

State Rehabilitation Council

Quarterly Meeting

December 8, 2022

Virtual Meeting

SRC Meeting 10 am



I. Call to Order/Introductions/Roll Call

Meeting Called to order at 10:09 AM

Members:

Sarah Michaud, Chair
Tracy Agiovlasis, Vice Chair
Dolores Harden
Bernadine Chavez
Jennifer Gelhardt
Tara Spraklin - *Absent*
TJ Chester
Joseph Cruz – *Absent*
Marlenia Chee – *Absent*
Paula Seanez
Sbicca Broudeur
Yolanda Montoya-Cordova
Lisa Jones

DVR Staff:

Casey Stone-Romero, Agency Director
Mandy Barbero, Executive DVR Secretary & Admin Assist
Jeff Levine, DVR PR Coordinator

II. Action Items

A. Approval of Agenda

Tracy Agiovlasis Moved to approve the Agenda
TJ Chester Seconds
Unanimously approved

B. Approval of Minutes

Bernadine Chavez Moved to approve the minutes
Dolores Harden Seconds
Unanimously approved

III. 121 Report – Paula Seanez

- a. Everyone is working on annual reports APR report to the funding agency; usually due January 16
 - a. Upcoming meetings to meet with DVR to finalize
- b. Navajo Sorensen Center Excellence for disability, University of Arizona
 - a. Pre-ets dollars from Arizona RSA to provide work-based learning opportunities
 - b. Making sure youth is accessing funds
 - c. Wendy Johnson has been running the agency
 - i. Promoting work in rural areas
 - ii. Applied for a grant for Native American center for Disabilities
 - iii. Another grant for Native youth called “finding their way”
 - d. Have three schools they are starting with, Window Rock unified school district, Chinley and Cayanta to build capacity to provide paid work based learning

- e. New leadership
 - i. President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Lizer will transition out on around January 10
 - ii. New leadership will be Lou Nigrin and Rocelle Montoya
 - 1. Will be working on transition plans
 - a. New department branch directors
 - iii. Superintendent will remain
- f. Vacant positions
 - i. One filled in Farmington
 - ii. Having difficulty filling positions
- g. Next week CANAR conference in person in Tulsa OK

IV. DVR Directors Reports

- A. Agency Director – Casey Stone-Romero
 - a. DVR locations open Monday through Friday 8-5
 - i. No longer experiencing impact by COVID
 - b. LSC and Health and Human Services were in October and went well
 - c. Another legislative and finance hearing coming up in early January
 - d. Submitted the fourth quarter action plan update to RSA October 29
 - i. Next one January 30, 2023
 - e. Reviewing the Manuel of Operating procedures
 - f. Plan on going out to public hearing in March 2023
 - g. Vacancy rates
 - i. Rehab services unit 19% down from 24%
 - ii. RSU have 16 VRC vacancies and 7 VR tech vacancies
 - h. The three new positions previously opened two have been filled
 - i. Staff Manager
 - ii. Training team
 - 1. Kathy Abernathy
 - iii. Transition VRT is in the process of being filled
 - i. Robert Alirez CIO has resigned his position December 9
 - i. Will be positing the CIO and ASU deputy director soon
 - j. Mandy has accepted a position with HR in DVR
 - i. Welcome Angelina Payan new Executive Assistant to the Director
 - k. Job classification updated for the Rehab Counselor
 - i. NMAC rule to come into alignment with the federal regulation
 - ii. Updated at SPO this week
 - iii. Job posting are now slightly different
 - l. Signed intensive technical assistance agreements with the VR technical assistance for quality management and VR Tach for quality employment
 - i. In November we had a visit from the VR Tech Assistance center
 - ii. Rachel Anderson and Missy Deal came out to New Mexico
 - 1. Met with Managers and IT team
 - iii. Will be extending out to staff
 - m. CSAVR
 - i. Very informative
 - ii. SRC and consumer satisfaction survey
 - iii. Reporting Stats to SRC in 2023
 - 1. Days to eligibility
 - 2. Days from eligibility to plan
 - n. State plan
 - i. Addressed part of what we need
 - 1. Recommendations in the agency response

