

Minutes – November 3, 2016 SRC Advocacy, Outreach and Education Committee

SRC Advocacy, Outreach and Education Committee		
Thursday, November 3, 2016	1:30 pm – 3:30 pm	VABVI 60 Kimball Avenue South Burlington, VT 05403
Meeting called by	Alaina Clements, Chair at 1:30 p.m.	
Members Present	Sam Liss, Diane Dalmasse, Michelle Paya, Jessalyn Gustin (on phone), Leslie Walker Mitchell (on phone) and Martha Frank	
Members Absent	Olivia Smith-Hammond, Chris Kane and Max Barrows	
SRC Liaison	n/a	
SRC Coordinator	Rebekah M. Stephens	
Interpreters	n/a	
Speakers/Presenters	n/a	
Guests	n/a	
1. Today's Agenda		
2 minutes	Alaina Clements	
<b>Discussion</b>	No discussion.	
<b>Conclusions</b>	Today's agenda accepted.	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
None	n/a	n/a
2. Approval of Minutes – September 1, 2016 Committee Meeting		
3 minutes	Alaina Clements	
<b>Discussion</b>	Sam Liss moved to approve. Martha Frank 2 <sup>nd</sup> .	
<b>Conclusions</b>	Minutes approved.	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
Upload approved minutes to <a href="http://www.VTSRC.org">www.VTSRC.org</a>	Rebekah Stephens	11/11/2016
3. Updates – Federal & State: ABLÉ Act Task Force Meeting		
15 minutes	Sam Liss	
<b>Discussion</b>	MWPĐ (Medicaid for Working Persons with Disabilities) - CMS (Centers for Medicaid Services) submitted their response and there have been some additional questions. States want to be assured that temporary gaps in work will not cause an individual to lose benefit eligibility. Once the responses are finished there will be a 6-month rule making period which includes a 1-month public comment period. National Federation of the Blind Newsline did outreach to VA Hospital in White River Junction because several people signed up for it. VABVI (Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired) will be able to help sign people up for this service. At the ABLÉ (Achieving a Better Life Experience) Act Task Force meeting, it was voted that Vermont would work with Ohio on setting up ABLÉ accounts. So far, only four states have begun the rollout of the ABLÉ accounts (OH, TN, FL, NE). Vermont is hoping to have ABLÉ Act accounts available directly in Vermont by February 2017. There are two basic types of ABLÉ accounts: Long-term savings accounts and shorter-term accounts for more immediate needs. The money in ABLÉ accounts will be tax free and can be used for practically anything related to a person's disability. The Global Commitment was extended to 5 years. The All-Payor medical model was approved by the Green Mountain Care Board and signed by the Governor. Mathematica and WID (World Institute on Disability) did not get the grant for the Career Access Project. There are still on-going efforts to get funding for a Career Access "like" project, much like PROMISE.	
<b>Conclusions</b>	Thank you, Sam!	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
None	n/a	n/a

