

## State Rehabilitation Council, Full Council Meeting

- **10:00 am -12:00 pm**
- **November 7, 2019**
- **Attendees:** Cameron Hager, Fred Jones, Heather Allen, Jimmy Allen, Harriet Hall, John Spinney, Steve Pouliot, Nicole Clements, Martha Frank, Pete Bruhn, Tom Frank, Jerry Doody, Vincent Livoti
  - On Phone: Kaelyn Modrak, Linda Goodspeed, Rose Lucenti, Meagan Downey
  - Absent: Sherrie Brunelle, Shelby Glass
  
- **Welcome**
  - **Adjustments to Agenda**
    - No adjustments
- **Acceptance of June Meetings**
  - **Additions to June Meeting**
    - **Accepted as amended**
- **Updates**
  - **VABVI (Steve Pouliot)**
    - Children Services
      - 2 TVI vacancies
      - Pushing to get more people in the UMass Boston program
      - 10 students at camp experience
    - Adult Services
      - White Cane Day
      - 70B Report
      - Many programs are not hiring certified individuals across the country whereas VABVI is
      - Intake
        - 1 Day waiting period for referrals compared to 2-3 weeks for most of the country
      - Shortage of TVIs across the country
        - Estimate of 5000 needed
      - Transportation Program
        - Most states have regional programs whereas Vermont has a statewide program
      - Developing a community outreach program
        - Adult services programs have to do one outreach event per quarter
        - 40 presentations a year is goal
        - Trying to get more ophthalmologists and eye doctors involved
          - **USING QR CODES\*\*\***
      - Dancing with the stars in Burlington
        - Well received, well attended

- Lots of PR through that
  - John- AOE Weekly Field Memo\*\*\*
    - Open to anyone
    - Can provide any information on that
  - Sending messages to high school seniors
  - iOS Program
    - Training out for all smart advices
  - **\*\*\*ACTION ITEM\*\*\* Fred will connect with Steve about QR Codes**
- **ABLE Library (Vincent Livoti)**
  - Programming expanded
    - Memory café open for over a year
      - Alzheimer's and dementia
    - Virtual book club starting up again
      - Phone-in
      - Providing an opportunity for socializing
      - Don't have to be members of ABLE Library
      - Try to choose titles that are commonly available
      - December 11<sup>th</sup> start date
    - Launching electronic version of newsletter
    - ABLE Athletes
      - Partnership with VASS
      - Winter event in central VT
      - Logistics of location and travel are important
    - ABLE Arts
      - Sensory art installation
        - Working with Champlain College
        - Participatory elements
        - Exposure working with clients
      - Story Walk Program
        - Adaptive story walk
        - QR Codes
        - Interactive
        - Guided digital tour
        - How to accommodate all people?
          - Jerry- Doing low tech and high tech ways
            - Autobahn center?
            - Braille/Large print and QR Codes
        - After holidays
    - Statewide library standards
      - Will be looking for accessibility feedback
      - Vermont recordings being added to nationwide catalogue
    - **\*\*\*ACTION ITEM\*\*\* Vincent will connect with various council members about accommodations for Story Walk program**
- **Education (John Spinney)**
  - Whole agency is at National Life

- New special education director
- Team expanded
- Divisions are adjusting
  - More strategic planning
- Era of accessibility
  - New initiatives
    - General education systems
      - Developing inclusive systems
      - More trainings
    - Proficiency based graduation system
      - Schools have flexibility to modify performance indicators
      - Accommodations vs. modifications
      - Replacing multi-year plan
    - Act 173
      - Special ed funding law
      - State voted to delay it
      - Census based model
        - Added flexibility
    - Working with VFN
      - Transition guides
        - Online, electronically
        - Hard copies as well
  - Core team transition conference was sold out
- **CAP (Sherrie)**
  - See attached documents
  - Send to SRC
  - **\*\*\*ACTION ITEM\*\*\* Cameron will send update to SRC group**
- **Vermont Family Network (Martha)**
  - Transition tool kit
    - Live document
    - Online
  - Website
    - VR has added information
      - Core transition teams
        - Information about everything
        - Populated as year goes on
        - All news from interagency event being uploaded
  - Youth Panel/Youth Advisory Council
    - Present at core event
    - 7 new members
    - First meeting November 21<sup>st</sup>
    - Always looking for more young people
    - Vermont Technical College
    - Looking at areas of emphasis

- Youth Risk Survey
      - Added questions about disability for the first time ever
      - Identifying populations with the highest risk
    - Conferences all over the state
      - Sarah Forward
      - 3 parts of the state, 3 conferences
      - Opening Doors in a Small Town
      - Information on website
  - **NFB (Mo Cook)**
    - Holding off convention till Spring
  - **VCB (Jerry Doody)**
    - Leadership changes
      - Mike Richmond
    - Event in Stowe
      - Paul Sumner providing music
    - Taking another trip
      - Previous trips well attended
      - Shopping event
  - **DOL (Rose Lucenti)**
    - No updates
    - Future information to put in notes
    - Fred- Looking for apprenticeships
      - Hugh Bradshaw working with the DOL
        - Supervising apprenticeships
        - Connect with him
      - **\*\*\*ACTION ITEMS\*\*\* Fred will connect with Hugh Bradshaw about apprenticeships**
  - **DBVI Director (Fred Jones)**
    - Transitions
      - Mackenzie Breen taking over for Mike Goldberg
        - Master's degree
      - Cameron Hager moving into Mackenzie's previous role
      - Jean Palmer retired
        - Looking for a new person
      - Heather Allen
        - DBVI representative for SRC
    - December
      - Phone meeting
      - Identifying primary needs
        - Focus of the call
    - Pete Bruhn
      - Accessible Web
      - Working with many people in the area such as VFN
- **Discussion of DBVI Services (Taya and Jimmy)**

- Taya
  - Overview
    - Building relationship with client
    - Main focus is vocational
    - Ability to connect one on one
    - What are the client's challenges
      - Technology needs
      - Employment needs
- Jimmy
  - Overview
    - Referral
      - Geoff Howard evaluation
      - Read client
      - Call and meet person directly
    - Going over goals with client
    - Training for a variety of accessible features and technology
    - Individualized training
      - Counselors can have input on sessions
    - College students
      - Understanding how to navigate the various aspects of academics on college
        - How to get books
        - Signing up for services
        - Look at semester
      - Work with student services
- Questions
  - Have you encountered difficulty with college systems of dispensing information to students? How is the accessibility?
    - Jimmy
      - Given feedback to colleges around various things
        - Calendars
        - Students using voiceover to access materials
        - Changing student portals and worksites
        - Professors better labeling their materials
      - Seeing more companies opening up to accessibility
    - Who is the best group to contact for a general referral?
      - Fred- No wrong door
      - VABVI, DBVI
        - VABVI has one intake person
        - DBVI- Go to regional person
    - Getting referrals from VA or federal government?
      - Taya- None
      - Outreach opportunity

- **TOPICS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

- Ways to get referrals

- Assistive technology and accessibility
  - See it in action
- IL Program overview
  - Understanding it better
- “Universal design”
  - Implementing new systems, new programs
- Transition program and youth programs
- More information about the LEAP program
  - Bring in students