

**NEVADA STATE REHABILITATION COUNCIL
STATE PLAN COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

Department of Employment, Training & Rehabilitation

October 12, 2015

Rehabilitation Administration
751 Basque Way
Carson City, NV

Vocational Rehabilitation
3016 W. Charleston Blvd.
Las Vegas, NV

MEMBERS PRESENT

Lisa Bonie
Mathew Dorangricchia
Ernest Hall (NSRC Chair)
Bill Heavilin
Shelley Hendren
Mark Hinson
Robin Kincaid
Jack Mayes (Chair)
Rosemary Melarkey
Jean Peyton

MEMBERS ABSENT

GUESTS:

Linda Bove, Certified Deaf Interpreter
Dan Langholz, Certified Deaf Interpreter
Dolores Parrish, Certified Hearing Interpreter
Stephanie Gardner, Certified Hearing Interpreter
Pedro Gonzalez

STAFF:

Rose Marie Reynolds, Deputy Attorney General
Bill Boster, Rehabilitation District Manager
Veronica Sheldon, Administrative Assistant
Beth Talcott, Administrative Assistant

EXHIBITS:

- Nevada State Plan March 10, 2015 Meeting Minutes
- The Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Services Portion of the Unified or Combined State Plan 12 as required by Section 101(a) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended by WIOA
- Executive Summary of the 2013 Needs Assessment
- 2015/16 State Plan Goal Recommendations

1. **ROLL CALL AND CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM**

Veronica Sheldon called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m.

Ms. Sheldon read the roll call and verified that a quorum was present.

2. **VERIFICATION OF POSTING**

Ms. Sheldon verified that the posting was accomplished on time and according to open meeting law.

3. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Jack Mayes welcomed all those attending and asked those visiting to introduce themselves.

4. **FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION**

No public comments were made.

5. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION APPROVAL OF THE NSRC, STATE PLAN SUB-COMMITTEE MARCH 10, 2015 MEETING MINUTES**

Mr. Mayes asked the committee for any corrections or additions to the meeting minutes. Having none, he asked for a motion to approve.

Jean Peyton moved to approve the meeting minutes.

Ernest Hall seconded. Bill Heavilin abstained as he had not attended the March meeting. All others approved, motion passed.

6. **DISCUSSION/REVIEW WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT (WIOA) UNIFIED AND COMBINED STATE PLAN REQUIREMENTS**

Shelley Hendren noted the information that had been included in the sub-committee packets as attachments. She explained the requirements by reviewing the template that is being used to create the Unified State Plan.

Referring to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)/Unified and Combined State Plan Requirements handout Ms. Hendren stated that several committees and work groups had been put together including one Governance workgroup where the decision making was happening. A representative from the Governor's office is on that committee.

Each of the core programs; Rehabilitation Division, Health and Human Services and the Department of Education, are a part of the committee. A strategic vision for the direction of the state's workforce programs is required by WIOA.

Rehabilitation is a core program. Some of what the committee will be working on today will be reflected in the Unified State Plan. There is a vision bigger than Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) that is driving the work of VR. One of the key items for Nevada is a high level of self-sufficiency. Something the division strives to achieve daily. We pull from demand driven curriculum, programs of study and income opportunities that will best prepare students and potential employees to work and to succeed.

Everything coming out of WIOA is collaboration, a responsive network of core programs which is a demand driven to increase access to and opportunities for employment, training and educational support services.

The strategic vision is driven by goals and objectives coming out of the Governance workgroup.

Ms. Hendren said there are six goals within WIOA and this language is taken straight out of the law. She then listed the six goals within WIOA and how they matched the goals the NSRC has been striving towards;

1. Increase access to education, training and support services and remove barriers to employment.
2. Coordinate training and integrate training programs

3. The efficient statewide integrated system would provide measurable data for the Rehabilitation Division to make data driven decisions.
4. To ensure the workforce is skilled, prepared and credentialed.
5. To ensure staff are skilled, qualified and adaptable and have a 21st century understanding of the labor force.
6. Nevada's goal is a statewide workforce development system that results in skill gains, appropriate credentials, good jobs and prosperity for Nevadans.

Robin Kincaid asked Ms. Hendren to clarify the Nevada state unified plan vision and to give some examples for what they are referring to. Ms. Hendren replied in a very general sense if there is an employment trend in Nevada the economy is growing so there would be more jobs. The state would work with community colleges and other training providers to create curriculum to prepare individuals to apply for those jobs and have a competitive advantage.

Ms. Kincaid added she does not see a lot of trends in Nevada. Nevada has many jobs in hospitality however should another employer come to Nevada, that might spark a need for looking at a different type of trend or curriculum.