- ii. One outstanding area we need to discuss with SRC
 - 1. State goals and priorities
 - iii. We are working on our portion of the state plan
 - 1. Finishing by March
 - o. Update on Order of Selection
 - i. RSU eliminated every person off the waitlist
 - ii. Released more than 1300 people in the last calendar year
 - iii. Process is to attempt contact three times three different ways
 - 1. Included in the PPI because of the RSA monitoring
 - p. Update on RSA Monitoring
 - i. Program policy instructions RSA approved
 - 1. Have been implemented
 - ii. Pieces of the RSA Cap are coming together
 - 1. Hopeful to be done by June 2023
 - q. Update on Fair Hearings
 - i. No additional fair hearings
 - ii. Still pending one fair hearing
- B. Chief Financial Officer – Krystle Roybal
 - a. Welcome Krystle Roybal
 - b. Terry Trujillo will be gone effective December 16
- C. RSU Deputy Director – Nash Sisneros
 - a. In the process of filling the RSU Executive Assistant position
- D. DDS Administrator – Alan Hamlin
 - a. Continue to fill positions as they become available
 - b. Filled all positions for last physical year
 - c. Have been allowed to fill 58 positions FY 23
 - d. Continued resolution for funding that expires 12-16
 - e. Are on target for Regular and National workload 2023
 - i. Continue to assist SSA partners in workload needs
- E. Public Relations Coordinator – Jeff Levine
 - a. Please be aware of the logo you are using
 - i. Ensure it is the one with Public Education Department on the bottom
 - b. The numbers since the launch of social media in April
 - i. 131 Linkdin
 - ii. 101 Facebook
 - iii. 68 Instagram
 - c. Social media is used to promote events all over the state
 - d. DVReporter (internal monthly employee newsletter)
 - i. Leadership message
 - ii. Area highlights
 - iii. Event photos
 - iv. Spotlight awards to recognize staff going above and beyond
 - e. Success stories
 - i. Interview participants and get photos
 - ii. If you have ideas of success stories, please share
 - f. Updated website
 - i. Updated leadership bios
 - ii. Standardized wording
 - iii. Participant instead of client
 - iv. Added Stevens amendment wording
 - v. Updated partners page
 - vi. Added email address
 - vii. Pop ups

1. If offices will be closed due to weather conditions
 2. Press releases
 3. Breaking news
- g. Press release
- i. Nine this year
- h. Governor proclamation NM disability employment awareness month in October
- i. Does mention DVR and our mission
- i. We have media placements in
- i. Albuquerque journal
 - ii. KRQE
 - iii. KOB4
 - iv. Las Vegas Optic
- j. Employer outreach flyers for employers and for the VR techs and counselors to hand out to clients
- k. Annual report
- i. 20 pages
 1. Highlights FY 22
 2. Statistics
 3. Photos
 4. Participants success stories
- V. SRC Chairperson's Report – Sarah Michaud
- a. Been following DVR and our media events
 - b. Reviewed the NMAC
 - c. Listened to LFC and HHS meetings
 - d. Assisting Tracy on the annual report
- VII. Old Business
- A. Beginning to plan for Needs Assessment/Satisfaction Survey
- a. Will table until January
 - b. Members part of at hawk committee
 - i. Jennifer Gelhardt
 - ii. Sarah Michaud
 - iii. Sbicca Broudeur
 - iv. Dolores Harden
- VIII. New Business
- A. Review and Approve 2022 Annual Report
- a. Didn't mention RSA monitoring and accomplishments
 - b. NMDVR and SRC are working together
 - c. Using participant instead of consumer
 - d. Need to look at people first language
 - e. Need the proper logo from DVR
 - f. Need more on PreEts
 - g. Need to look at other options of getting this out
 - h. Put a QR reader on the annual report for easier access
 - i. Do we need all the major categories?
 - j. Corrections to annual report draft
 - i. Jennifer- spacing NMDVR
 - ii. Jeff- Cover Division not department, no spaces NMDVR, Casey's letter paragraph 3 needs apostrophe, End of line coma after covid semicolon, after modalities remove coma, customer oriented should

