West Central Regional Quality Council
Funded by the Minnesota State Legislature

West Central Regional Quality Council Meeting Minutes January 17th, 2023

- Present: Chad, Christine, Calley, Sherri, Hollie, Jackie, Shannon, Melanie
- Absent: Victoria ,Phyllis, Bill, Jen, Laurie
- RQC staff: Donna, Kerri, Buff, Marta, Jillian
- Guest: Olivia Lape

1) **Welcome/Introductions.**
2) **Presentation about The Arc Minnesota Peer-to-Peer Program** - Olivia Lape
   Peer-to-Peer Mentor Program is a multi-agency partnership to carry out the Minnesota Transformation Initiative Technical Assistance Center (MTI) contract with DHS.

   Goal to increase opportunities for people with disabilities

   - earn competitive wages and benefits
   - shift from subminimum wage
   - currently have 4 peer mentors with disabilities who are competitively employed
     - mentors will give support to people who are exploring job options
     - receive a stipend of $20/hour for 4-5 hours/week
   - will be looking for Family engagement leads to share job resources, information, and success stories
   - will be giving some large group presentations; next one will be the Disability Hub MN information on Benefits
   - working with 8 agencies
3) **Workgroups**
   - **a)** Employment - 7
   - **b)** Transition to Adulthood - 6
   - **c)** Staffing Shortage (Statewide) – 4. Next meeting January 26th, 10-11:30
   - **d)** Data Action for Culture of Safety - 4
     - This workgroup will not start yet. Expect to start in July.
   - **e)** 2 people chose both Employment & Transition. Hollie will go back & forth.
4) **Meeting times will change to 1 hour 45 minutes**
   a) 45-minute full council meetings
   b) 45-minute employment and transition to adulthood breakout workgroups
   c) Full council for 15 minutes to report & get feedback

5) **Dignity of Risk**

a) Discussion:
- What kind of risk are you willing to accept?
  - hard to accept as a part of everyday life – we hear the bad stuff
  - different tolerance if you are an individual vs. a provider
  - person had to consider how their action can affect other people too
  - very individualized
- Can we minimize risk?
  - try to anticipate
  - practice "What if" – support teams sometimes get stuck here
  - take calculated risk
  - informed choice
  - consider steps to minimize – locking doors, phone as a lifeline, safety items in place
  - knowledge
- How can our Council promote informed decision-making, autonomy, and self-direction?
  - Can incorporate into the projects
  - Provide options
  - Develop trainings about choice, informed decision making

6) **Membership**

a) Resignation –Nia Dyer
New self-advocate to start in February

b) Continue to look for new members. Clay County is the only county represented in the following categories
- People with disabilities - have 2
- Family Members of people who have disabilities - have 4
- Disability Service Providers - have 3
- Disability Advocacy Groups - 0

Please consider serving as co-chair or note taker for the full council or workgroups– facilitate, help set agenda

Next Meeting: We will have a presentation on the Minnesota Microgrant Partnership

1:30-3:15 February 21st, 2023

- 3rd Tuesday of each month