

WILLIAMSPORT 03/31/16 CAC MEETING MINUTES

Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Williamsport BVRS March 31, 2016

Present Were: Sandra Long-Johnson, Joanne Mondell, Scott Miller, Shirley Abernathy, Karen Retorick

Welcome and Introduction – Margaret McKenna (via phone) PA Client Assistant Program – statewide advocate for persons trying to receive services from OVR.

There are 3 Persons in Philadelphia office who serves all 67 counties. New hire Annette Suarez and Julia, who is fresh out of college and looking to go to law school. CAP does a lot of remediation, public awareness, and individual advocacy; speak to support groups, school districts, IU's – transition, outreach to ID population. CAP has a new Facebook page Our website is equalemployment.org. Margaret can speak to staff. Margaret will be making a physical presence out to Williamsport to speak at one of the District Office staff meetings. Cap is looking to connect. CAP is letting persons know their rights, responsibilities and self-advocacy tools. CAP works with client's who have appeals letting them know what OVR does and does not do. A lot of appeals are satisfied before the process goes far. CAP is mentioned at application, plan and closure of an OVR case. CAP also works with the NCCIL. Margaret's phone number is [215-557-5193](tel:215-557-5193). Margaret's email address is Margaret@equalemployment.org

Directory Update

--pass on updated list

--future new members

Machaeleen McNamara, citizen and used to be a therapist at Divine Providence Hospital may be coming to the June meeting.

OVR events update

New Counselor Intern – Luis Fontanez. Completing PSU internship. Will be working as a Counselor in Clinton County.

Williamsport OVR has a conditional hire of a new counselor. In the meantime we have 4 vacant caseloads.

Four master's students from Penn State were here this week seeing what a day in the life of a VR counselor would be.

Youth Transition Job Fair April 28, 2016 from 2PM – 5 PM at OVR.
Shirley is working with Deanna. FOCUS has a lot of individuals who need to experience what a job fair is like.

OVR Spring Job Fair May 25, 2016 from 1PM – 3 PM at OVR
Both the Pennsylvania College of Technology and Lycoming College will be having Job Fairs.

Disability Awareness Training Update

Chris and Charles have been training CareerLink offices in: sensitivity, disability etiquette and history of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation. Williamsport Sunbury, and Bloomsburg so far

WIOA Update (Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act)

--WIOA Wednesday video conferences – for transitional youth, interagency collaboration for help young people get and find work. Once a month we have a video conference to inform us on different parts of the WIOA. Customize employment is part of this act.

PETS Providers

Independent Living Skills – 59205 – Goodwill Falls Creek
Self-Advocacy Training – 59206 - Goodwill Falls Creek
Work Place Readiness Training – 59207 -KBE, Skills, Goodwill Falls Creek.
Job Shadowing (Individual) – 59208 – KBE LU, Skills, Goodwill Falls Creek.
WBLE – 59209 – D or L – KBE, LU, Goodwill Falls Creek
Student Stipend – 59210 – KBE Goodwill Falls Creek

CAC flyer draft – members please review discuss and revise. Logo or Letterhead would make this look official...address, phone number.

Ideas to recruit new members.
Have speakers come to CAC meetings.
Putting CAC brochures at Job Fairs.

Next Meeting – June 16th @ 1:00 PM 6/16/16

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Mondell, CT 3