have comma, page 7, one I order of selection should be capital, 2 II formation with the line break, new line between add and submit, page 9 success story paragraph 4 should get quoted, Restoration pizza first paragraph open quote, page 10 column two has Casilda Gallegos needs a coma, 13 last line needs to be removed, next page, sixth category looks like it's there twice, earrings and client income, public support and public sources, page 18 bottom needs new email address, Melissa Salazar needs contact information, memberships under Mahershala put in parenthesis, Yolanda; State workforce development board, locations pages should be alphabetical, be consistent with font

- iii. Sbicca- make the document read a loud
 - iv. Sarah-Page 19 Sbicca title needs to be changed, change Jemez to Jemez Pueblo
 - v. Paula- page 17; Do we want to do more with pandemic? Specific for NM?
 - k. Bernadine Chavez moves to approve the Annual Report with the suggested changes and if there are further changes that Tracy needs input the executive committee will provide that input
 - i. Paula seconds the motion
 - ii. Unanimously approved
- B. NCSRC and CSAVR updates – Tracy and Jennifer
- a. Jennifer Gelhardt
 - i. Great resources, website filled with knowledge, suggested an evening meeting for better participation, NM got recognition a couple times for clearing the waiting list
 - b. Tracy Agiovlasis
 - i. One sheets for employers, focus groups, CSAVR super clear the challenges NMDVR are echoed across USA, systems change will take a while
 - c. Bernadine
 - i. Thank you to Casey for allowing members of the SRC to attend
 - d. Casey
 - i. Presentations are up on RSA website, great conference, 4 ½ days of valuable information
- C. Establish SRC committee names and members
- a. In March there was a conversation about the committee
 - b. Changing communication and/or focus of the committee
 - i. Transition- Pre-Ets
 - ii. Target Populations committee
 - iii. Legislative and outreach
 - iv. State plan and annual report committee
 - v. Membership training and Awards committee
 - c. Still in favor? Combine?
 - i. Need to update the by-laws
 - ii. Paula and Berna will work on an at hawk committee
 - d. Tracy moves to establish an at hawk committee to flesh these committees out and then present at the next meeting
 - i. Not a voting issue, not on the agenda as an action item, creation of at hawk committees are not voting issues according to Robert's rules of voters
 - ii. Will proceed with the recommendation to create an at hawk committee to look at our committee structure
 - 1. Paula Seanez

2. Bernadine Chavez
3. Jennifer Gelhardt
4. Tracy Agiovlasis
5. Sbicca Brodeur
6. Nash Sisneros

iii. Will meet between now and meeting in March to discuss

iv. Paula and Sarah look into other by laws to bring language to the table

D. State Plan updates

- a. Covered by Casey Stone-Romero

E. Next Meeting

- a. March 23, 2023, Thursday @ 10:00AM on Teams

- b. Will revisit the year schedule and determine if it will be in person or online

IX. Comments from Audience

X. Adjournment

- a. Sbicca motions to adjourn
- b. Paula seconded
- c. Adjourned 1:01 PM

If you need a language translator or you are an individual with a disability who is in need of a reader, amplifier or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to participate in this meeting, please contact NM DVR at the telephone number(s) listed below. Public documents, including the agenda or minutes can be provided in various accessible forms. For additional information, contact NM DVR. Telephone numbers: 1-800-224-7005 or 505-954-8500.

(Note: the SRC attempts to follow the order of items listed on the agenda; however, it should be noted that the order of specific items is tentative and may vary from the date of the printed agenda.)