West Central Regional Quality Council Meeting Minutes – September 20, 2020

Recording Disability Services Quality Council-20220920_135129-Meeting Recording.mp4

1) Welcome/Introductions. What excites you about being on the council? (15 minutes)
   - Attendance: Laurie, Nia, Melanie, Chad, Christine, Calley, Bill, Sherri, Shannon, Hollie, Rhonda, Jackie, Jen
   - Unable to attend: Victoria, Phyllis, Deb, Erika
   - RQC staff: Donna and Kerri
   - What excites you about being on the council?
     - It's important that people with disabilities get the services they need and want
     - Learn from others
     - Share ideas
     - Share unique perspectives
     - One idea can help many people
     - Person-Centered
     - Working together
     - Interest and passion regarding disability and mental health
     - Getting information and becoming involved
     - Reimagine what could be
     - Hear ideas and make communities more inclusive
     - Create more opportunities
     - See what opportunities exist

2) Membership (10 minutes)

- People with disabilities - have 2
- Family Members of people who have disabilities - have 4
- Disability Service Providers - have 3
- Disability Advocacy Groups - 0
- Lead agency staff - have 7
- Staff of state agencies in special education and disability services - have 1
- Who are we missing?
  - Disability Advocacy group or agency
  - Additional people with lived experience
  - Need to invite people from culturally diverse communities to ensure different perspectives are heard
  - People outside of Clay County

Membership must be representative of our communities. We want to include people with lived experience and diverse racial and cultural backgrounds.

3) Information on Quality Councils (20 minutes) – Reviewed attached PowerPoint

4) Ableism video: https://vimeo.com/492480733 (15 minutes)

- Discussion Questions
    - Why is learning about ableism important?
        - People can't change if they don't know what ableism is or that it is a problem
        - Schools – Teachers teach everyone the same way without having to adjust or recognize that everyone learns differently
        - It is important to look at ourselves and how we might be ablest
        - People make assumptions or put people in a box with expectations about what someone can or cannot do
        - When you know better…do better
        - The service system is set up for people with disabilities to live a certain way…how can we do better
        - Need to accept risk for people to live lives they want rather than being so protective all the time
        - Society is divided. We need to come together. We are all people and labels should not be used
        - Having a diagnosis creates stigma…but you need a diagnosis to get services
        - People with disabilities have rights
    - What are some examples of how ableism shows up in your life?
        - Parks are not inclusive or designed for people with disabilities (i.e. no fence around the park
        - People with disabilities are expected to adapt rather than being offered alternatives or solutions to support people how they want/need to be supported
        - When going to the doctor, as soon as nurse or other staff realize there is a disability diagnosis, they stop talking to the patient and start talking to the family member or support person
    - What do you think society could do better to include and accommodate disabled people?
        - Have people with lived experience be "at the table" and involved in conversations and solutions
        - Promote awareness of how ableism creates barriers for people
        - Educate professionals – the comfort level regarding disabilities varies; Professionals need to be able to relate to and help all people; disability education needs to be included in curriculum for professionals
        - People should not have to fight for services or IEPs

5) Break

6) Discussion on Next Meetings (5 minutes)

- Co-chairs – facilitate, help set agenda
    - Need two volunteers for role of Co-Chair for the council – Please contact Donna if interested or willing!
    - RQC staff will support Co-Chairs
    - Time commitment would involve one extra meeting per month to co-create agenda
- Decide if we want to meet virtually or hybrid

    - Consensus is to continue Hybrid meetings (in-person and virtual options)
    - If attending in-person, meetings will continue to be at Clay County Social Services building
    - Meetings will be the third Tuesday of each month from 1:30 to 3pm through the rest of the year.
    - Meeting time and location will be re-evaluated at the beginning of 2023 to ensure this still works for people

- Are there other people who can provide information about what we should be looking at?
    - Meetings are open to the public, so anyone can attend. We can bring in guest speakers, experts on specific subjects, people who have a vested interest in specific topics etc.
    - People can be part of a workgroup even if they are not a member
    - Only actual members can vote on or approve action taken by the council…non-members or RQC staff cannot
- Connect 1-1
    - Donna will be reaching out to each member to schedule one to one meet and greets to find out what is important to each person about this work etc.

7) Council Guidelines (10 minutes) – Review attached document. This document was co-created by RQC staff and RQC members. If this council sees anything that is missing or that they would like to change, please let Donna know.

8) Work Plan (10 minutes) – To be reviewed at next meeting

9) Other

10) Next Meeting: 1:30p – 3p October 18th (3rd Tuesday of each month)

Minutes recorded by Kerri Leucuta