

Minutes – May 7, 2015

SRC Advocacy, Outreach and Education Committee

SRC Advocacy, Outreach and Education Committee		
Thursday, May 7, 2015	1:30 pm – 3:30 pm	Video Conferences – Rutland , Williston and Brattleboro VR
Meeting called by	Sarah Launderville (Chair) at 1:40 pm	
Members Present	Diane Dalmasse, Whitney Nichols, Sam Liss and Ben Wimett	
Members Absent	Leslie Walker Mitchell, Anthony Williams and Patti Shane	
SRC Liaison	n/a	
SRC Coordinator	Rebekah M. Stephens	
Interpreters	n/a	
Speakers/Presenters	n/a	
Facilitator	n/a	
1. Today's Agenda		
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Discussion	No discussion.	
Conclusions	Agenda accepted.	
2. Approval of Minutes – March 5, 2015 Committee Meeting		
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Discussion	No quorum. No discussion. Sam Liss moved to approve minutes through an email vote. Whitney Nichols 2 nd .	
Conclusions	Conduct an email vote for approval of March 5, 2015 Committee meeting minutes. Email vote conducted. Minutes approved via email vote on May 14, 2015.	
Action Items		
Email Committee members for vote of approval on March 5, 2015 Committee meeting minutes	Person Responsible	Deadline
	Rebekah Stephens	5/8/2015
Approved minutes to be uploaded to www.VTSRC.org	Rebekah Stephens	5/15/2015
3. Update – Action Plan around Request for ADA Training for VR Counselors		
-----	Sarah Launderville	
Discussion	Sarah explained to Diane Dalmasse that at the last AOE meeting, David Sagi was present and the Committee had a discussion with him about offering VR Counselors ADA Training. Alicia Wein joined today's meeting to discuss ADA Training for VR Counselors with the Committee. Ben Wimett added that the training could be disseminated better if the training could be done both in person and as a webinar. Diane offered that the training could be offered as part of the November VR Staff Day and offer a panel. The training could be videoed and offered as a webinar or video for new counselor training. Alicia shared that David attends new counselor training and offers about 1.5 hours of discussion and training around ADA. The small environment offers a wonderful opportunity for discussion. Alicia shared that there are definitely some avenues for incorporating additional training on ADA. VR is definitely able to put together a 20 minute webinar on the topic. Committee would like to set up a work group around this topic to discuss next steps. Ben Wimett volunteered to be on work group. Alicia Wein, Anthony Williams (VABIR) and Samantha Brennan (VR) should be invited to participate in the work group.	
Conclusions	Invite Ben, Alicia, Anthony and Samantha to join Sarah for a work group meeting.	
Action Items		
Invite Ben Wimett, Samantha Brennan, Alicia Wein and Anthony Williams to the work group meeting on the topic of ADA Training for VR Counselors	Person Responsible	Deadline
	Sarah Launderville	TBD
4. Development of 2015 AOE Action Plan – Next Steps		
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Discussion	A significant number of Committee members are absent from today's meeting.	
Conclusions	Discussion on this agenda topic is tabled for today.	
Action Items		
	Person Responsible	Deadline

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None	n/a	n/a
5. Update – VR Budget		
-----	Diane Dalmasse	
Discussion	VR will be losing approximately \$100,000 - \$150,000 from the VT State budget. Case service budget will be reduced because of this. Diane is confident VR can manage the reductions. \$71,000 was lost for Assistive Technology. The AT Program will continue to operate the best they can in light of the reductions in budget. VR is in discussion with AT regarding VR paying for AT services for VR consumers. VR is under spent in their overall budget this year. This is a good thing. VR will be purchasing AWARE software this year and it will cost \$1 million.	
Conclusions	VR is managing well and moving forward.	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
None	n/a	n/a
6. Legislative Update – MWPDP Testimony		
-----	Sam Liss and Whitney Nichols	
Discussion	Diane Dalmasse informed the Committee that there was a teleconference today and there are additional questions that need to be answered. One of the questions is “how do we know it is not going to cost more?” MWPDP supporters believe it will not cost any more than discussed but there is no data to support this belief. This is not a new program. The majority of individuals are already receiving Medicaid in some form. This will just allow them to work more. Diane shared with the Committee that James Smith was able to testify in front of the House Ways and Means Committee. VT is proposing to be involved in a 4 state pilot program around assisting individuals with disabilities with applying for SSDI. This pilot program will concentrate on early intervention work. The other states are Delaware, Nebraska and Wisconsin. ALLSUP, the “nation’s premier disability representation company” (ALLSUP.com) will also be involved. Governor Shumlin supports Vermont’s participation in this pilot. There is approximately \$35 million that has been appropriated for this initiative. The money is currently sitting in the Social Security budget.	
Conclusions	We just have to wait and see the results of today’s MWPDP teleconference and answers to the questions asked.	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
None	n/a	n/a
7. Other Business		
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Discussion	No discussion.	
Conclusions	None.	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
None	n/a	n/a
8. Adjournment		
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Discussion	No discussion.	
Conclusions	Adjourned at 3:08 pm.	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
Draft minutes submitted for approval	Rebekah Stephens	6/5/2015
Draft minutes emailed to Committee members	Rebekah Stephens	6/5/2015
Draft minutes uploaded to website www.VTSRC.org	Rebekah Stephens	6/5/2015
Minutes approved by Committee	Committee Members	9/3/2015
Approved minutes uploaded to website www.VTSRC.org	Rebekah Stephens	9/11/2015