State Rehabilitation Council

NJ Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Box 398 – Trenton, NJ 08625-0398
P: 609 292.5987 F: 609 292.8347 Toll Free: 1 866 871.7867

<u>Date</u>: 05/14/2025 <u>Location</u>: The Law Center – New Brunswick and Virtual

Attendance

Members: Dawn Monaco for Carolyn Hayer, Gwen Orlowski, Janice Oursler, Lorna Runkle, Cyndy Walsh-Rintzler, Pat Tomlinson, Nantanee Koppstein, Rebecca Shulman, Bill Freeman, , Margaret Gilbride, Lori Margolin, Christina Gonzalez for Nkechi Okoli, Carmela Slivinski, Jay Mills, Tatsiana DaGrosa, Mohsen Badran, Felicia Hopson-Ex Officio **Members Absent** Stephen Gruzlovic, Karen Alexander, Tom Jennings, LaTasha Brown

DVRS: Helen Liu, Tina Brand, Krista-Rae Ortiz, Joseph Prettyman (V), Deborah Vaughn, William Shultz **Public:** Susan Head, Jacob Caplan, Pat Gerke, Mike Scoczek, Stacey Bussel, Adam Kubler, Kerrie Webster

Notes

Welcome, Invitation for Public Comments and Public Comments if any are to be made

A statement was read by Pat Gerke from the Center for Adults in Transition at Rowan College at Burlington County. See <u>SRC Public Statement 5.14.25</u>. The attached video clip may be of interest to clarify <u>RCBC - Center for Adults in Transition/un;ock potential - YouTube</u>

Acceptance of February 12, 2025, meeting notes (sent 3/6/25)

Motion was made to accept the notes as presented and seconded; the notes were unanimously accepted.

SRC Expenditure Report 4-30-25 from Treasurer (sent 5/7/25)

- Refer to Expenditure Report period ending 4/30/2025
- There were no questions or concerns regarding the expenditure report and its explanations as presented by the treasurer
- A motion to accept the expenditure report ending 4/30/2025 as presented was made, seconded, and unanimously accepted.
- Members were reminded to submit all expenses incurred (i.e. travel) as soon as convenient but within 30 days of expenditure.

DVRS Director's Report

Refer to May 2025 ED Rpt, a scan of the report shared on site at the meeting and reviewed in detail.

CAP Report and Updates

- Refer to 2nd quarter CAP Report to DVRS SRC
- The report was initially oral as the executive director was in Washington DC until the night before
 advocating for Medicaid and other disability-specific issues on the hill. The SRC discussed possible
 ramifications of proposed changes to disability research, education and advocacy groups as a result of
 proposed funding, organization and priority changes of the administration in anticipation of resultant
 impact on vocational rehabilitation services.
- A systems issue that was discussed at length and which is still in need of resolution is the 1 step (DVR)
 v. 2-step (CBVI) fair hearing process. In the past a single regulation, which was a 2-step process,
 applied to both DVR and CBVI. After that regulation expired, CBVI relied on it as recently as 2020, but
 the Attorney General determined in 2024 that DVR can use a 1-step process.

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Mini-Inservice – VR Eligibility, IPE, Outcomes/Performance Indicators

Refer to Revised presentation SRC05142045

Public Comment Opportunity

None

Committee Work

- Refer to SRC Evaluation Committee MAY 25 Meeting Minutes
- Refer to SRC Policy Committee May 525
- Refer to <u>Transition Committee Meeting Notes for 5-14-25</u>

NCSRC Conference Update

Received a brief report from the two members that attended with particular appreciation for the opportunity to meet jointly with the DVRS Executive Directors. The membership was highly encouraged to consider attending the fall or spring conference next fiscal year and, at the very least, avail themselves of the www.NCSRC.US website for its resources, mentor training and more.

Business/Items

- April 30th forum recap was discussed as well as the expectation members make it their mission to invite people to speak.
- May 20th and June 5th forums were discussed, and it was suggested registration be reopened by DVRS for May (it was) and that DVRS send out the announcement to its clients for June (it did).
- Volunteer(s) for the Vice Chair position were asked to come forward. The term will be effective
 October 2025. If no one steps forward, people will be contacted directly. The Vote to conform will
 occur at the September meeting.
- The committee for the NEON Grant to NJ has been meeting regularly and the subcommittee meetings begin this week.
- No news about any appointments or reappointments has been received from the Governor's Office
 - Meetings FY 25 are 10-3:30: 8/13 (Members Only), 9/17