



MASSACHUSETTS REHABILITATION COMMISSION

STATEWIDE REHABILITATION COUNCIL

Chairperson
Dawn Clark

Vice Chairperson
Alan Greene

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Members at Large
Steve Aalto

SRC Council Meeting

MRC Framingham Area Office

May 3, 2018

1:00pm to 3:30pm

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order/Introductions

- Alan Green, Jim Riley, Joe Bellil, Joseph Panciotti, Dave D’Arcangelo (MOD), Naomi Goldberg, Ann Marie Paulson, Doug Mason, Rich Colantonio, Kimball Anderson, Toni Wolf, Kevin Goodwin, Alex Carlos, Rosanna Woodmansee, Steve Aalto, Ines Canada, Naomi Goldberg.
- Chris Callaghan

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- Jim Riley noted that he would like to receive an update regarding the meeting from Assistant Commissioner Phillips regarding her
- The meeting minutes were motioned to access by Joe Bellil and seconded by Naomi Goldberg
- Council approved meeting minutes unanimously.

MRC Senior team Update

- Kate Biebel
 - o Commissioner Wolf introduced Kate Biebel, the new deputy commissioner at Mass Rehab. She started her position in March and is already fully immersed in the day to day activities.
 - o Liaison role changing from Josh Boardman to Kate Biebel
 - o Toni provided an update to the MRC
 - Gig Economy – MRC is still looking at the all employment as Integrated, competitive employment. The gig economy jobs are not completing satisfying the requirements of integrated employment as people tend to be

working on their own and have no possible chance of being promoted within a limited timeframe maintaining the understanding that integrated means working amongst others with

- Transportation – Teri Koopman is coming into the June, transportation through the state is expensive and we are working to change and increase the bidders and negotiate rates.
- On the job training has continued to expand: MAPFRE and other providers with on the job training have been added. MRC is working with vendors/partners to increase hiring at Amazon facilities in Massachusetts.
- Fiscal review:
 - MRC is working on examining costs of leases, personnel costs,
 - MRC is unable to roll forward funds to the following fiscal years.
 - 67% of the people we are serving are under 35 years old.
- Order of selection:
 - Order of selection is the order to be followed in selecting eligible individuals for” VR services and provide justification for the plan it selects.
 - MRC has created an internal Task force to determine eligibility, taking anywhere from 60-90 days. This committee will be meeting in the months of June, July and August to determine a detailed plan to move forward.
 - Youth would be Presumed Eligible for all VR services and would not impact order of selection.
 - Many states are moving to an Order of Selection, to assist with covering cost of services. In tandem, VR agencies are also utilizing partnerships like the career centers to provide updates.
 - The MRC will be providing what other states are doing around Order of Selection for the upcoming coming meeting.

Old Business

- Elections/Gubernatorial Updates
 - Josh provided one update that MRC received news that Heather Wood has been given notice of her appointment.
- State Plan Recommendations and Timeline
 - The committee ran out of time to discuss
- June Meeting Agenda Items
 - The council ran out of time to discuss these agenda items.

- Review of 2017 Recommendations
 - o The Commissioner briefly discussed the recommendations in her remarks.
- Mass.gov SRC Pages
 - o Josh Boardman will review these at the upcoming June Meeting.

New Business

- Common Measures Presentation
 - o Bill Noone and Staff were unable to make this meeting. This has been scheduled for the June meeting.
- Committee RSVP and Attendance.
 - o Josh Boardman will discuss this at a future meeting.

Other:

- David D'Archenglo from Massachusetts office on Disability. :
 - o The following are discussion points made with regards to State as a Model Employer and 2/3 of working age people with disabilities are not working, specifically 230,000 people, in MA. MRC is the largest disability employment program within the state and only reach about 10% of people.
 - MOD has been and continues to work with the MA Human Resource Division on Model Employer Program. One area the two agencies are working on finding a way to have people with disabilities receive an interview if they meet all the minimum entrance requirements.
 - MOD is ensuring the accessibility of all the MA career center.
 - Supplier Diversity Program – State Contractors Hiring People with Disabilities:
 - MA spend \$4 Billion a year on goods and services through vendors and contracts. The legislature passed a bill and named MOD consultant to Operational Services Division (SDO). One of the major goals for this program is this hiring and 7% of the vendor workforce as people with disabilities in this is a pilot program. Companies on the federal contracts are required to meet this goal with oversight from the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Program (OFCCP). MOD is working with OFCCP, to determine best practices for implementation.
 - The 7% pool of candidates, what is the definition disability and how does it work
 - o This is a pilot program, this is not a mandate.

- MOD is using the ADA definition of the term disability.
- The ultimate goal of this project is to bring people with disabilities into the workforce.

Adjournment

- Next meeting date: June 5, 2018