

State Rehabilitation Council
Quarterly Meeting
May 18, 2018
NMDVR
1014 N. California
Socorro, NM 87801
Phone: 575-835-4243
Toll-free: 888-901-7903
9:30 AM – 3:00 PM



SRC Quarterly Meeting

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 9:30 a.m.

Members Present:

Bernadine Chavez
Hermila Ortega
Rebecca Holland
Guy Surdi
Mariela Pijem
Tracy Agiovlasis

Member(s) Absent

Sandy Sandoval
Paula Seanez

Guests Present:

Pamela Stafford ARC
TJ Chester, IL Specialist
Kelly Burma, NCLB NCUEB
Skills Center Coordinator

II. DVR Staff Introduction

Adrian Apodaca, Director DVR
Eileen Marrujo, Administrative Services Deputy Director, DVR
Kathy Abernathy, Field Operations Specialist Supervisor, DVR

III. Action Items

A. Approval of Agenda

Rebecca Holland made motion made to approve the agenda, Mariella Pijem 2nd the motion (verbal and hand raise) Approved by all SRC Members.

B. Approval of Minutes -

September 15, 2017: Rebecca Holland made motion to approve, Guy Surdi 2nd the motion (verbal and hand raise) Approved by all SRC Members.

November 17, 2017; Rebecca Holland made motion to approve, Mariella Pijem 2nd the motion (verbal and hand raise) Approved by all SRC Members.

February 28, 2018 Guy Surdi made motion to approve, Mariella Pijem 2nd the motion (verbal and hand raise) Approved by all SRC Members.

(Special Meeting March 19, 2018) Bernadette Chavez made motion to approve, Rebeca Holland and Mariella Pijem 2nd the motion (verbal and hand raise) Approved by all SRC Members.

II. 121 Report Rebecca Holland- Pueblo of Jemez, Vocational Rehabilitation Program

Rebecca Holland informed that the bylaws state that all Section 121 Tribal VR Programs are allowed to be a part of SRC. Rebecca stated that she has reached out to the Director of Laguna Acoma, and hopes to get her on board.

Rebecca Holland reported there are 88 Tribal Programs across the nation. Was recently informed that RSA was reducing Tribal VR funds. For 2 years, RSA has not had a competitive grant process for VR Tribal funds. They will only be able to fund 25 of the 36 programs due to the funding reduction. Eleven programs will technically go away. Since the Tribal VR programs have MOU agreements with the state agencies, the cases for those tribal VR programs that are no longer funded will be transferred to the state so that the consumers will still be able to be served. A solution that the Tribal VR programs have talked about so that all the TVR programs up for refunding can be funded is to reduce

their funding by 30-40K so that RSA can take those funds and possibly use it to fund the 11 programs.

Outreach and collaborative efforts with DVR –Adrian made commitments and followed through. This resulted in talks with DVR Rio Rancho Staff. Very positive in building relationships. DVR VRC traveling to Jemez every two weeks. Positive effect on clients.

Rebecca announced that she is the new Chair for SILC. If anyone knows of anyone that would like to be on the SILC she would like to speak with them. Please email Rebecca with information of anyone that may be interested.

Rebecca sent out a flyer to attend the Youth Transition Conference on educating the Native Youth on transition services, scheduled in July. Rebecca explained that this is not taking the place of the Disability Awareness Day but wrote the grant to alternate between the two.

III. Director's Report –Adrian Apodaca, Executive Director, DVR Bernadette Chavez congratulated Adrian Apodaca as the new DVR Director

Provided VR performance statistic, budget and IS updates
652 Rehab. Closures, 2486 Clients served, FY rehab closures at 40%

IT:

- Relocating the DVR network infrastructure to DOIT
- Creating online electronic referral application and similar application between Workforce for data sharing
- Migrating to MS 365
- RFP is out for Case management System

Eileen Marrujo:

- Reported on DVR budgets submitted to DFA
- Vacancies and plan to hire 10 more FTE's for DVR
- Planned rapid hire event for DDS

A. RSA Prior Approval requirement

Adrian Apodaca explained the RSA prior approval requirement. Stating that the requirement would be to submit a requested amount in total for items in lieu of submitting a request for each individual item(s) 5k +

RSA Prior approval for SRC travel expenses is no longer a requirement.

