West Central Regional Quality Council
Funded by the Minnesota State Legislature

May 20, 2025, 1:30 pm-Hybrid

The Regional Quality Council will:

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

West Central Regional Quality Council Meeting Notes

Hybrid meeting-We will be meeting in the Spud Room on the 5th floor of the Family

Service Center

Join Zoom Meeting
https://arcminnesota.zoom.us/j/86181863433?pwd=TBF97J0MY0m5tLGOFySunetFXiYD53.1

Attendees: Katie Cragg, Cortney Kressin, Kassi Sofferman, Jason Melby, Chad Erdmann, Michael Pulczinski, Dee Alleckson, Sarah Jenson, Sherri Wahl, Melanie Courier, Laurie Sanders

1. **Welcome/Introductions.** (5 minutes)
    a. Do you have a garden?

2. **Regional Capacity Building (10 min)** Cortney
    a. RCB meets once a month and focuses on positive support
    b. https://www.qualitycouncilmn.org/calendar/pctbasicstraining/2025-07-23/
    c. Four one-hour sessions on person centered thinking
    d. https://www.qualitycouncilmn.org/wp-content/uploads/Person-Centered-Thinking-Basics-Training-1.pdf
    e. RCB is doing community listening sessions to see what the community needs and wants regarding positive supports

3. **Rally At the Capitol**

4. **Workgroups -** Full council brainstorm
    a. **Transition to Adulthood** (35 minutes)
        i. Moorhead Public Schools
            1. Project Search
                a. The school partners with a large business (500+ employees) to offer internships with the school district
                b. Fargo is now doing this individually, so Moorhead is looking for options to do it here as well. Maybe Eventide. They might need another year to plan it

2. Peer to Peer class and Charting the LifeCourse

ii. Regional Listening Session
    1. We are very active in Moorhead, so we are trying to get out to the other counties.
    2. We have to figure out what we're missing. Is there something going on in rural MN that we're not thinking of?
    3. Audience: Parents and self-advocates
    4. Is there a resource we can make?
        a. Dee has a resource: Does my child need a guardian?
            i. A worksheet for kids/transition age students about tasks and asking if they know how to do them
        b. Lack of employment and not a lot of help from anyone
        c. More and more places that are not giving people opportunities
            i. Example: grocery stores moving to self-checkouts
        d. Are there enough job coaches? No.
        e. There needs to be more options like project search, then people are given a chance to show what they are capable of.
        f. Showing employers that there are tax breaks as well for hiring people with disabilities
    5. Getting information to parents as soon as possible! Starting early
    6. Smaller vs larger towns: Easier to get jobs?
        a. It depends! It's who you know

iii. Gillette's Transition summit: Gillette transition summit 2025

iv. Detroit Lakes SASH/Parent Group
    1. Possibly partnering with Freedom Resource Center?

v. What's next resource-brainstorm the different paths
    1. Why? Even if we don't hit everything…parents truly don't know what their options are. I think that lists help. For example-R MN Cep? Nobody has heard of that. If parents can see a list-even if we say, this is a start and we might have missed options…I think it would be helpful.
    2. Mentor parents
    3. Most college students will need an ARMHS worker
    4. Mentor parents to let their child make their own decisions and mistakes
    5. Offsite living in college, running into problems with that
    6. A resource from each organization: If you offer job coaching, how long does it typically take to find a job? How long do people typically stay at one job? What types of jobs?
    7. How would you organize this resource?
        a. Area list
        b. Flowchart?
    8. Already another resource: THINK college?

b. **Employment** (35 minutes)

i. Employer resources-connecting to employers

ii. Customized Employment

iii. Volunteer Resource?

5. **Other** (10 minutes)
    a. **Elimination of Subminimum wage lunch and learn**
        i. **Recordings: https://www.youtube.com/@mrqc1124**
    b. **Policy Update**
        i. **SF 1062**-DSP certification pilot, **HF 1803** –IEP short term goal changes and option to wait on transition, **SF 1101-**Requires insurance companies to cover AAC devices
        ii. Policy Suggestions?

6. **Culture of Safety Data Action Group (DAG)** (5 minutes)
    a. Canceled this month

7. **Next Meetings and Events**
    - Thursday, May 22nd 11-12:30 Statewide Workforce Shortage Monthly Meeting
    - Thursday, May 29th 7-8:30 Zoom panel on small businesses
    - Monday, June 1 7-8:15pm Transition Listening Session
    - Monday, June 9 1-3 Culture of Safety
    - Tuesday, June 17 1:30-3:15 WC RQC Meeting

Other meetings/workshops

Pacer Workshops

Disability Hub Calendar

Upcoming AuSm Workshops

Minutes from past meetings.