

Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 31, 2016

1:30-3:00pm

Present: Renee Sansom, Linda Jaco, William Ginn, Mark Kinnison, Doug Boone, Noel Tyler, Bill Dunham

Discussion Items

- Report/ Discussion
 - Spring Hill Visits for CSAVR – Packets are completed and legislative visits have been confirmed.
 - Dana Tallon and Renee are working for next Disability Awareness Day to have most, if not all counties covered for a success story. Compass access has been necessary in finding about what PM's around the state need more stories from their counselors.
 - Success stories
 - On track with 16 complete. Many people still to contact. Have also completed two employer pieces.
 - Jason gave Renee a list of success story recipients for good closure.
- Review Strategic Plan
 - All objectives are in the complete stage or ongoing throughout the year.
 - Activity 2 – Still waiting on one more appointment from the Governor's office.
 - Activity 8- The new website is live www.orc.okstate.edu
- Updates
 - Working to update the primer to match WIOA/Workforce information
 - VR- Mark Kinnison
 - Wages and applications are up
 - Making slow and steady progress on the successful closures
 - Disability Awareness day is coming up
 - Several positions have been filled and looking to fill many more
 - Trying to get more involvement in Transition opportunities
 - WIOA and Comprehensive Work Site Locations- there has been significant progress in the OKC, Pryor and McAlester area
 - State audit was recently completed
 - VS- Doug Boone
 - Added a new Transition Facilitator to DRS
 - New Program (TAPT) – A blindness skills training
 - Working to expand employment in the state government for those who are blind or visually impaired
 - More programs for “on the job training”
 - Working to fill more VS staff positions
 - Closely working on the partnership with the Tribal VR

- Will be moving the AT teachers from Shephard Mall to the Library for the Blind
- Doug made a comment that DRS needs to expand the state government opportunities for individuals who are blind or visually impaired. Currently, there is 54 persons in the state of OK that are employed by state Government and all but 13 are employed with DRS.
- There is discussion about making changes to policy with the OJT language and adding OJE.
- Mark stated that we are in the process of making changes to apps and plans. The wages of successful employment is slightly up this year. We are about 50-60 apps and plans behind where we were last year.
- Leslie Lennier has been hired to be the Agency AT Coordinator.
- Richard Yahola has been hired to oversee the Psych Asst and Vocational Evaluation Center. The agency is working on updating vocational evaluations, assessments and psych evaluations.
- There will be a possible 6 Comprehensive Locations to meet the obligations in WIOA. DRS will be having finance teams, ADA coordinator, Deaf services groups and all other service areas to the Workforce meetings and what services can VR provide in each location.