

PCA WORKFORCE COUNCIL
TRAINING COMMITTEE MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2015

Attendees: Committee members: Mary Caruso, Greg McMahon, Sheila Mulvey

Guests: Carl Noll, Recruitment Committee member and Dawn Lambert of DSS MYSPACE

Meeting was called to order at 1:05.

Motion was made by Mary Caruso and seconded by Sheila Mulvey to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2015. Motion was passed.

Dawn Lambert discussed the directory and training work that MYSPACE is currently doing. They want to interface with us to develop joint ideas and to minimize duplications and redundancies. Programs are offered on a voluntary basis for the use of the directory and training. She stressed that their design is based on person centered and self-direction principles as upheld in the federal waiver programs.

DDS "MYSPACE" is required by contract with the feds to establish a directory. She indicated that there is a software system that can be administered at no cost. Their model will be community based using the UNITED WAY 211 number. 211 would manage the database. They would also provide "storefronts" throughout the states where there will be a support person to help prospective workers to navigate the system or train them on how to use the electronic system. It has been concluded that DDS participants will use the directory less because many prefer to select people that they are familiar with or highly recommended by others. DSS on the other hand will use it more. DDS staff can help participants find staff by directing them to resources but are not directly involved in soliciting or providing staff. MYSPACE decided against using Rewarding Works as their vehicle due to concerns over ongoing costs. Dawn suggested we contact Deb Migneault to arrange a meeting between the Council's Workforce and Recruitment Committee and Deb's group to provide a status update and work on next steps. Mary agreed to contact Deb via email.

Dawn discussed training ideas and we shared with her our suggested training topics. Many topics are redundant with ones already established in the community. She believes that DDS has some of the best training materials available for staff and for employers. This is where interfacing with the Community First Choice Council would be most beneficial. She suggested that we collectively need to modify materials, choose primary subjects, establish curriculum, research and compare what is out there, create a web based training program offering, and seek approval for a stipend. Mary mentioned a CNA track. Dawn said that there is already a CNA track at DSS for TANF participants.

There was a discussion about possibly attending a DSS Community First Choice Council meeting on May 1st in Newington at 9:00 am.

Meeting adjourned at 2:25 PM.