

# DRAFT

## State Rehabilitation Council Minutes

Tucker, GA

DAY 1: January 16th, 2019

**SRC Members Present:** Rossany Rios, Brian Mosley, Jennifer Page, Lisa Leiter, Kip Slade, Brenda Bentley-Parrish, Karen Addams, Kayla Wilson, Dawn Johnson, Deborah Lovell, Wina Low, Joy Norman, Mike Pryor, Lewis Wheaton, Peggy Venable

**SRC Members Participating via Conference Call:** Sean Casey, Ruby Kaspers, Carl McKinney

**SRC Members Who Were Absent:** Steve Oldaker, Chris Moder

**GVRs Board/ SRC/ SILC Liaison:** Michele Mason

**GVRs Board/ SRC/ SILC Program Associate:** Jacqueline Gregory

**GVRa Staff:** Patrice Meadows, Robin Blount, Joycelyn Fowler, Charlie Miller

**GVRa Staff Participating via Conference Call:** John Boan, Robin Folsom

**Guest:** Linnett Miller, Magdelyn Mitchell, Zac Bradley, Shelly Simmons

**Guest via Conference Call:** Paige Tidwell, Hamida Jinnah

### **SRC Chair's Update:**

- Rossany Rios called the meeting to order at 9:10 and introductions were made.
- Discussed several updates, which one included an update concerning SRC member Steve Oldaker.
- She talked about the communication with the governor's office.
- She gave an update on the nomination process and how the poll will be set up to vote at noon.
- Discussed her participation on the first Employment First Council meeting that was in January and the upcoming CSAVR conference in April.
- Discussed having video conference calls for the members who can't make a meeting.
- Talked about this year's goals, including moving the Comprehensive Need Assessment forward.
- The second goal is to come up with a proposal for the agency to work on supported self-employment.
- The third is to get hard data/numbers from the agency which means how many people are actually going to work in a month period or 6 month period and how many new applications.
- Asked for approval of the October SRC minutes from the Valdosta meeting.
- After review of the draft Valdosta minutes by all Council members, **Brian Mosley** made a motion to approve the minutes and **Mike Pryor** seconded.

### **SRC Committee Reports:**

#### **Membership Committee**

- **Deborah Lovell** gave an update on some names that were nominated. Kate Brady, Tina Aldridge, Deborah Hibben.
- **Brian Mosley** nominated Deborah Lovell to take the lead for Steve Oldaker while he is out.
- **Rossany Rios** appointed Deborah as the chair for the membership committee in the meantime and she accepted.

- **Jennifer Page** discussed resigning as chairperson of the policy committee and joining a different committee that wouldn't cause conflicts in her new position at CAPS.
- **Jennifer** talked about the discussion of when someone rolls off the board how long they would have to stay off.
- **Rossany** asked if anyone will have an interest in being the new chair for the policy committee and **Ruby Kaspers** said that she will consider leading the committee and Rossany appointed her along with Deborah.
- **Ruby Kaspers** gave a brief update on the CSVAR meeting and what other council are doing regarding their members and how quickly they can come back.
- **Jennifer** suggest everyone put their ideas in writing and send to the chair.
- **Rossany** set a motion to amend the bylaws to allow members to come back to the council after 3 months of being out. Deborah made that motion and Peggy Venable seconded. The motion was moved forward to vote on and approved.

<b>Action Item(s)</b>	(1) Work with the Communication and Marketing Unit to get something posted saying that the SRC is recruiting and seeking youth representation. (2) Recruit four (4) more individuals with disabilities, including someone to replace Kayla as a former VR client.
<b>Responsible</b>	(1) Ruby Kaspers has been appointed to replace Steve Oldaker (Committee Chair), Brian Mosley, Deborah Lovell, Chris Moder
<b>Deadline</b>	(1) Report out at the next SRC meeting in April in Macon, GA.

**Legislative Committee, Dawn Johnson, Chair**

- Discussed the focus on Employment First Council.
- She discussed the issues and the communication of the Council.
- Stated she will continue to PR on what GVRA does.
- She also stated she will create a mass spreadsheet of all the representatives and state legislature and send informational monthly emails.

<b>Action Item(s)</b>	(1) Create a one pager with talking points for SRC members to speak with legislators. (2) Develop a year-round legislative plan to approach lawmakers and advocate for people with disabilities and GVRA. (3) Educate legislature on what GVRA does. (4) Coordinate with other advocacy groups. (5) Build a disability caucus as a long-term goal. (6) Create a mass spreadsheet of all the representative and state legislatives and send informational monthly emails.
<b>Responsible</b>	(1) Dawn Johnson (Committee Chair), Lisa Leiter
<b>Deadline</b>	(1) Give a report at the Macon SRC Meeting

**Communications and Marketing Committee:**

- **Karen Adams, Chair** discussed everyone make sure they report on the things they did because they discussed within the committee on how SRC members stay busy and that was kind of light reported.
- Discussion were made on how to report all activities that are been done and reflect it in the next annual report.

