

Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council Strategic Plan for FFY2017

The Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council complies with the Federal Rehabilitation Act mandates through its strategic plan process and the following functions and related tasks.

The Mission of the Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council (ORC) is “To facilitate consumer education and empowerment, to assure services are of high quality, and lead to employment of individuals with disabilities within the state of Oklahoma.”

Program and Planning Committee: Review, analyze and advise DSU on the standards and indicators as laid out by Section 106 of the *Rehabilitation Act of 1973*, as amended. Active participation on the DRS State Plan Meetings. Active participation on the DRS Comprehensive Needs Assessment development initiative. Analyze the trends of the Customer Satisfaction Survey.

Goal 1: In accordance with Section 105 (A)(c)(i), the Program and Planning Committee, will quarterly or as necessary, review, analyze and advise DSU on customer satisfaction, state performance accountability measures/assessment, and other relevant data.

Program and Planning Committee Objectives	Met	Unmet/Reason
Objective 1-1: The Council must, after consulting with the State Workforce Development Board-- Review, analyze, and advise the Designated State unit regarding the performance of the State unit's responsibilities under this part, particularly responsibilities related to-- Eligibility, including order of selection.		
Objective 1-2: The extent, scope, and effectiveness of services provided; and functions performed by State agencies that affect or potentially affect the ability of individuals with disabilities in achieving employment outcomes under this part.		

<p>Objective 1-3: In partnership with the designated State unit— develop, agree to, and review State goals and priorities in accordance with Sec. 361.29(c).</p>		
<p>Objective 1-4: Evaluate the effectiveness of the vocational rehabilitation program and submit reports of progress to the Secretary in accordance with Sec. 361.29(e).</p>		
<p>Objective 1-5: Advise the designated State agency and the designated State unit regarding activities carried out under this part and assist in the preparation of the State plan and amendments to the plan, applications, reports, needs assessments, and evaluations required by this part.</p>		
<p>Objective 1-6: To the extent feasible, conduct a review and analysis of the effectiveness of, and consumer satisfaction with —The functions performed by the designated State agency; The vocational rehabilitation services provided by State agencies and other public and private entities responsible for providing vocational rehabilitation services to individuals with disabilities under the Act; and the employment outcomes achieved by eligible individuals receiving services under this part, including the availability of health and other employment benefits in connection with those employment outcomes.</p>		

Goal 2: The Program and Planning Committee will support quality customer services, career planning and effective employment.

Program and Planning Committee Activities	Met	Unmet/Reason
<p>Activity 1 - Request the DSU to have the Program and Planning Committee review the customer satisfaction survey and report changes as required by the WIOA regulation. DSU to report to the committee the findings of the customer satisfaction survey for open and closed cases annually or every two years as conducted.</p> <p>Activity 2 - Field Coordinators will continue to report on the performance measures/accountability data template at the quarterly ORC meetings.</p> <p>Activity 3 - Report and Recommend current data to the Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council Program Manager for inclusion on the Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council website.</p> <p>Activity 4 - Collaborate with the DSU through the state plan process to include the development of the goals and priorities. Read and review the Statewide Needs Assessment. Bring forward new considerations to the Executive Team.</p>		

Executive Committee – Comprised of the SRC Chair, Vice-Chair, and 3 members-at-large. The Executive Committee also consists of the Associate Director and Director of Sponsored Programs of the OSU, Department of Wellness, who oversees the contractual administration of the ORC. Ensures that committees are assigned to meet the requirements of Section 105 of the Rehab Act with regard to Public Hearings, State Plan, Comprehensive Needs Assessment, Customer Satisfaction and Annual Report.

Goal 3: Maintain standing committees that address the goals and objectives outlined by the ORC, the DSU State Plan, and the Rehabilitation Act (i.e., Policy and Legislative Committee, Program and Planning Committee, and Transition and Employment Committee). Every ORC member will serve on a committee(s).

