



Nebraska State Rehabilitation Council

500 S. 84th St., 2nd Floor PO Box 94987 • Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4987

"A consumer-controlled council committed to ensuring quality rehabilitation services."

SRC Meeting

Tuesday, May 7, 2024

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jodi Bodnar, Jeremy Daffern, Gloria Eddins, Jana Egan, Sharon Elliott, Lindy Foley, Lisa Kent-Scheer, Paulette Monthei, Tobias Orr, Cindy Walz

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lonnie Berger, Elizabeth Filipiak, Jason Gieschen, Catrina Gray, Theresa Hayes, Matt Kaslon

NEBRASKA VR STAFF PRESENT: Holly Enriquez, Angela Fujan, Mary Matusiak, Shawn Roberts

VISITORS: Margie Propp, Ben Sparks, Todd Ludwig, Don Nordell, Alvin Parker

I. Approval of Agenda

Paulette motioned to approve the agenda; Lisa seconded. Verbal vote taken. Motion passed.

II. Approval of prior meeting minutes

Jeremy moved to approve the prior meeting minutes. Paulette seconded. Verbal vote taken. Motion passed.

III. Robert's Rules and meeting etiquette

Gloria reviewed Robert's Rules and the format of meetings.

IV. Council membership and introductions: Gloria welcomed new members and asked guests to introduce themselves.

- A. Potential members: Todd Ludwig (NDOT-Employer), Don Nordell (State Workforce Board), and Alvin Parker (VR-Winnebago Tribe)
- B. New members: Christine Gaspari (SILC), Paulette Monthei is transitioning to member with a disability.
- C. 2024 Terms ending:
 - First Term ending: May - Gloria Eddins, September - Lisa Kent-SheerBoth Gloria and Lisa stated their intention of serving a Second Term.

- Second Term ending: July - Theresa Hayes (NDE), September - Lonnie Berger (employer), Jeremy Daffern (NCDHH)
- Recruitment reminder: Individuals with a disability are needed as representatives on the Council.

V. ACTION — Follow-up to action items from last meeting: Pledge of Allegiance (Jason)

Action item was tabled until next meeting and will be added to agenda.

VI. Discussion:

A. Member Feedback on Written Reports:

1. ATP (Tobias)

ATP's 35th anniversary is approaching in November. ATP is partnering with the Nebraska Recycling Council to rehome durable medical equipment through a grant from the Nebraska Environmental Trust.

ATP has completed interviews for the Warehouse Manager position and the I Can Connect program anticipates spending most of the allotment received. Brooke's team did 57 service requests and is active attending job expos.

2. CAP (Jodi)

CAP is currently working on about 15 cases; about half are moving towards resolution.

Issues with cases are timeliness of services, self-employment, and Supported Employment access to services. There is a great need for providers. CAP is discussing ways for staff to follow up with next steps, helping clients understand what services might look like and reminders about timelines of services.

3. Deaf & Hard of Hearing (Jeremy)

NDHH still looking for Executive Director and Coordinator positions.

4. NSILC (Christine)

SILC is waiting on the approval of three new members and Christine is looking forward to making connections at upcoming events.

5. Ombudsman (no report)

6. Youth Leadership Council (report only)

B. Member Feedback on VR (Chair) None at this time.

C. Director Report and WIOA State Plan Development Update (Lindy Foley)—see attached report

Holly, Cathy, and Lindy attended CSAVR, the Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation conference in Maryland. Lindy presented on what VR is doing in Nebraska with stay interviews and partnering with businesses as well as keeping people engaged in

services and providing excellent customer service.

The WIOA Plan is in review, if approved it would be in effect July 1, 2024.

Team Tour is approaching. Offices can add to their Team Tour Agenda. Hiring managers have done well filling open positions. Data reporting will be discussed at Team Tour. Staff tracks data by documenting services; policies are in place that guide proper documentation.

Lindy will have more information about performance measures sent out to the Council members as well as the Olmstead Survey.

Successful employment rate puts Nebraska VR in the top 10 in the nation. Gloria brought up that Nebraska VR and NDE has worked hard at collecting the data to know where we start, and that is a huge compliment.

VII. Committee meetings and reports:

- A. Client Services Committee (Jodi) The Committee decided it need to refocus on getting a direction. Discussed Client Satisfaction Survey and is asking that the Council look at cases that that did not have a successful closure but had an IPE. Decision was made to start looking into another survey or changing the survey by sharing at the next meeting and talk about the new QE2 Case Service dashboard.
- B. Employer Services Committee (Jana) Committee welcomed Todd and discussed employer awards. Mary updated the group that each VR team is required to submit 2 nominations, then the Employer Services Committee will meet in July to pick winners. Nomination forms will also be sent for the Champion Award to SRC members.
- C. Transition Services Committee (Sharon) Discussed students that are 18 years old that have graduated that are missing transition skills for gainful in employment are not being served. School Surveys have gone out and include a question about VR. By the next SRC meeting, the group will look at survey info and will work towards a solution of increasing VR awareness and support in high schools and IEP meetings.
- D. Executive Committee (Gloria) Angela went over new member orientation, meeting formats and October Meeting and Disability Employment Inclusion Awards.

VIII. Public Comment/Announcements –

Kearney Disability Pride July 12th and Lincoln Disability Pride July 27th, see the Facebook page, they are still needing vendors.

Paulette motioned to adjourn; Jeremy seconded. Motion passed. Meeting Adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Next meetings are August 6th and October 1st.