

Draft SRC State Plan meeting notes for February 11, 2021 at 11am

Attendees: Joe B., Olympia S., Inez C., Naomi G., Sarah W., Dawn C., Colleen C., Michael S., Amada C., Steve L., Charlene C., Kate B., Katie Q., Janet L., and Kevin G.

Meeting notes from December 2020's meeting were approved.

Presentation by Janet LaBreck on the State goals and priorities of VR and assisting in the preparation of the VR services of the Combined State Plan.

Janet LaBreck, principal and co-founder of Synergy Consulting Partners:

<https://synergyconsultingpartners.org/>

Board members need to be fully engaged.

Appointment process is important; good to have a positive relationship with the Governor's appointment staff person.

MRC and SRC having a good relationship is the key; understanding the requirements and MRC direction is important. COVID's impact was pivotal and how well entities dealt with it was important.

Janet will send out 2 annual reports from states that she believes are model states for SRCs to look at. She suggested looking at their core areas- that's how their council makes their recommendations.

State Plan and Recommendations should be in alignment. Sometimes the Governors, Sec. Of State, Agency heads can influence what the goals and objectives for MRC and SRC ultimate outcomes. It's important that the recommendations be supported by data. You need to build your own case and move in the same direction as VR. If you have done all these things and still disagree, then agree to disagree and work on ways to come back to that. Remember your statutory requirements. State Plan is the roadmap.

An example of our DEI issue was used. Leaders had different views and reasons. Things seemed to stop.

Comprehensive Needs Assessment is very important and provide areas to work on.

In a recent study, culturally- over 1 million people with disabilities have left employment since COVID.

It is important to identify an area and then study and research it and make sure that it aligns with MRC, like Career Pathways.

Take things in phases. Recommendations are throughout the State Plan process. Comprehensive Needs Assessment- what are the specific areas in need: i.e., youth, what are the needs.

It was stated that sometimes our SRC gets information too late. It was suggested that we consider creating task forces like the Pre ETS task force to focus on specific issue.

Concerns about our SRC's capacity was brought up- Amada's role may help.

Consumer input into the Recommendation process was brought up. Janet mentioned the past consumer conferences and suggested we think of holding a virtual conference to get input.

Since the SRC represents MRC Consumers then the SRC Members should be making the Recommendations. Recommendations should be made yearly.

Recommendations should come from the body of work and Comprehensive Needs Assessment. They should be prioritized.

We should encourage more people to participate in our council activities. People can be guest and SME- Subject Matter Experts.

Janet would be happy to assist if we needed her.

Other

Olympia reminded members that is Black History Month.

The meeting was adjourned.

