# Bureau of Rehabilitation Services

State Rehabilitation Council

## Teams Meeting – March 20, 2024

**9:30a.m. – 12:00p.m.**

### Attendees: –Kate Travis, Kerri Fradette, Joseph Wendover, Linda Rammler, Beth Reel, Thomas Boudreau, Tom Cosker, Jill Larmett, Steph Trelli, Nicole Rico Serrano, Melissa Taylor, Katlyn Williams, Carissa D., Dave Doukas, Kyle Cyr

### Guests: UMD, Kathy Marchione, Alicia Kucharczyk

### Welcome and introductions – Chairperson, Kate T.

* Minutes review, no changes made
  + Joe made motion to approve
    - Motion carried

### **Budget Review** – Carissa D.

* NCSRC registration is $300 per person (May 6th-7th)
  + Sending Kate, Kerri, and Kyle
* APSE session sponsor is $900 (May 9th)
  + 3 attendees, meals included
    - Tom B made motion to sponsor
      * Motion carried
  + Kate will send out flier

### **Client Assistance Program Updates** – Tom C.

* Reimbursement for postsecondary education has been coming up lately
  + Steph said that barrier tends to be a lot of individuals get stuck with FASFA counting parent income, other funding issues, and counselors
  + Linda has resources about college funding she’ll send out
  + Jill put in the chat that WIOA scholarships, Career ConneCT, and SNAP programs in community colleges are also options
* Working with CT PIE

### **CSNA Focus Group – 10a.m. -11a.m.** University of MD

### **Policy Updates** – Alicia Kucharczyk /Kathy Marchione

* See Alicia’s powerpoint

### BRS Updates – BRS Director David Doukas

* Staffing issues
  + Continue to have vacancies, working to fill positions
    - 33% positions need to be filled
  + Recently did interviews for VRC1s
    - 14 viable candidates
      * We had had a 50% acceptance rate with some of the previous postings
  + Intention to hire people at BA level, using Counselor Candidates that will work up to VRC1 by training and working toward master’s degree
    - Looking to post approximately 19
    - Posting should go out in around 2 weeks
  + Refilling clerical roles throughout state
    - Have been utilizing temps across the board
* Training
  + Looking at ways of training and onboarding quickly but successfully when we are able to hire VRCs
* Looking at bolstering CRPs to better enhance our services
* BRS needs to be better about sharing information internally and externally
* Draft State Plan has been posted, please review at your leisure
  + <https://portal.ct.gov/GWC/WIOA>

### SRC Discussion: All

#### Membership updates

#### State Plan update

* If you have comments or questions about State Plan reach out to Kerri and Dave

### Committee Updates:

#### Legislation and Policy

#### Membership – Jill

* Recently received 2 membership applications, interviews will still need to be conducted
  + Current BRS consumer
  + DDS staff member
* Tom and Jill will man table at APSE Conference

#### Program Review

### Public Comment - All

### Next Meeting: May 15, 2024 via TEAMS

**Bureau of Rehabilitation Services**

**State Rehabilitation Council**

**Meeting Dates 2024**

The State Rehabilitation Council (SRC) to the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS) will meet on the following dates in 2024 via TEAMS:

* **January 17, 2024 –virtual**
* **March 20, 2024**
* **May 15, 2024**
* **June 12, 2024**
* **September 18, 2024**
* **November 20, 2024**