Executive Committee Objectives	Met	Unmet/Reason
<p>Objective 1-1: Prepare and submit to the Governor and to the Secretary no later than 90 days after the end of the Federal fiscal year an annual report on the status of vocational rehabilitation programs operated within the State and make the report available to the public through appropriate modes of communication</p>		
<p>Objective 1-2: Perform other comparable functions, consistent with the purpose of this part, as the Council determines to be appropriate, that are comparable to the other functions performed by the Council.</p>		
<p>Objective 1:3: Resources. The Council, in conjunction with the Designated State unit, must prepare a plan for the provision of resources, including staff and other personnel that may be necessary and sufficient for the Council to carry out its functions under this part. The resource plan must, to the maximum extent possible, rely on the use of resources in existence during the period of implementation of the plan. Any disagreements between the designated State unit and the Council regarding the amount of resources necessary to carry out the functions of the Council must be resolved by the Governor, consistent with paragraphs (i)(1) and (2) of this section. The Council must, consistent with State law, supervise and evaluate the staff and personnel that are necessary to carry out its functions. Those staff and personnel that are assisting the Council in carrying out its functions may not be assigned duties by the designated State unit or any other agency or office of the State that would create a conflict of interest.</p>		

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Executive Committee Activities	Met	Unmet/Reason
<p>Activity 1: Meet with DSU Division Administrators and the State Director, quarterly, or as needed, to maintain regular communication and collaborate on the development of the agenda.</p> <p>Activity 2: As a Council vacancy opens, the Program Manager will recruit, recommend, and consult with the Governor's Deputy of Appointments to ensure membership compliance with the Rehabilitation Act.</p> <p>Activity 3: Actively recruit and outreach with businesses and disability organizations to educate them on the services of DSU as well as the SRC purpose.</p> <p>Activity 4: Continue to coordinate with the DSU Division Administrators to ensure attendance of Field Coordinators and associate members to attend quarterly meetings.</p> <p>Activity 5: The Program Manager will participate on the DSU's WDB Team.</p> <p>Activity 6: The ORC will send at least one representative to the SILC quarterly meetings and a SILC representative will attend and report to the ORC on SILC activities.</p> <p>Activity 7: Explore opportunities for orientation of SILC members on the role of the ORC.</p> <p>Activity 8: Continually review and update the ORC Website.</p>		

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Policy and Legislative Committee: Activities include, but are not limited to, advocacy and education, policy and State Plan review, State Plan Public Hearings and Success Stories. Also, responsible for the reviewing/monitoring of pending and current disability-related legislation, particularly with respect to impact on funding; suggest/develop legislation as needed. Active participation on the DRS Policy Re-engineering Committee. Support DRS with both national and state efforts to enhance advocacy activities and services for VR/VS clientele.

Goal 4: The ORC will build capacity for consumer education and empowerment to showcase awareness and education for both consumers and employers.

Policy and Legislative Committee Objectives	Met	Unmet/Reason
<p>Objective 1-1: To avoid duplication of efforts and enhance the number of individuals served, coordinate activities with the activities of other councils within the State, including the Statewide Independent Living Council established under 34 CFR part 364, the advisory panel established under section 612(a)(21) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the State Developmental Disabilities Planning Council described in section 124 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act, the State mental health planning council established under section 1914(a) of the Public Health</p>		

Service Act, the assistive technology grant and the State Workforce Development Board.		
Objective 1-2: Provide for coordination and the establishment of working relationships between the designated State agency and the Statewide Independent Living Council and centers for independent living within the State		
Objective 1-3: Support DSU with disability-related legislation during the Oklahoma Legislative Session.		
Objective 1-4: Support DSU efforts with Access for All Initiative for all job seekers and businesses and employers work sites through all levels of Oklahoma Works. Working with the Governor's Council for Workforce and Economic Development (GCWED), system partners bring sharper focus on developing and employing more Oklahomans with disabilities.		

Policy and Legislative Committee Activities	Met	Unmet/Reason
<p>Activity 1 - Promote and increase the number of Job Seeker Success Stories (JSS) to be distributed annually to key stakeholders at the DSU Disability Awareness Day, Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation Capitol Hill visits, the Governor, and the Lieutenant Governor. Post new stories quarterly on the ORC website and share with members at the ORC quarterly meetings.</p> <p>Note: The target would be 24 a year (show-casing successful employment of DRS clients with disabilities. Emphasis</p>		

will be placed on gathering VR, VS, Tribal, COJAC, and Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Deaf-Blind and Transition stories). Tribal VR is to assist ORC with 9 Success stories with the 9 tribes that have a VR program in the state of Oklahoma

Activity 2 - Continue participation and input with VR/VS Division Staff to ensure the DSU policies are in alignment with the Rehabilitation Act, Oklahoma consumer needs and employment outcomes.

Activity 3 - Partner with DSU on “Disability Awareness Day at the Capitol”, by marketing the event, setting up an exhibitor booth, and assisting consumers by being legislative guides.