<b>Action Item(s)</b>	(1) Develop and send out a template to SRC members to collect their activities for the past fiscal year. (2) Work in conjunction with GVRA Communications and Marketing Office on providing an SRC link and add social media expansion. (3) Committee will report on accomplishments.
<b>Responsible</b>	(1) Karen Adams (Committee Chair), Lisa Leiter, Joy Norman
<b>Deadline</b>	(1) Report out at next SRC meeting in April in Macon (2) Ongoing activities like SRC website expansion

**Introduction of New Liaison Michele Mason**

- Introductions from all SRC member were made and their roles.
- Michele Mason discussed briefly discusses her role and the things she have done so far as well as the things she will be working on.
- She also discussed the appointments and nominations.

**GVRA Executive Update by Sean Casey:**

- Stated he wanted to briefly address five points for discussion with a power point slide for view.
- The first discussion is the GVRA staffing update and their roles.
- The second he discussed is the administration offices 2018 survey overall year to year rating comparison.
- The third discussion is the Onboarding Efficiency and this includes developing strategies to reduce the time taken to recruit and process new hires, which includes continuous postings for high demand positions and compensation schedules.
- The fourth discussion is an update on the Employment First Council.
- The last discussion is the legislative session update.
- He discussed two other points in regard to the session which includes CFO Minerva Nixon and her team working with the office of the budget trying to get to 2% supplemental increase in our budget, that will go only to counselors, counselors assistants and employment specialists; the front line troops.
- The final point in regard to the governor’s new budget, he haven’t heard anything that would affect GVRA one way or the other.
- He open the floor for any comments, questions, or concerns.

**VR Programmatic Update by Lauren Knox:**

- Discussed four areas of focus of VR.
- The first area discussed is the quality of services and how they are pushing their united front down to the field level in the interest of allowing each department to focus on statements of their client’s journey to employment and independence.
- The second area discussed is the performance goals for the 52 teams in the field offices.

- The third area discussed is training. The training was provided statewide in November and December.
- The fourth area discussed is compliance. Training for staff is essential to achieving compliance.
- She discussed implementing support initiative to assist staff and enable agency to maintain compliance.
- She concluded if anyone had questions.

Rossany announce to all members that Michele Mason has set up a poll for votes on the Chair, Vice Chair, and Member at Large nominated. Results will be announced at the beginning of tomorrow’s meeting.

**TCSG Disability Services by Kimberly Ellis:**

- She gave a brief introduction of herself and her roles and provided a handout for everyone.
- She discussed the Technical College System of Georgia and their campuses and also their class flexibility.
- She discussed the Student Support Services and all the things they do.
- Next discussed was the disability services provided.
- She also explained the accommodations in the Classroom depending on the course work.
- The special populations were discussed and services provided.
- She discussed the Career Services, Assessments and their Trends.
- The high demand of jobs in Georgia was discussed and those programs of study qualify for career grants and provided a chart of what employers want.
- She also discussed student navigators and the at-risk students both academic and non-academic.
- She concluded with a video.

**Comprehensive Needs Assessment Update by Wina Low/Paige Tidwell/Hamita Jinnah:**

- Presented a presentation of the CSNA
- Wina stated the purpose of this is to identify the rehabilitation needs of the individuals served in Georgia, which included the proposed scope of work highlights.
- The requirements were discussed.
- She discussed the six step process of accessing the CSNA and the committee recommendation.
- The data collection was discussed and the methods that will be utilized to answer key assessment questions.
- She talked about quarterly updates to the SRC along with written summaries in advance of the SRC meetings will be provided for the next meetings in August and October.
- The final reporting will be provided by January 20, 2020, consisting of an executive summary, reporting of data, noted strengths of GVRA, and recommendations.
- Paige Tidwell and Hamita Jinnah added with a brief overview of the first step of the process.
- They also stated they will get the contract executed and have all coordinate some and have a main point of contact to start working on gathering hard data.

<b>Action Item(s)</b>	(1) Review the guidance document in further detail, a flowchart (2) Sketch out a scope of work (3) Schedule a conference call (4) Ask Paige Tidwell from UGA to the next meeting, sharing the outline to her prior to April meeting.
<b>Responsible</b>	(1) Wina Low (Committee Chair), Peggy Venable, Lewis Wheaton, Brenda Bentley-Parrish, and Deborah Lovell
<b>Deadline</b>	(1) Give a report at the April SRC Meeting in Macon.

### **SILC Update by Shelly Simmons:**

- Gave a brief update of Steve Oldaker and presented handouts.
- Discussed what is SILC, which is a policy driven entity and their main responsibilities.
- She discussed the SPIL development and what it consists of.
- She went over the 2019 Legislative agenda and its updates.
- She also discussed the Independent Living Day at the Capitol and invited all the SRC members to join in and register via the SILC webpage.
- The quarterly meeting was discussed and she provided success stories to read and invited members to visit YouTube to watch the seven videos they have, which will also be used as their outreach materials.
- She also provided a folder with brochures and the Georgia Independent Living Network.

