METRO REGIONAL QUALITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Friday July 10th, 2020
9 am – 11am
The Arc Minnesota
2446 University Ave West, Suite 110
St. Paul, Minnesota
Zoom

Purpose Statement: The purpose of the Regional Quality Council is to connect with and promote all communities of people with disabilities so that services and supports help them to live a life based on their hopes and dreams. The council will work together to continually monitor and improve the quality of services and supports for people with disabilities. The council seeks to improve person-centered outcomes, quality of life indicators, and to drive overall systems change.

In attendance: Angie Guenther, Tayler Guccione, Diane Sjolander, Rebecca St. Martin, Erin Paredes, Chelsea Lorenz, Paris Gatlin, Jeffery Nurick, Mohamed Mourssi-Alfash, Mary Gaasch, Judi Marie Ringe, Kyle Dennis, Rhonda Godfrey, Tim Sullivan

Intern: Kayla Owens

1. **Introductions/What's Happening?**
    - Angie
        - The first three scripts for employment campaign videos are finalized. We will get them filmed and posted in the next couple of weeks.
        - Meet with Mark on Wednesday (July 15) to add Quality Improvement tab to MRQC Website.
        - Sent out quarterly RQC Newsletter.
        - Reached out to 15 local chambers of commerce to form potential partnerships are the employment work each are doing.
        - Follow, like and share us on Facebook. We are in the process of increasing engagement and activity on the page.
    - Rebecca shared that one on one virtual support services have been approved
    - Diane shared that she is concerned about day programs not having any Covid-relief funds. Trying to reach out to representatives. Erin added she knows of a large day program that has shut down due to lack of funding.
    - Mohammed shared, regarding the first employment script video, federal employees still are covered by ADA. Concerned about applicable law and thinks it needs to be mentioned in video.
        - Took group vote: everyone okay with moving forward on script as was originally approved.

2. **MRQC Charter Updates**

- Background statement.
    - Added MRQC in parenthesis
    - No other edits or changes suggested
- Values Section
    - No edits or changes suggested
- Goals Section
    - Suggested change of word to “Maintain”.
    - Suggested that we should publish meeting transcripts because not everyone has the privilege to attend meetings.
        - Others council members commented that they think they should stay private.
        - Multiple council members expressed that we should not post transcripts because snippets could be taken out of context and could potentially be altered. Suggested posting meeting minutes instead of the transcripts.
        - By law transcripts can be published.
        - A council member said the law states that it does not need to be posted online but simply available to be provided by request and others agreed
        - Council took a vote:
            - Majority (10) voted to not have the transcripts published but to have them easily available upon request.
            - 1 voted to have them published.
        - A council member noted that they will consider publishing the transcripts regardless of the vote because of the law.
        - A council member suggested having official transcript available by request.
        - Multiple council members mentioned it would be a better use of our time to continue discussing other changes to the charter.
        - Angie asked for final vote on process. All members in attendance voted “Yes” to the following process: Have transcripts edited by the captioner and made available to public by request. Will mention in meeting minutes and on the website that transcripts are available upon request.
        - *NOTE:* MRQC/Arc staff and interns did not vote to ensure the outcome accurately reflected the wants of the council

Break

- Changes to remainder of Charter
    - Mohammed suggested reviewing Council membership twice a year instead of once
        - Angie expressed that it’s more of an ongoing process
    - Rebecca said that we should have more people with disabilities on the council who are receiving service and other members agreed that we should have more representation.
        - Angie expressed that there have been no applications in the past ~4 months. Doesn’t know how to get more people when there seems to not be an interest.
        - Rebecca suggested doing exit interviews for people who have left the council and other council members agreed.
        - Final consensus to leave it as is in Charter. However, agreed that we need better representation and outreach to get people with disabilities to join the council.

        - Tayler and Kayla discussed posting position on social media groups and pages for outreach. Posts have been to Facebook but MRQC staff will do additional outreach efforts.
- Finished Charter
    - Angie will send out final version.

3. **Subgroup/Workgroup Meetings**
    - Discussion of Membership stipends for workgroup/subgroup meetings.
        - Workgroup meetings should be held during regular MRQC meeting times with regular stipends included. If workgroup meetings were held outside of this time, they would likely be on volunteer basis - Angie and Paris will review budget and get back to council if additional stipends would be included.
    - Current leadership methods of workgroups are working, and group consensus is to keep as is (with Angie leading the employment workgroup and Tayler/Joe leading the support staff shortage workgroup)
    - Angie will send out email connecting workgroups.

4. **DHS Contract Updates**
    - Council didn't see need to go through this as a group with the limited time
    - One member suggested to have this done with so next meeting we can be done with organizational items and move on to real project work.

5. **What's Working/What's Not**

Working:
- Angie's leadership
- Access to documents ahead of meeting time to review and process (2)
- Having people state their names before they speak
- Technology (2)

Not Working:
- Getting bogged down during precious meeting time with details
- Combative tone from some members
- Communication in meetings

Next Meeting: August 14th, 2020 from 9:00 – 11:00am