Activity 4 - The ORC will partner with the Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation (CSAVR) and National Council of State Administrators of the Blind (NCSAB) on federal legislative initiatives by attending the spring and/or fall meetings and by participating in national sub-committee activities and providing updates to full council. Council members to go as well. The ORC Program Manager will provide the Council with any DSU policy updates during each ORC Council Quarterly meeting.

Activity 5 - Provide public comment on policy changes, promote consumer attendance at all public hearings and distribute flyers with summary of proposed changes and information on public hearings.

Activity 6 – Distribute a copy of the revised Disability Primer to each

<p>Legislator’s Capitol mail box by the end of January, 2017.</p> <p>Activity 7 – Interface with the State Treasurer’s Office in November, 2016 to inform about the ORC and express our willingness to help educate the public with disabilities about the Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act.</p> <p>Activity 8 - ORC will request to be on the agenda to inform SILC members about the efforts of the ORC. Also, to cordially invite the SILC representative to attend ORC meetings and report on SILC activities.</p> <p>Activity 9 – ORC will visit Congressional members at their state district offices to share disability-related information and materials which are beneficial to their constituents who have a disability.</p>		
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Transition Committee: Active participation on the Oklahoma Transition Council. Support DRS with statewide efforts to enhance transition activities and services for youth in secondary settings to increase successful employment outcomes.

Goal 5: Collaborate with the DSU to address the utilization of in-demand occupation information during the career planning process as well as the enhancement of a job seeker page on the DSU website in accessible formats for all DSU consumers.

Transition Committee Objectives	Met	Unmet/Reason
<p>Objective1.1: The ORC will continue to increase transition resource links on the DSU website.</p>		

Objective 1.2: The ORC will review DSU successful closure data for transition age youth to determine if there is a correlation between agency closures and demand occupations.		
Objective 1.3: The ORC will promote and share in demand occupations that could be a potential job match for consumers. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ORC will disseminate the information to DSU staff. • The DSU Business Service team will use the in demand occupation data to make connections to local businesses. 		

Goal 6: Develop an instrument to assist DSU consumers to inform all disability support organizations in OK. This would complement the Transition Planning Folder and Keeping Track of Your Progress tools. It will be disseminated to parents, students, teachers and other stakeholders.

Transition Committee Activities	Met	Unmet/Reason
Activity 1- The ORC will invite the regional transition teams to share information (via a one pager, virtually, in person, etc.) regarding the progress of their team plans, including best practices, at the quarterly ORC meetings.		

Activity 2- The DSU Transition Coordinator will share Indicator 14- Post-School Outcome reports provided by the Oklahoma State Department of Education, Special Education Services with the committee.

Activity 3- The ORC will support participation of the Oklahoma Transition Council (OTC) including its collaboration with National Centers- National Technical Assistance Center on Transition (NTACT).

Activity 4- The ORC will highlight Success Stories of transition students with legislators in each region.

Activity 5- The ORC will annually review the State Department of Education, Special Education Child Count Data to study trends and report to DSU in order for the DSU to have an awareness of future needs of both consumers and personnel.

Activity 6- The ORC will begin to research resources for disability specific categories.

Activity 7- The ORC will collaborate with the DSU Programs Standards staff to develop a needs assessment instrument to determine the needs of youth.

Activity 8- The DSU will conduct a needs assessment to determine the needs of youth and share the results in a final report.

Activity 9- The ORC will utilize the needs assessment on transition services final report in the next state planning update.

Goal 7: Develop and conduct a needs assessment of individuals with disabilities for transition career services and pre-employment transition services, including services coordinated with transition services provided under IDEA with a Note of: This goal will satisfy the final requirement listed in the VR Services portion of the United State Plan – Description – Statewide Assessment

Employment Committee: With an increased emphasis on employment under the new Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), this committee will work together to strengthen coordination with employment and training services for individuals with disabilities who are job seekers.

Goal 8: The ORC will collaborate with DRS to proactively promote Job Seeker Customer motivation, thus reducing “no-show” activities.

Employment Committee Objectives	Met	Unmet/Reason
Objective 1-1: Determine whether or not a model or toolkit addressing this job seeker challenging issue already exists		

Employment Committee Activities	Met	Unmet/Reason
Activity 1 – Each committee member researches the topic and then decides whether a new model or tailored model is needed based on their findings		
Activity 2 – Develop a survey on motivations and de-motivations to be administered to job seekers.		
Activity 3 – Develop and implement a Strategic Training Plan of the toolkit to		

staff within the Divisions of Vocational Rehabilitation and Visual Services		
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