

YORK BVRS 08-10-16 CAC MEETING MINUTES:

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Meeting Minutes
August 10, 2016

Present: Jameson Collins OVR , Jaritza Nguyen CIL, Dale Verchick
Disability Rights Pennsylvania; Jamie Ray-Leonetti
Disability Rights Pennsylvania
Next meeting: October 12, 2016 10am-12noon York District Office

Discussion

Disability Rights Pennsylvania (DRP)- <https://disabilityrightspa.org/>
Presentation on Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS). This is a program that is funding by the Federal and State Government. DRP is able to serve all individuals with disabilities. PABSS came from the Ticket to Work Program, funded by Social Security Administration. The goal of the program is to get people back to work and protect their Social Security benefits. PABSS is different from Work Incentive Planning Assistance program <https://www.ssa.gov/work/WIPA.html> . The desire is to encourage States to expand Medicaid programs like Medical Assistance for Workers with Disabilities (MAWD) <http://www.dhs.pa.gov/citizens/healthcaremedicalassistance/medicalassistancebenefitsforworkerswithdisabilities/> . Programs like this will help individuals with disabilities overcome barriers to employment.

In order to receive services, participants must be receiving Social Security Benefits. If a participant is not receive Social Security Benefits, they can be served through means of grant funding.

DRP wants to work with OVR, not against OVR. The goal is to increase collaboration and communication. Accommodations in the workplace are at times major challenges for employers. DRP can offer assistance and resources. DRP does not provide direct services. DRP does provide WIPA services to Southeast PA.

Next Step Program- Manheim Central School District has developed a new innovative program for students with disabilities. Students will be able to participate in work with local businesses to perfect their work skills and increase their independent living skills. The program is designed for each student to participate in 20 weeks of competitive employment as an intern. OVR will be assisting by offering OJT wage reimbursement dollars to businesses that want to participate. The student will also have 10 weeks of community awareness instruction that will be given in the format of a home setting. The lessons will include transportation, banking, laundry, selecting a primary care physician etc. There are over 25 businesses that will partner with this program. Next Step will use 8 businesses this year (Pleasant View Retirement Community, Rettew's Catering/ Twin Kiss, Hampton Inn by Hilton, Worley and Obetz/ Molly's Convenience Store, Friendship Community, Teen Central, Fenner Drives, Manheim Central School District, Food Services). The IU13 will also support the program with a job coach at each work site.

Starbucks Inclusion Academy- The 4th class started August 1st. There are plans to run the class more frequently. We still have the barrier of transportation for some of the participants. Tony Schweitzer from Bell Socialization has provided a contact to Penske Trucking. Negotiations are taking place for Penske Trucking to support the Inclusion Academy. Penske Trucking has asked Starbucks for a plan.

The work culture at Starbucks has changed. There is a waiting list for current workers to sign up to help the Inclusion Academy as job trainers. Starbucks is also open to other disability areas. The 4th class has the first hearing impaired student. Communication is taking place through the use of interpreters. OVR is assisting with the cost of interpreting services for the first 4 weeks. During this time education is taking place so that Starbucks knows how to secure an interpreter and become more inclusive.

This program is a training program, but over the last year, Starbucks has offered positions to every participant. We still have a chance of filling 100 positions with OVR candidates. We hope to accomplish this through the Inclusion Academy.

PAS- Promoting Academic Success program is currently running in York and Lancaster County. This is a partnership between OVR and Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC) The classes are for HS Students with disabilities that want to go into post secondary training. It is almost like a jump start. Students are allowed to get 1 college credit while they are in high school. The structure is for the student to go to HACC once a week for 7-9 weeks

(depending on the weather) and take classes about accommodations, assistive technology and learn how post secondary training is different from secondary school. OVR also use this course as an assessment for students that want to go to college. This course will introduce students to the expectations for attending college. It is a real life exposure program. The students can fail the course. Homework and a placement tests are given during the course.

10 Reasons to Hire from OVR

- Access an untapped talent pool of pre-qualified candidates
- Receive Diversity and Inclusion Training at no cost
- Receive a variety of staffing and employment options
- Receive diversity in the hiring talent pool
- Gain insight to reasonable accommodations, assessments trainings and evaluations
- Help workers obtain personal use items
- Support for job retention strategies
- No cost for Business Services and Consultation
- It is a proven effective approach
- We make it simple

PARC- Pennsylvania Rehab Council had a meeting in June. This is the group that makes sure CAC is up and running. Highlights of the meeting. . CAC's need a better vision. 3-6 goals with activities. OVR Executive Team should assist with this

CAC is the voice of OVR clients and CAC's memberships are low. VRC's should assist in recruiting membership for the CAC

Senior OVR Staff should engage with the CAC

CAC Chairs need a virtual area to talk about CAC issues

OVR should develop a one page fact sheet that explains the State Plan

There should be more interagency collaboration during CAC meetings.

OVR should include CAC's help for job fairs hosted by OVR

CAC members should have more control over the CAC agenda

CAC members would like to bring up OVR issues without the fear of retaliation

There are inconsistencies in what some CAC's can provide in terms of refreshments during CAC meetings.

Millersville University Career and Life Studies Program- OVR's first graduate has completed this course at Millersville University. This is a 2 year course that offers individuals with intellectual disabilities the opportunity to obtain a high quality, individualized postsecondary education. OVR has asked Millersville to lower the cost of the program and make it affordable for more

students to participate. Currently, students are not allowed to take out student loans to participate in this program.

NDEAM- October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM). The York OVR office will not be doing a job fairs in each County this year. Partnership with the Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit 13 (IU13) and school districts in Lancaster will support a job fair for students with disabilities. Harrisburg OVR office and York OVR office will do this in October. There will also be a mentoring day with Deloitte in Camp Hill. Deloitte is the consulting firm that developed the Commonwealth Workforce Development System. The mentoring day will be an Annual event for OVR customers that are interested in the Information Technology field.