Region 10 Quality Council Meeting Agenda and Minutes

Date/Time: 01/19/2023 from 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Join Zoom Meeting
https://arcminnesota.zoom.us/j/86308006430?pwd=OFJRaC9pNUgrYkJ0OTNkdk9FOURvUT09&from=addon
Funded by the Minnesota State Legislature

The Regional Quality Councils shall:

1. ***Support efforts and initiatives that drive overall systems and social change to promote inclusion of people who have disabilities in the state of Minnesota***
2. ***Improve person-centered outcomes in disability services; and***
3. ***Identify or enhance quality of life indicators for people who have disabilities.***

Attendance: Shelly, Judy, Emily,Linda, Beth, Dee, Marita, LeAnn, Sarah, Vanessa, Melissa, Josh
Staff/Interns: Kerri, Marta, Buff, Donna, Roman (intern)
Unable to Attend: Zoey, Carolyn, Bekki, Becky, Emma, Lisa, Than, Jillian (Intern)

1) Introductions (10 Min) – Shelly
   - Welcome Marta Milliken! – Regional Quality Council Associate
   - Welcome RQC Intern Roman Morris!
   - What is your favorite snow sport?
     - Hockey, snowboarding, skiing, figure skating, snowmobiling, dog sledding, sledding, Polar Plunge, snowshoeing,

2) Review RQC Workplan (10 Min) – Kerri
   - Kerri reviewed the plan with the group, and everyone has a copy

3) Quick peek at the new look of the RQC website (5 Minutes) – Kerri

   Regional Quality Council - Disability Advocacy in MN (qualitycouncilmn.org)

   - Kerri shared the new look of the website. Please feel free to browse on your own and send any comments or feedback to Zoey and Kerri

4) Workgroup Share Out (20 Minutes)
   - Housing – Sarah

- We haven't had a chance to meet again yet since our first meeting, but we had a lot of enthusiasm and ideas about policy changes and advocacy. Sarah is still seeking someone who is willing to take minutes.

- In the City for Good is interested in collaborating on a forum about homelessness prevention. The forum will discuss issues faced by anyone who is barely hanging onto their housing and is at risk of becoming homeless. There are multitudes of reasons people may be in this situation. They may qualify for services, but those services are full, have a waiting list, or have such reduced funding and/or staffing as to be inadequate. They may be suffering from discrimination and at risk of losing their housing for something that may be an illegal reason but difficult to prove. They may be displaced or at risk of displacement and unable to find somewhere accessible and/or affordable to live. Or they may earn just enough money so that they don't qualify for any aid services.

- Regionally, there seems to be no real focus on homelessness prevention. In much the same way that medical treatment is often reactive rather than preventative— and even to a greater degree!—homelessness is something we react to rather than trying to prevent it.

- Sarah has a meeting next Tuesday with Dan Collison, Director of Business Development and Public Affairs with Sherman Associates. Sherman is the organization the city is working with on a development agreement for the city-owned Civic Center North Lot. The city went through an open RFP process to develop the site into mixed income housing. I will be discussing how to incorporate accessibility into the project

- Buff -- The Arc Minnesota is part of the Minnesota Homeless Coalition, which might have some resources for your work group if you are interested.

- If anyone is interested in collaborating on the forum, please contact Sarah. In the City for Good has hosted numerous forums and are experienced and good at it!

- Sarah is also trying to revive the Downtown Neighborhood Association in Rochester so if anyone lives downtown or knows anyone who would like to be involved, please contact her!

  - Linda and LeAnn shared information about two MN providers (New Hope and Crawford Homes) closing homes with no notice and although there was reason for doing so, this could leave people without services or housing

  - Vanessa -- The only other thing that we were talking about exploring a little bit more that definition of affordability and how that's a really loose definition across all of the socioeconomic backgrounds
- Transportation – Shelly
  - We had our first meeting in November. We talked about why, transportation is important to us as well as about some of the types of transportation.
  - Brainstormed ideas such as offering to review the Zips application to make it more accessible for people to fill out
  - Work with Lyft to develop training for people on how to use their App
  - The only Disability Drivers Training Program is at Courage Kenney in Golden Valley. We discussed how we can advocate for a program in our region.
  - Shelly created a brainstorming document for the group to be able to add ideas as they come. Feel free to email Shelly or Zoey any of your ideas!
- Workforce Shortage – Kerri
  - First meeting was in November. We had a great Turnout…33 or 34 people attended across the state with good representation from every council
  - We discussed the purpose of the workgroup
  - We facilitated a World Café that discussed the following questions:
    - What has been your personal experience with the staffing shortage?
    - What creative or surprising positive outcomes have you seen related to the staffing shortage?
    - What creative strategies have you seen or been trying?
  - Results are being consolidated to discuss in January meeting
  - Julia Page and Gene Martinez will attend the January meeting and give legislative updates.
  - Linda Driessen and Judy Young have volunteered to represent this workgroup. If there are others that would like to commit to this workgroup, please let Kerri know.
- Culture of Safety – Kerri
  - The Data Action Group has been discussing common themes around reported elopement incidents
  - Aric is finalizing recommendations from all of the councils. Next meeting is February and we hope to be able to share recommendations with the council at that time!

