

## SRC Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

May 7, 2020

1-3pm

**Attendees:** Joe Belill (SRC), Kate Biebel (MRC), Inez Canada (SRC), Dawn Clark (Chair), Jessica Cimini (MRC), Naomi Goldberg (SRC), Steve LaMaster (public), Bill Noone (MRC), Ann Shor (MRC), Olympia Stroud (SRC)

This meeting was held remotely.

### **Minutes Approval – Ms. Clark**

- Ms. Canada approved the 4.2.20 Ex Com meeting minutes. This was seconded by Ms. Goldberg.

### **AT Act Program – Ms. Shor**

- Asking for support to identify potential representatives from Workforce Development for the AT Board. AT Act Program – 3 regional centers (Boston, Worcester, Pittsfield) with inventory of AT devices. Provides loan of devices to try out. Would like more connection with employers to ensure they are meeting those needs – could work with employers to develop trainings, etc.
- Ms. Biebel will e-introduce Ms. Shor to SRC Ex Com members to continue the conversation and identify concrete next steps.
- Discussion of potentially sending out AT resources to full SRC for June meeting – will review what Ms. Shor sends to identify next steps.

### **FY21 Recommendations – Mr. Belill and Ms. Clark**

- Timeline – SRC Ex Com will review today, and plan to be presented at June SRC meeting. Mr. Belill reviewed recommendations. Committee discussed potential edits and updates of recommendations.
- Ms. Canada proposed a new nomenclature for tracking recommendations by including a notation to the specific fiscal year.
- Confirmed we were not carrying over recommendations from previous years unless they were officially submitted for FY21.
- Ms. Clark proposed to approve the 6 submitted recommendations (understanding language would be tweaked by committees). Committee discussed Commissioner Wolf's discussion of wanting SRC to identify 2-3 recommendations for MRC to focus on.
- Ms. Canada will reach out to Ellie Starr and Mr. LaMaster to ensure the language of recommendation #6 is accurate.
- Ms. Canada made a motion to accept the 6 recommendations understanding the language would be amended. Mr. Belill seconded the motion.

### **RSA Update – Ms. Cimini**

- Ms. Cimini reported on many calls with RSA. RSA has submitted waivers to allow for increased flexibility for VR agencies. RSA has announced postponement of monitoring visits, and securing TA centers for VR to focus on working remotely. They are seeking approval to have FFY20 dollars – which usually expire in Sept 2020 - to be extended by one year to September 2021. Also asking for relief from the 15% of Pre-ETS spending. Also asked for waiver on the 10% match side for state spending. All are under consideration by Congress.
- Discussed the ability of SRC members to educate their elected officials on importance of the waivers.

- Ms. Canada asked about use of Pre-ETS dollars. Ms. Cimini responded that during this time, we are increasing access for students to programming that is remote – could include subscriptions to online platforms (e.g., linked-in learning), etc. Described significant increase in computer requests for students.

#### **Autism Report Recommendations – Ms. Cimini**

- To date 34 students have been referred to the LifeMapping program.

#### **Covid-19 MRC Impact – Ms. Biebel**

- Ms. Biebel discussed the numbers of workforce and consumers impacted by Covid-19. As of last week, 87 individuals had tested positive for Covid-19. The majority of these were in VR, and included 3 members of the MRC workforce. We have 6 consumer fatalities.

#### **Guidebook and One Pager – Ms. Clark**

- One pager has been approved. Discussion of should we disseminate one pager now.
- Will hold on guidebook for now.

#### **Nominating Committee and Ex Officios – Ms. Clark**

- Ms. Clark has been communicating with SRCs around the country to get guidance on this issue. We will hold on this topic until we have descriptions of the roles.
- Will table Ex Officio discussion to June SRC meeting.

#### **Next Meeting**

June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Virtual Meeting

1-3pm