



Department of Aging and Disability Services



Bureau of Rehabilitation Services State Rehabilitation Council Minutes

Teams Meeting – October 15, 2025

9:00a.m. – 11:00a.m.

Attendees: Kerri Fradette, Fred Brisbois, Tom Cosker, Laura Luna, Joe Wendover, Jill Larmett, Kate Travis, Stephanie Trelli, Eileen Healy, Linda Rammner, Contessa Big-Crow Jenkins, Andrea Richardson, Dave Doukas

Excused absences: Beth Reel, Carissa Decelles, Brian Smith, Tara Baldwin

Missing: Rob Nims

Left the council: Lauren Maurice

Welcome and introductions: Chairperson, Kate T. introductions were made and new appointments were identified. Eileen Healy has been newly appointed to the SRC. Congratulations and welcome Eileen.

Introduction: Lisa Hatz, BRS Bureau Chief, Lisa is BRS's newest Bureau Chief. She has worked with both NH and Minnesota VR and is bringing her leadership skills to BRS. She is involved with the new MIS system, working with the PIE grant- Oct 30 Beans & Co. event for PIE. She brings SRC experience, working with mental health and deaf population. Welcome to CT and BRS Lisa!

Budget Review: no changes to budget since last meeting

Client Assistance Program Updates: Tom C. reported out the following: Neuro-psyches and evaluations being required prior to service provision or connecting a consumer to a CRP.

- Individuals with Autism-two issues have emerged here
 - What kinds of accommodations can be done?
 - Counselors don't seem to know how to work with this population
- There have been a few more fair hearings than in other years
- Continued staff training to understand and promote CAP services.
- Question came up about how many people have contacted CAP with ILC issues?
Tom will research as he has not had any to date



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BRS Updates: Dave D., BRS Director Discussed the federal level Reductions in Force (RIF) has hit hard with Dept of Education, OSERS, RSA's entire administrative staff has been part of RIF. CSAVR staff are uncertain how this is going to unfold. Potentially resulting in a new agency home – Dept of Labor. We are hoping to have this sorted out in the next upcoming months. Claw backs have not happened, but CT PIE grant could potentially be effected.

Stephanie T. stated that there is a lot of fear amongst staff and how to communicate to the public effectively on what is happening while remaining neutral. Dave D. stated that an email would be coming out shortly to provide some clarification for staff. We are currently funded and will need to continue on with our work. Question around Informed consent training from Alicia K. will be followed up by Linda R. CTPIE questions and customized employment updates were requested. Also an organization BRS chart as to who is doing what within BRS.

Dave is still waiting for an update on hiring of two fiscal positions that would work directly report to BRS. The SRC asked what they could do to support this? Dave will keep the council updated and reach out if necessary.

Budget – Dave has been working on the 4 year budget projection model, BRS was awarded \$2.8, funding isn't an issue at this time, but could be down the road if funding isn't increased over the next few years.

CRP's trying to expand the # of CRP's and have obtained a waiver to use other CRP's that are not currently on contract. We have been setting CRP's for impossible situations and we need to start looking in the mirror as we continue to try to make improvements.

BRS is looking to upgrade the MIS – BRS case management system and will keep the SRC updated as new information becomes available.

Committee Updates:

- Legislation and Policy – Linda sent questions for the Director
- Membership – Jill has been actively recruiting new members
- Program Review- Customized employment updates requested

Public Comment: All

Next Meeting: November 12, 2025 1-3p.m. TEAMS



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Bureau of Rehabilitation Services

State Rehabilitation Council

Meeting Dates 2025

The State Rehabilitation Council (SRC) to the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS) will meet on the following dates in 2025 via TEAMS:

- January 22, 2025
- March 28, 2025
- May 14, 2025
- June 25, 2025
- September 17, 2025 – in person
- October 15, 2025
- November 12, 2025
- December 17, 2025 – (1 hr. mtg. voting/annual report review)