

NORTH DAKOTA STATE REHABILITATION COUNCIL
QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES

October 3, 2023
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., CST

Members Present: Renee Speidel-Wetzsteon, Trampes Brown, Landis Larson, Jacey Enget, Shannon Cook, Angie Dubovoy, Lea Kugel, Damian Schlinger, Chaz Brobst

Others present: Cheryl Anderson

Members Absent: Terry Peterson, Russ Cusack, Kevin Phelps

Call to Order: Amy Arenz called the meeting to order at 1:00 a.m. There was quorum.

Action: A motion to amend and accept the agenda was made by Lea Kugel and seconded by Renee Wetzsteon. Motion carried.

Action: A motion to approve the July 2023 minutes was made by Chaz Brobst and seconded by Jacey Enget. Motion carried.

VR Region V Update - Curt Markel

Goals

Applicants

2022 – 342 goal 377 actual - 91% of goal

2023 – 486 goal 509 actual - 95% of goal

VR Plans/Service

2022 – 260 goal 244 actual - 107% of goal

2023 – 374 goal 411 actual - 91% of goal

Employed

2022 – 114 goal 128 actual - 89%

2023 – 193 goal 193 actual - 100%

2022 average caseload 66

2023 average caseload 65

Transition Services - All counselors work with transition students. 2 contracts for Pre-Employment Transition Services

VR Regional Update - Aimee Easton

Successful closures 49 - Goal for next year 55

Transition services and partnerships are going well.

Serve all but one school through Pre-ETS contracts.

Fully staffed.

Aimee is an ambassador for the chamber and made very good partnerships to benefit VR.

One counselor will test for CRC-One staff is in the master's program. Currently new counselor will sign up in 2024.

Wait list for mental health services.

Mental Health Recovery Center closed.

VR Director Update - Damian Schlinger

Year-end updates

737 Successfully placed clients/closures - every region surpassed their placement goal

Applications - surpassed the goal to reach 2137.

Plans - surpassed the goal to reach 1692.

Goal to shorten wait time for applications and eligibility. Days in application status – 16 days currently vs. 30 days a year ago. Days in eligibility status – 44 days currently vs. 55 days a year ago

Vision services-surpassed the goal to reach - 384 applicants.

87% of clients rated their experience with VR as Satisfied or Very Satisfied

WOTC went from 3 to 65 participants.

Future

More collaboration w/HHS and Workforce Partners

Continuing to press forward with DOCR/justice involved population.

Re-integrating VRS (Vision Rehab Specialists) into regions.

Developing/Continuing with LinkedIn, Facebook, etc.

State Independent Living Council (SILC) - Russ Cusack

No report

Tribal Updates – TBD

No one was present for updates.

Committee Discussion – Amy Arenz

Action: Tabled changing the employment committee until next meeting

Election – Amy Arenz

Action: A motion was made by Renee Wetzsteon and seconded by Angie Dubovoy to re-elect Amy Arenz for Chair and Jacey Enget for Chair Elect. All listed as present in this agenda who were voting members voted in favor.

Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE) Opportunity Grant - Amy Arenz

Amy Arenz, Lea Kugel, Renee Wetzsteon, and Angie Dubovoy volunteered to review the applications for the Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE) Opportunity Grant.

Committee Break Outs

Full SRC recommended abstaining from Committee break outs due to low numbers of committee members. Approval from the Chair.

Public comment

No comments

Adjourn

Action: A motion was made to adjourn by Angie Dubovoy and seconded by Renee Wetzsteon. Motion carried.