West Central Regional Quality Council
Funded by the Minnesota State Legislature

Agenda February 21st, 2023 1:30 pm

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 Agenda

February 21st, 1:30 pm

1) **Welcome/Introductions.**
Members Attended: Jason Melby, David Burrous, Mike Nelson, Jeff Bjornson, Janna Peterson, Chad Erdmann, Chris Schulz, Hollie Wanner, Jackie Beedy, Sherri Wahl, Laurie Sanders, Melanie Courrier
Staff: Donna, Kerri, Marta, Dawn

2) **Presentation - The Arc Minnesota Microgrant Partnership** – Dawn Lampros

- Microgrants are for Minnesotans with a certified disability – they could be any age
- Grants for employment and housing goals
- Individual Grants of $100-$2,000
- Applications online or paper
- Applications can be from people with disabilities, their staff, family, friends or supporters
- DHS reviews all applications to check if there are other resources. If there are none, the application will move forward in the review process
- They do not send money or pay for items already purchased. Microgrant staff will make all purchases. Payment to certified businesses.
- Can take up to 45 days to get approval

A lot of requests are for laptops to find a job or working remotely. Also, furniture or moving costs. The focus is only on employment and housing; the previous microgrant included community inclusion.

3) **RQC Website - l**ooked at the new website. This can be a tool for recruitment of new members, looking at minutes and RQC calendars, workgroup information, past projects...

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4) **Membership**

   a) Who is missing? Please reach out for members; especially outside of Clay County. Consider the workgroups and who could help in projects

5) **Workgroups -** Full council brainstorm We have about $5,000 to use towards projects

   a) Employment
      - Discussion mostly about employers
        (1) Want to hear why some employers support hiring people with disabilities
        (2) Want to hear why some employers may not hire people with disabilities
        (3) Could use focus groups, community conversations, surveys to learn more
        (4) Educate employers

Check out Metro RQC videos and other past projects under work group on RQC website

More information found on workgroup draft action plan

   b) Transition to Adulthood
      - discussion on supported decision making
      - There are a lot of resources. It can be overwhelming. If we share information, it should be in small chunks.

More information on workgroup draft action plan

6) **Next Meetings**

   a) Did the format of this meeting work or should we have breakout rooms for workgroups? **Those that stayed to the end agreed to continue this format**

   b) Need Co-chairs – facilitate & help set agenda for meetings & workgroups
      - **Next Meeting: 1:30 - March 21st, 2023**

        3rd Tuesday of each month