



# MASSACHUSETTS REHABILITATION COMMISSION

## STATEWIDE REHABILITATION COUNCIL

**Chairperson**  
Dawn Clark

**Vice Chairperson**

**Secretary**

**Members at Large**

### **Executive Committee**

600 Washington Street, Boston MA, 02111

January 2, 2020

1:00P.M.-3:00 P.M.

### **Meeting Minutes**

#### **Call to Order/Introductions**

- Ms. Dawn Clark (SRC), Ms. Kate Biebel (MRC), Mr. Christopher Dreher (SRC), Jessica Cimini (MRC), Mr. Alex Scarlis (public), Ms. Naomi Goldberg (SRC)

#### **Remotely**

Ms. Inez Canada (SRC), Mr. Joe Bellil (SRC)

#### **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

- Ms. Clark motioned to accept the minutes, Mr. Dreher seconded the motion.
- Ms. Canada motioned to make amendments to the minutes. Remove her name from website, By-Laws presented should say will present.

#### **Old Business**

- **Timeframe for FY20 SRC Recommendations**
- **Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) State Plan**
  - o State feedback is in process for the WIOA State Plan report. The State Plan committee will be meeting on January 9, 2020 to review and give additional input.
  - o The final report will be sent to the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) by April 1, 2020.

#### **SRC Annual Report**

SRC reviews and provides input by MRC on draft sections by January 17, 2020. Comments and questions will be submitted to Bill Noone. Final edits will be received by February 3, 2020, the final version will be submitted to RSA by March 31, 2020.

#### **Recommendations FY21**

Recommendations have to be submitted to the State Plan Committee by July 31, 2020 with MRC's responses. The report is due November 1, 2020.

**The question was asked if there has been any thoughts on how to have more input from the public for the FY21 recommendations in order to get a wider range of ideas?**

### **Ideas on how to approach**

- Send letters to the Independent Living Centers asking for participation. Concern with this idea is why the IL centers and not our own consumers. The recommendations are to the advantage of our consumers.
- Have recommendation forms available at the next consumer training. Concern that input from consumers who are not educated about the recommendations could be too much for the committees to sort through.
- Have this as a question on the consumer satisfaction survey. It was agreed that this suggestion is workable as the purpose of the consumer satisfaction survey is to get input from our consumers on how MRC can improve services.
- Via email announce that there will be a box with the recommendations forms.
- Have them available on line.

### **Question**

- Is there current literature available that can be used to educate the reasoning for the recommendations and what the committees use them for?

### **Action**

- Dawn will speak with the national SRC to inquire if they have materials that they use to educate the public.
- Ms. Canada will assist Joe with the One Pager draft for the FY2021 Recommendations

### **Discussion**

- Concern about how to manage the volume, and who is doing the work as we consider opening up how to receive state plan recommendations.

### **Action**

- Joe will discuss the suggestions to the State Plan Committee.

### **Review Full SRC Meeting Length**

Dawn went back to the survey that went out to regarding the length of time for full SRC meetings. Responses were answered in 2 hour timeframes at various times of the day. Dawn asked for the committees thought of the two-hour timeframe.

- Suggested adding a half hour if needed with the agenda in mind
- Suggested having a rule of each person has three minutes to speak
- No decision was made to extend the length of the SRC meeting

### **Review Committee Member List**

Input from the chairs on committee member's accuracy is requested

## **New Business**

### **FY2020 Autism Recommendation Update**

An update on the recommendations was given by Ms. Jessica Cimini, MRC Director of VR Operations and staff liaison to assist the committee with meeting the FY2020 autism recommendations.

1. MRC will continue to provide technical assistance and resource information for AANE for training, DDS liaison role staff on strategies to serve individuals on the Autism Spectrum.
  - Contracts with AANE have been extended to provide trainings to staff and our CIES and Pre-ETS vendors. Other trainings are available through DDS to maintain experts to work with those on the spectrum. DDS has training for staff that MRC can attend. VR counselors have been hired through the school system, which is extremely helpful to other counselors who have worked strictly with adult services.
2. MRC will continue to work with the Federation and/or the Autism/Asperger Extended contract with AANE with to provide information to families of individuals on the Autism Spectrum

#### **Question**

- Is technical assistance available?

#### **Answer**

- It is a phone conversation. Directly call. Most referrals are in training and life mapping.

#### **Question**

- How many consumers are receiving life mapping?

#### **Answer**

- Each area office may use approximately 3-5 slots - life mapping is expensive.

#### **Question**

- Do all our vendors (CIES, Pre-ETS) work with individuals with autism?

#### **Answer**

- All of our vendors work with individuals across a spectrum of disabilities, including autism.

## **Adjournment**

- Next meeting date: February 6, 2020, 1-3pm in Bartels Conference room.