### **SRC Website and Communication Update by Robin Folsom/John Boan/Michele Mason:**

- Robin Folsom presented a power point slide report and handout.
- She discussed the overview of what they are doing to reach different communities within the disability community population and how to share the message with potential clients out there.
- She discussed current ad initiatives and their logos.
- She also discussed the Social Media account trends.
- Discussed also was the collaboration from the SRC, Michele, and John on the Annual Report.
- John let everyone know there were a ton of copies for each member to get and it is available digitally on the website.
- He discussed the SRC Landing Page and the information that was provided on that page and in addition to that page was the member's bios.
- Discussions on different communications to the public were presented and discussed as well.

### **121 Program Update by Peggy Venable:**

- Gave a summary of the native's community.
- She stated in the Georgia area they had 28 successful closures, not counting other states and also had 10 transitions, which 6 more are transitioning into college or technical school.
- She discussed the 8 self-employment people that they teach.
- Spoke about the program they are working with the Seminoles in Florida with their council.
- She also discussed the Moms International they hosted at the reservation to help Native American elders that can't afford glasses.
- She discussed the programs they have to help start people off the rework and learn those soft skills of communication until they get into the public works.

Rossany Rios (SRC Chair) wrapped up with an overview of Day 2 Meeting.

- She adjourned the meeting at 4:00 PM.

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## State Rehabilitation Council Minutes

Tucker, GA

DAY 2: January 17th, 2019

**SRC Members Present:** Rossany Rios, Brian Mosley, Jennifer Page, Lisa Leiter, Kip Slade, Brenda Bentley-Parrish, Karen Addams, Dawn Johnson, Joy Norman, Lewis Wheaton, Peggy Venable

**SRC Members Participating via Conference Call:** Ruby Kaspers, Carl McKinney, Mike Pryor, Deborah Lovell, Kayla Wilson

**SRC Members Who Were Absent:** Steve Oldaker, Chris Moder, Lewis Wheaton, Wina Low

**GVRs Board/ SRC/ SILC Liaison:** Michele Mason

**GVRs Board/ SRC/ SILC Program Associate:** Jacqueline Gregory

**Guest:** Latoya Bivens, Gordon Skoglund, Kate Brady, Doug Crandell, Linner Miller

**Guest via Conference Call:** Rachel Davis

**SRC Chair Rossany Rios** called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM.

### **VR Process Overview by Latoya Bivens**

- Provided a presentation power point and handouts.
- Discussed the life of a client case objectives and understandings.
- She discussed the VR Client Process, starting with the Referral and examples of them.
- The next step was the Applicant and the application process and then the eligibility process.
- Along with the next discussion was the Services provided for the client and the Service/IPE Development in details.
- Next she discussed in details and steps the path to employment and the potential services provided.
- Last step of VR Client Process discussed was Employed and the steps taken to get there.
- She discussed the current challenges to process and the training that is needed to provide support.
- She provided success stories and a 2018-2019 Statewide goal chart with monthly team goals.

### **Supported Self-Employment Presentation by Kate Brady/Doug Crandell/Rachel Davis**

- They did an introduction of themselves and their roles.
- They presented a power point and handout of their presentation.
- They first discussed the self-employment overview which mean the customer solely own, manages, and operates a business and is not considered and employee of another person, business, or organization.
- Next they discussed the three step of self-employment; simple, comprehensive and supported.
- Discussed also was customer's employment goal must match the customer's position held in the Business Plan.
- Kate also discussed the qualifications for the self-employment in addition to job skills trainer.
- They provided and discussed the self-employment services.

- Rachel discussed the focus on specific individuals with becoming self-sufficient through self-employment.
- She also discussed how after individuals fully develop their concept and business plan, they discuss with them how to get it launched.
- She discussed the micro enterprise and small business base.

Rossany asked for a lead to the ad-hoc committee.

- Kip Slade agreed to lead this committee and work with them to help write a plan that will formally be introduced to VR.
- Brian made a motion for the committee to be made and Peggy second it.

#### **Public Comments (Addendum)**

- Public comments was made by Linnet Miller, a provider and the director of Ego Ideal INC.
- Comment will be available upon request.

Rossany moved on to the final results of the elections.

- Rossany Rios was elected as Chair
- Lisa Leiter was elected as Vice Chair
- Mike Pryor was elected as Member at Large
- A new committee was created, The Ad-hoc committee for the self-employment lead by Kip Slade.

**Rossany Rios, Chair** wrapped the meeting up with discussions of upcoming activities and meeting.

- She adjourned the meeting at 11:42 AM.