B. RSA State Plan Corrections/Approval

Adrian Apodaca reported that corrections were made and awaiting approval

C. FEAT-Mariela Pijem

Explained that FEAT (Family Employment Awareness Training) is a public employment awareness 2-part training series that started at the University of Kansas FEATS Center.

The key training principles are everyone can work provided they have appropriate supports and services; everyone can have a job that is enduring and satisfying making money working other than relying on public benefits. It is an evidence-based curriculum around NM transition and employment. The research of employment options is specific to the State of NM. Another focus is Family Role in that the family's expectation is the same expectation as the student. It requires an investment of 20K that DVR has obligated.

Mariella stated that this could be added to the next meeting agenda for further discussion.

IV. SRC Chairperson's Report – Bernadine Chavez

Bernadine asked Adrian about the E-3 Project/Zip code project. Adrian explained that the project was in process and that Jordan Vargas would be joining the meeting later and would explain in more detail. Also stated that a meeting is scheduled in June. Request was made by SRC board to attend the next meeting.

A. Update on appointments from Governor's Office

Bernadine Chavez reported that there would be no new appointees until after August. Requested that the SRC Board members verify terms and identify Expiration dates in the section of reference for position holding.

Per RSA, an SRC member cannot hold two positions on the board and therefore Rebecca Holland cannot represent the 121 Program and SILC. Bernadine stated that Paula would represent the 121 Program and Rebecca SILC

B. Report on NCSRC meeting

Reported that she attended the meeting. RSA provided information that SRC should have a resource plan in place for travel due to the required RSA prior approval. However, due to the new TAC-18-02 prior approval is not required for SRC travel.

DVR can only cover per-diem costs for SRC members that have been approved by the Governor and the term is not expired. Requirements for the SRC's and VR Agencies are the Comp. Needs Assessment, Satisfaction Survey, Vetting of Hearing Officers, looking at Policy & Procedures, anything that affects consumers, MOP changes (any changes programmatic that would affect consumers). In addition to looking at charged hearings and be kept informed of fair hearing outcomes.

C. Ongoing recruitment of SRC members

Recruitment is ongoing. Discussion of possible recruitment of members from PED. In need of a Community Rehab. person in addition to one from Labor and Ind. and one from PED.

D. CFB-SRC/DVR-SRC joint orientation training information

Discussion and date was set for September 18, 2018, 9:00am-4:00pm. CFB will host the training. It will be located at CFB Skills Center.

Rebecca Holland requested that SILC be involved in the training. Bernadine agreed that it would be good to include SILC SRC schedule meeting with Adrian and Eileen to set the agenda.

VII. DVR staff – updates

A. MOP revision update- Adrian Apodaca, Director DVR

Currently in process to the Secretary for approval.

B. Transition Report-Charlene Chavez , DVR Transition Coordinator

Provided updates and new statistics on Transition. Provided information on referrals and a summary of accomplishments. Reported DVR will meet the funding requirements.

C. Detailed Report on current MOU's with DVR, Adrian Apodaca, Director DVR

Currently in process of creating report to reflect accurate MOU's. Follow up at the next SRC meeting.

VIII. SRC Awards Presentation

Anthony Harkness was present. He awarded by SRC in recognition of his VRC performance.

Jordan Vargas was present. She awarded by SRC recognition of her VR performance.

William Hines was not present but was also recognized and awarded by SRC for his VRC performance

IX. Old Business

- A. Discussion of volunteers for annual report committee**
Committee for the SRC annual report will be Sandy Sandoval, Guy Surdi and Kathy Abernathy

X. New Business

- A. Discussion of Public Forums – Sandy Sandoval**
(ADHOC committee report) **Not present**

- B. Review of proposed updates to the By-laws , Rebecca Holland**

Rebecca Holland discussed proposed updates and stated that topics were still open for discussion. To be added as an action item to the agenda to be voted on at the next meeting.

- C. SRC Member Binders**

SRC members agreed that they would keep their own binders and replace old documentation with the new documentation provided by Kathy Abernathy. Kathy will email documentation as appropriate. Kathy will also maintain two extra SRC binders to keep on hand at each meeting.

XI. Comments from audience

XII. Other Business

- A. Set time, location, date for next several meetings– Bernadine Chavez**

Next SRC Meeting scheduled for August 17, 2018 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM in Silver City, NM. Location TBD.

XIII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn Guy Surdi 2nd the motion. All in favor