youth w/ Intellectual Disabilities - Higher Ed. 4%; Competitive Employment 25%; Other Employment 23%; unengaged 40%
- 2023 Some Responses from Unemployed Youth - 16% not looking; 28% Mission; 11% Health or disability-related problems
- Positive Experiences in High School that Helped students reach goals - Being able to participate in work-based learning; Internship while in school, gained work experience
- Survey comments about VR - on-the-job training; school referral to VR; waiting for a job coach; turnover interrupted services

PRESENTATIONS BY:

Pre-ETs Provider Overview - Community Options - Shannon Wilkins

- Community Options is a nationally based nonprofit organization. Believes in the dignity of all persons, and in the freedom of all people to experience the highest degree of self-determination. Embracing this philosophy, we provide housing and employment opportunities for people with disabilities.
- Employment Services - VR - Supported Job-Based Training; Supported Employment; Life Skills; Financial Literacy; Customized Employment; Pre-ETs
- DSPD - Supported Employment Individual; Supported Employment Enterprise.
- Offering students with disabilities both Work Based Learning Experiences and Summer Pre-ETs classes. Locations in Weber; Davis; Salt Lake; Utah Counties.
- Successes - Presented to 17 schools; Enrolled 29 students; Completed Job exploration for 9 students; Secured our first WBLE at Royal Barber Shop.

Call to Adjourn Meeting by - Matthew Huskinson & Dani Williams with the 2nd.
Next Meeting March 27, 2024