5 Minute Break

Quality Assurance Commission – Tayler Guccione (40 Minutes)

Bite Size Learning Brainstorming for 2023
Questions:

1. What topics or information would you like to learn about in 2023?
    - disability justice
    - informed choice
    - Transportation or Accessible and Affordable Housing (our Priorities) and how these impact other more rural counties in our region as well
    - Waiver Reimagine
        - Role of different case workers. How much time/attention do you get with each waiver? What support are you supposed to get vs what do you actually get.
    - Universal Design
    - In our state of Minnesota, what group/s are writing bills/statutes and to whom are they responsible (DHS, MCD, Health and Human Services, etc.) So if a bill is being proposed to increase work force shortage funding, for example, what is that process and who does what. What bills/issues are actually being proposed for this funding year and who is doing it so we can support or oppose those proposals. Examples offered by Linda:
        - MN SF7 (HF32) – Caregiver Stabilization Act. This bill addresses the disability waiver rate system
        - Legislation written by ARRM; Authored by Liz Bolden and Kim Hicks; $1000 Recruitment and Retention Bonus; Also supports actively promoting caregiving professions; No House File number or Senate File number yet
        - Melissa shared: https://www.leg.mn.gov/leg/legis
        - Buff: There are places where you can sign up to get an email that shows every bill that has been introduced so you can at least scroll through and see what the topics are and see if there's anything that in interest you. I can pull together some of that information, and maybe it would be worth having.
        - Should we have Julia and Gene join a meeting to give updates?
    - How to get help when you are deaf or have a speech impairment. I'd love for people to be more aware of what hearing culture is, and how to be inclusive of people who don't speak.
    - Rights of people with disabilities (along with this guardian rights)
        - Angie Hart at Star Services provides a presentation on Self-Advocacy her email is ahart@starsvcs.com

- Waiver Reimagine contact: Meghan Lindblom, Supervisor for Waiver Reimagine at DHS. Meghan's email is meghan.lindblom@state.mn.us
- Connect with Polly Owens and/or Sue Mackert regarding Waiver Reimagine updates

2. What format would you like the educational materials presented in? (videos, articles, PowerPoint presentations, hands-on activities, etc)
   - A variety of formats is nice (videos, articles, transcripts etc)
3. What should we start, stop, or continue doing as it relates to bite sized learning activities?
   - Originally, the bite-size learnings were about 15 minutes. If 30-45 minutes is needed, we may need to extend out meeting to 2 hours.
   - It would be nice to have materials to look at in advance, and having resources to follow up with
   - How do we share these trainings and resources with others besides our small group? The RQC website?

Misc.

- Next Meeting will be Thursday, February 16 from 12p-1:30p
- Transportation workgroup meets the 4th Tuesday of each Month from 1p-2p
- Affordable and Accessible Housing Workgroup – Meeting time TBD
- Workforce Shortage Workgroup meets next January 26 from 10a-11:30a
- Culture of Safety will not meet in January but will continue to meet the 4th Wednesday of each month from 2p-4p starting in February.
- Linda is on the Olmstead Implementation Office Workforce Shortage Work group; That group is specifically looking at what are the barriers for people with disabilities to get competitive employment. There is going to be a listening session on February 7th. Linda will forward to everyone to attend and/or share with people in your networks who might be interested in providing feedback as to the barriers to getting employment.
- Also an Affordable Housing listening session on February 8. Linda will send information on this as well.
- Disability Advocacy Day at the Capitol is February 14. 2023. Staff from The Arc MN SE office will be attending. We will be arranging a carpool if there is anyone interested in joining us. The Rally starts at 11am. We will also be scheduling meetings with legislators!