RQC Notes 9/17/24

Intros/Attendance

Katie Cragg, Kerri Leucuta, Kassi Sofferman, Chad Erdmann, Jason Melby, Amber Ramey, Deb, Michelle, Jackie Breedy, Jessica, Shannon, Tina Rucci

2) Council of Safety Data Action Group (DAG) (5 minutes)

- Wrapping up discussion and will start charting and recommendations

3) Regional Capacity Building (10 min)

a) Statewide meeting September 16th-Went well, Arc Northland talked about making a PATH and how it helped them identify their purpose.

b) Members-could use professionals, self-advocates

4) Council membership (5 minutes)

a) Always recruiting and of course if anyone ever has agenda items let me know

- Looking for more self-advocates

5) Policy Discussion with Tina Rucci @2:00

a) Join the Public Policy Committee or Capitol Connectors

- We are to have someone from the council be at the capitol connectors meeting-Jessica went last year
- Contact Tina with policy questions or suggestions
    - tinarucci@arcminnesota.org

b) How we can help make the policy agenda

- 2025 legislative agenda ideas
    - Elimination of subminimum wage
    - Inclusive playgrounds
    - Transition programs for public schools-discussion on how there doesn't seem to be a lot of accountability in programs and how programs very depending on the district. It would be nice if programs were more the same so parents didn't feel like they have to "shop" for a good program.

There is a group meeting Monday that is involved in the ICI Transition Grant. This is a group that has been seeing similar things.

6) Workgroups - Full council brainstorm

a) Employment (35 minutes)

- October is Disability Employment Month

(1) Event Planning

- Who would we focus on for our audience? People looking for jobs or businesses looking to hire people with disabilities?
- Both
- Giving business education to tell businesses about the benefits of hiring people with disabilities
    - Reach out to Voc rehab
- Having it during the day time or the evening?
- Jessica has had a lot of interest companies she has talked to about this
    - Sunset bowling would love to learn more about hiring
    - Heartland is increasing their rates (eliminating subminimum wage)
- Employment agencies contact
- Looking into what other RQCs have done
    - Region 10 hosts job fairs
- Katie met with Marissa and Addie to talk about ideas
    - Tabling event? Speakers?
- Incorporate the videos that were created?
- Career academy – Tom reach out to his contacts
- Location?
    - Ottertail county?
- Jason- Would you be willing to share how you started your employment journey? Might be good to hear how you accessed community employment.

- Jessica - “go where employers go”. Going to a job fair as well. Instead of creating an event, join another event and find contacts there
- https://bigwoodeventcenter.com/meeting-rooms
- https://www.careerforcemn.com/jobfairs
- doing a virtual event or two events, one in person and one virtual. We could look at Perham or Detroit Lakes
- HR Professionals might want to attend, especially HR professionals who are hiring people with disabilities.
    - CEU’s

b) Transition to Adulthood (35 minutes)

- Opportunity to sponsor an event @MSUM to promote inclusivity between transition program and MSUM programs/students

    - Table with job openings-CCRI, Job Coach agencies (LSS, Productive Alternatives, Bluesky)

-Recap on Voting Rights Party went well. About 25 people.

-Transition fair-Moorhead Public Schools in October

7) Self-Direction Connection Conference

- https://www.harrymeyeringcenter.org/home/selfdirection/

-November 1, 2024 Mankato

-Registration ends when tickets are sold out or Oct 31st

(1) **https://whova.com/portal/registration/selfd_202411/?preview_image=3**

8) Minnesota Gathering https://gathering.umn.edu/

- November 12th in person and online November 14th

- Both in Cloquet and Mankato on the same day

9) Next Meetings and Events

- **September 18th 6-8pm What is on a ballet**
- **September 26th 11-12:30 Statewide Workforce Shortage Meeting**
- **October 10th Transition Fair Moorhead Schools**
- **October 14th 1-3. Culture of Safety Data Action Group**
- **October 15th 1:30 - 3:15 WCRQC Hybrid Meeting @Family Service Center**