Ms. Hendren replied there is quite a lot for logistics jobs in Nevada. The emphasis now with Tesla coming to Reno strengthens those kinds of training needs. That is why business leaders in each of the key sectors know what their needs are and the types of training that will be needed.

The state is trying to develop some tools to help consumers be more informed about the type of employment available, experience required, type of training needed, location, salary and benefits.

That is why information coming out of the sector councils is so important. These are business leaders in each of the key sectors that say what their needs are. The Division has a new tool that is currently rolling out called, "Silver State Solutions." It is cutting edge technology with up to date employment information based on job postings throughout Nevada, and it compares data with other states.

This platform is rolling out into the JobConnect offices to help participants create resumes and apply for jobs, with the ideal One-Stop system for a single point of access. We need to collaborate with the sector councils and to consider our needs assessment and the performance measures.

7. **DISCUSSION/REVIEW OF THE 2013 NEEDS ASSESSMENT REPORT**

Ms. Hendren, in addressing the Sub-committee stated the 2013 Needs Assessment executive summaries were included in the meeting materials to show what areas in the Vocational Rehabilitation programs are in need of some updating and areas that need improvement. She said the next Needs Assessment will take place in 2016 as these assessments take place every three years to receive fresh information and perspectives.

Ms. Hendren emphasized the report demonstrated needs of individuals within significant disability groups and their supportive employment needs. In the North, in addition to serve that capacity of the population, an emphasis on Mental Health rehabilitations and spinal cord or brain injuries.

Transportation was another expressed need for access to health care and the general lack of jobs to choose from in the rural Nevada.

In the south, the capacity to service individuals with the most significant disabilities, transportation and better job placement services or job development is needed. The ability for individuals to obtain or retain jobs is another need.

Statewide the needs of individuals with disabilities from different ethnic groups, including those underserved by the Vocational Rehabilitation Program include the Native Americans, Asians, those with mental health disabilities, individuals who are Deaf, blind and/or visually impaired, those with autism, and those that were previously incarcerated.

The Needs Assessment included the capacity to serve Spanish speaking individuals and transition age youth. In order to extend our reach to these individuals, we work with the Workforce System and under the Unified State Plan there is going to be more sharing of resources with the JobConnects and One-Stop partners.

We do recognize the geographic barriers for staff to participate in Individualized Education Programs (IEPs). Our Vocational Rehabilitation program is dedicated to increasing the number of counselors dedicated to transition and to increase coordination with the schools, job readiness training and vocational training.

In the area of marketing our services, the Division has several cars wrapped with our contact information on them, radio spots and updated brochures have also been made available.

Robin Kincaid and Jack Mayes asked if the same Needs Assessment vendor would be used again for the 2016 Needs Assessment. Ms. Hendren replied to the affirmative.

Ms. Kincaid asked if the Needs Assessment could be expanded upon. Ms. Hendren asked her to email her the types of expansions Ms. Kincaid was referring to, to see if it is something that could be added to the Request for Proposal (RFP). Ms. Kincaid specified that the sub-committee should be more involved with the Needs Assessment research and identification of the items this report will be reviewing.

8. **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION DISCUSSION TO ESTABLISH RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GOALS, STRATEGIES, AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES FOR THE REHABILITATION SERVICES PORTION OF THE FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2017 UNIFIED STATE PLAN**

Ms. Hendren stated the goals and strategies for the performance measures in the Rehabilitation Services portion of the fiscal year 2017 Unified State Plan were all a result of the decision's made in January by the Sub-Committee. There are several options we can make today. We can go in a different direction or adopt what we discussed and decided upon during the State Plan meeting this past January.

She said the biggest piece that is missing has to do with Transition Students because of the emphasis on reserving specific funding for Pre-Employment Transition Services and finding out the transition performance measures in WIOA do not apply to VR.

Mr. Mayes then read through the Goals, Strategies and Indicators that were approved by the Sub-Committee in January 2015 to see if the sub-committee would like to make any changes before taking it to the full Council in November.

After reading through the sub-committee's previous recommendations for the Rehabilitation Services portion of the Unified State Plan, he asked for a motion to recommend the same goals, strategies and indicators as reviewed to the full Council to include in the federal fiscal year 2017 state plan.

Ernest Hall moved to approve.
Jean Peyton seconded. Motion passed.


9. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No comments were made.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

Ernest Hall moved to adjourn the meeting.
Jean Peyton seconded. Motion carried.

Edited By:



Veronica Sheldon, NSRC Liaison

Approved By:



Jack Mayes, State Plan Committee Chair