West Central Regional Quality Council

Funded by the Minnesota State Legislature

Agenda March 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 notes

Present: Sherri, Hollie, Jackie, Phyllis, Mike, Angela, Jason, Marni, Calley
Absent: Bill, Jen, Laurie, Melanie, David, Shannon, Janna, Jeff, Erika, Jen, Chad, Christine
RQC staff: Donna, Kerri, Marta
Guest: Taylor Guccione

1. **Welcome/Introductions.**
   Icebreaker question: If you could snap your fingers and gain a skill, then what would it be? (10 minutes)
2. **Presentation – Quality Assurance – Taylor Guccione -** see power point. Taylor showed examples of previous projects and how we can work together on our projects.

   We Work! Employment Campaign

   https://www.qualitycouncilmn.org/work-group/metro-employment-work-group/

   Provide information and training programs, develop accessible resources
3. NOT SPECIAL NEEDS | March 21 – World Down Syndrome Day | #NotSpecialNeeds
   Are they "special needs"? People with disabilities want what everyone wants: education, jobs, opportunities, friends & some love. Human needs.
4. **Membership** Who is missing? Are there people we could add for the workgroups? suggestion to find an employer who hires people with disabilities
5. **Workgroups -** Full council brainstorm

   a) Transition to Adulthood

      1. Supported decision making/guardianship will be the first area we will address

         - Will check to see if any training will be going on in region or plan something - in-person is preferred, but probably should be hybrid
         - Will include a survey to rank transition areas to send out & at each training to determine next steps
         - Phyllis will make a survey – Donna will put into a Microsoft form

- Mike is willing to be in a focus group to develop a plan
- Spoke about how the schools seem to encourage guardianship and not alternatives on their transition forms – Angela will check into transition IEPs
    - Can contact other school districts
    - We should ask schools where they get their information and how they want information
    - Families generally rely on the schools and case managers for information

2. Need a step-by-step guide for what to do for the different areas with a timeline. The Arc Minnesota has Arc Guide to GetSet! for Transition Checklist Take a look & consider if this is something we can use or tweak

3. Look into Facebook groups like the Special Spuds parents. Special Spuds is a private Facebook page where parents ask questions and get information that is important for their child. Jackie started SSP & is one of the moderators. Could this be replicated in other school districts or expanded?

4. Disability Hub has My Vault training video

b) Employment

1. Find a disability friendly employer or Human Resource person to be on our council
2. 4-5 questions for community conversation; series of conversations
    - Kerri will share questions used in Region 10
        (a) how are they inclusive or what does that look like
        (b) Natural supports
    - Hiring practices; do they consider people with disabilities
3. Connect with employers who have hired people with disabilities
    - Develop tools
4. Find employer/HR/Rotary meetings in each county - share tools
    - In person meetings are not as frequent
    - Moorhead Business Association weekly meetings
    - Fargo Moorhead Chamber
5. Public awareness campaign

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6. **Next Meetings**

   a) Need Co-chairs – facilitate & help set agenda for meetings & workgroups

   - **Next Meeting: 1:30 April 18th, 2023**

     3rd Tuesday of each month

Upcoming events

March 22nd - Life of One's Own part 1 of 3 part webinar series

March 28th - ARRM/MOHR Disability Services Day at the Capitol

April 11th –Disability Hub benefits planning –flyer attached

Public Policy

HF 2513 | SF 2669 Action Alert: Phase Out Subminimum Wage

MCD - wage justice 2 page (arcminnesota.org)

Expand statewide infrastructure to support people with disabilities in competitive employment and end the use of subminimum wages. This proposal encompasses the recommendations from the **Task Force on Eliminating Subminimum Wages.** The bill includes the following strategies that were identified and recommended by the task force:

- Lead Agency Employment Capacity-Building Grants;
- Required Case Manager Employment Training;
- Funding for a statewide Disability Employment Technical Assistance Center;
- Embedded employment resources in MnCHOICES Assessment and Support Plan;
- Policy changes to informed choice laws;
- Phasing out the use of subminimum wages for people with disabilities;
- Interagency alignment study and data sharing;
- Administrative resources to establish transition age youth supports coordinator and additional support for employment programs;
- Removal of a work disincentive from Minnesota Supplemental Aid (MSA);
- Enhanced system to track outcomes for people being paid subminimum wage;
- Disability inclusive worksite training and certification; and
- Creation of a preferred contractor designation for disability inclusive worksites for the State of Minnesota.

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