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<b>4. Updates – VR Budget, WIOA, Career Access Project &amp; How is Pre-ETS Rollout going in VT?</b>		
30 minutes	Diane Dalmasse	
<b>Discussion</b>	The VR budget is still a very hot topic. We are o.k. for 2017 and have come up with a significantly reduced 2018 budget. The Legislature is sure to take a close look at the 2018 budget and provide some input on the proposed budget reductions. The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) regulations are now final. VR has a “to do” list on meeting the requirements of the new regulations. Diane handed out the list. Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS), Memorandums of Understanding with partners, Policy & Procedure Manual changes, Supported Employment adjustments and the elimination of the Homemaker IPE (Individualized Plan for Employment) make up the list. There is a lot in process but VR is diligently addressing the changes. VR is into its second year of Pre-ETS. Vermont VR received the Linking Learning to Careers grant. 6 full-time VR counselors will be reassigned to this grant, as career consultants. VR is hoping to begin some training for this in March 2017.	
<b>Conclusions</b>	Thank you, Diane!	
<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
None	n/a	n/a
<b>5. Discussion – AOE 2017 Goals and Standing Agenda Items</b>		
40 minutes	Committee members	
<b>Discussion</b>	Take Career Access Project update off agenda as a standing agenda item. Sam Liss will keep up to date on the topic and report on it as needed under his Federal and State Updates. The Committee members discussed the Youth Summit, which usually takes place during Disability Awareness Day. Vermont Family Network (VFM) will be doing a conference that focuses on youth on April 6, 2017. Martha Frank will oversee the transition piece of this conference. A lot of the 2017 priorities identified by the AOE Committee during the 9 <sup>th</sup> Annual SRC Retreat could be addressed at the Youth Summit or the VFN conference. Educating the new Administration – efforts can begin right after the election. Suggestion was made to partner with the SILC (Statewide Independent Living Council) and the GCEPD (Governor’s Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities) to reach out the new Administration as a group. Also, invite the new Governor to the Disability Summit in June 2017. One of AOE’s 2017 goals was to have more of an SRC presence at Employer Recognition events. VR’s Business Account Managers (BAMs) host Employer Recognition events around Vermont each year. VR will make sure that SRC members are included on the invitee list for these events. Michelle Paya wanted to know if the SRC could do a presentation at a Chamber of Commerce meeting and/or Vermont Businesses for Social Responsibility (VBSR) to get the word out around Pre-ETS. Diane Dalmasse suggested starting small, maybe one meeting, and see how it goes. Committee members agreed.	
<b>Conclusions</b>	Sam Liss will reach out to the SILC and GCEPD around reaching out to the new Administration. Rebekah Stephens will reach out to Hugh Bradshaw regarding including SRC members on Employer Recognition events invitee list and securing a list of the events around the State for 2017.	
<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Connect with the SILC and GCEPD chairs – reaching out to new Administration	Sam Liss	12/1/2016
Reach out to Hugh Bradshaw – VR Employer Recognition events: adding SRC members to invitee list and securing list of 2017 events	Rebekah Stephens	11/30/2016
Reach out to Hugh Bradshaw – identifying employers/employees with disabilities in higher level employment that could be role models for youth	Diane Dalmasse	TBD
Plan a presentation at a Chamber of Commerce and/or VBSR	Michelle Paya	TBD

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<b>6. Progress Update – Disability Summit</b>		
15 minutes	Jessalyn Gustin	
<b>Discussion</b>	Jessalyn spoke with Ed Paquin (President of Vermont Coalition for Disability Rights (VCDR) and Director of Disability Rights Vermont). He sounded more than happy to work with the SRC on the Disability Summit. Ed requested a letter from the SRC explaining the Disability Summit and its goal of a “unified vision around advocacy”. Diane asked Sam Liss if he would be willing to draft the letter? Sam asked if VR will still be providing the facilitator for the Summit? Diane is thinking either Sharon Behar or GC Consulting. However, funding for the facilitator may now be an issue for VR. Diane suggested that the sub-committee may want to consider charging a registration fee for the Summit to cover the costs. The AOE members suggested some possible venues for the Summit: St. Michael’s College, Vermont Technical College (Randolph) or The Capitol Plaza (if the new Governor is invited to attend). There will be approximately 50 invitees. Alaina Clements expressed an interest in possibly sitting on the sub-committee. The next sub-committee meeting will be scheduled for early 2017.	
<b>Conclusions</b>	Sam Liss will draft letter. Diane Dalmasse will check into a facilitator for the Retreat. Jessalyn Gustin will schedule the next sub-committee meeting.	
<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Draft letter for Ed Paquin to send to VCDR	Sam Liss	12/1/2016
Include “Update – Disability Summit” on January 5, 2015 AOE meeting agenda	Rebekah Stephens	12/23/2016
Check into facilitator for Disability Summit	Diane Dalmasse	TBD
Schedule next sub-committee meeting for early 2017	Jessalyn Gustin	TBD
<b>7. Other Business</b>		
10 minutes	Committee members	
<b>Discussion</b>	Martha Frank is marketing the Transition Toolkit as fast as she can. Martha handed out cards (gives brief info on Toolkit) for the AOE members to distribute to interested individuals.	
<b>Conclusions</b>	Thank you, Martha!	
<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
None	n/a	n/a
<b>8. Adjournment</b>		
5 minutes	Alaina Clements	
<b>Discussion</b>	Sam Liss moved to adjourn. Leslie Walker Mitchell 2 <sup>nd</sup> .	
<b>Conclusions</b>	Adjourned at 3:25 pm	
<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Draft minutes submitted for approval	Rebekah Stephens	12/2/2016
Draft minutes uploaded to website <a href="http://www.VTSRC.org">www.VTSRC.org</a>	Rebekah Stephens	12/2/2016
Draft minutes emailed to Committee members	Rebekah Stephens	12/2/2016
Minutes approved by Committee	Committee Members	1/5/2017
Approved minutes uploaded to website <a href="http://www.VTSRC.org">www.VTSRC.org</a>	Rebekah Stephens	1/13/2017