

DRAFT

State Rehabilitation Council Minutes

Macon, GA

DAY 1: April 24th, 2019

SRC Members Present: Rossany Rios, Jennifer Page, Lisa Leiter, Kip Slade, Brenda Bentley-Parrish, Karen Addams, Kayla Wilson, Dawn Johnson, Joy Norman, Mike Pryor, Lewis Wheaton, Ruby Kaspers

SRC Members Participating via Conference Call: Shawn Ryan, Deborah Lovell, Brian Mosley, Peggy Venable

GVRS Board/ SRC/ SILC Liaison: Michele Mason

GVRS Board/ SRC/ SILC Program Associate: Jacqueline Gregory

GVRA Staff: Christine Fleming

GVRA Staff Participating via Conference Call: John Boan, Patrice Meadows

Guests: Stephanie Woods, Adrienne Williams

SRC Chair's Update:

- Rossany Rios called the meeting to order at 9:13 AM and introductions were made.
- Asked for motion to approve the draft minutes from the Tucker Meeting.
- After review of the draft minutes, **Kip Slade** made a motion to approve the minutes and **Dawn Johnson** seconded.
- Gave an update on The Day at the Capitol coordinated by Dawn and how they had a chance to talk to some of the senators and representatives. Also, how they were able to use the new marketing materials.
- The next thing discussed was the participation at the NCSRC. Rossany talked about all the information she gathered and how they had a lot of open discussions about what each state was doing and how they were addressing different challenges.
- She also discussed having a transition committee.
- She discussed the CSVAR, which was the administrators meeting for all of the agencies and leadership. Also how they discussed the pre-ets and the need for transition services and the need for good services from providers and how to balance the 15% and still provide good quality service to adult, which is the common denominator and youth services and how to make it happen under the new regulations.

SRC Committee Reports:

Legislative Committee, Dawn Johnson, Chair

- Discussed the Legislative Advocacy Day, which fell on the same day as the Supported Employment Kick-Off Day Training or Georgia.
- She discussed coordinating between GCDD and GVRA and the SRC and have a Supported Employment Day at the Capitol.

- She also discussed how a group of them got together and formed the Supported Employment Coalition, and the idea is that it will bring together all of the stakeholders, SRC, DBHDD, GVRA, SILC, SPAD, the Services Providers, and Education Programs.
- She states their hope is that at the end, they will have a deliverable by the end of the year that is like a flowchart, “this is how you come into VR.”
- She will update the council on how the process is going and she stated that it is going to be something that’s made available to everyone, like a handbook.
- Brian Mosley asked to take part in the coalition. Dawn said the next meeting will be next month, which is an organizational meeting. They’re just clarifying what the goals are and then they will start bringing in the stakeholders into the advocacy process.

Action Item(s)	(1) Develop a year-round legislative plan to approach lawmakers and advocate for people with disabilities and GVRA. (2) Educate legislature on what GVRA does. (3) Coordinate with other advocacy groups. (4) Build a disability caucus as a long-term goal. (5) Update the council on the process of forming a Supported Employment Coalition.
Responsible	(1) Dawn Johnson (Committee Chair), Lisa Leiter, Wina Low
Deadline	(1) Give a report at the next SRC meeting in Savannah, GA.

Membership Committee, Deborah Lovell, Chair

- Stated they have submitted up to eight names to the governor’s office and are waiting for a respond.
- Karen presented an updated power point membership report of selected applicants.
- She discussed the process of selecting the applicants and their backgrounds.
- Michele Mason will send an electronic folder that can zip all of the applications in one and put it online to a share point.
- Rossany suggested to make sure the applicants know that this is a lengthy process and that it is based upon government appointments.

Action Item(s)	(1) Recommend more individual upon answering the questionnaire to have a wider pool to choose from. (2) Every other quarter get together and review some of the applications that have come in. (2) Create a share point file and have an ongoing effort of individuals applying.
Responsible	(1) Deborah Lovell(Chair), Karen Addams, Brian Mosley, Dawn Johnson
Deadline	(1) Report out at the next SRC meeting in Savannah, GA.

Policy Committee, Ruby Kaspers, Chair

- Asked if anyone had interest in joining the committee with currently only Brian Mosley being left with the committee.
- Discuss language to add to the Bylaws considering how long a member would need to remain off of the council after completing two consecutive terms before possibly being invited to join again.
- Rossany asked for motion to approved the recommended language to the Bylaws
- Mike Pryor made a motion to approve the recommendation and Jennifer Page seconded that motion with all in favor.

Communications and Marketing Committee, Karen Addams, Chair

- Stated she created a google doc so that the council could go in and submit activities that they're doing throughout the year but will work with Michele to create a Share Point folder.
- Discussion were made on how the Share Point will work and how it will benefit everyone.

Action Item(s)	(1) Develop a template for the council for the Share Point Folder to submit activities throughout the year. (2) Committee will report on accomplishments.
Responsible	(1) Karen Adams (Committee Chair), Lisa Leiter
Deadline	(1) Report out at next SRC meeting in Savannah, GA.

Comprehensive Needs Assessment Update

- Rossany discussed the process of getting the CSNA contract executed.
- Michele read in lieu of the contract, while waiting for the procurement department to complete their process, the agency has agreed to submit a letter of intent.
- Also UGA has agreed to put up the front cost while the contract is being executed.
- June 1, 2019 is the deadline for the contract.

Supportive Self Employment, Kip Slade

- Stated that he invited Kate Brady and Aarti Sahgal SRC, who know Self Employment and who will be advocating for Supported Self Employment.
- He asked Dawn Johnson to help, which is now the new Chair with Lisa Leiter on the committee.
- Dawn is trying to get with a few VR counselors and discuss the process how they can support people to have self-employment. This will be a good opportunity to get clarity, so then they can educated providers and then the regional counselors how they can support people in employment.
- Rossany stated the creation of the committee was so we can propose some policy language but also try to build a solution around that and how to get the services paid for.

Action Item(s)	(1) To explore how we can link the system or service that already exists in the community with VR. (2) Propose a policy which will address procedures on how to get it started and the plans on how to get it paid. (3) Committee will report on accomplishments.
Responsible	(1) Dawn Johnson (Committee Chair), Lisa Leiter
Deadline	(1) Report out at next SRC meeting in Savannah, GA.

Transition Committee, Lisa Leiter, Chair

- Rossany stated that she asked Lisa to lead this committee because it was evident that VR in general was struggling with the 15% mandate and serving youth and all of the new standards regulations on serving youth.
- So it was needed to starting working along by side with VR on the policies.
- Lisa has just started to develop a process to actually gather data.
- Rossany has for more council members to help with this committee.
- Karen Addams, Dawn Johnson, and Brian Mosley has agreed to be on the committee.
- Karen stated that she and Lisa are also in the Statewide Transition Interagency Council which is a group that meets quarterly that represents a lot of different areas involved with transition, so they would have access to a wide range.

Action Item(s)	(4) To come up with a proposal on how to add value to the consumer by helping the agency with their policies or providers from the provider perspective. (5) How can SRC link and help in the process. (6) Committee will report on accomplishments.
Responsible	(2) Lisa Leiter (Committee Chair), Karen Addams, Brian Mosley, Dawn Johnson
Deadline	(2) Report out at next SRC meeting in Savannah, GA.

Recognition for Service of SRC Members Terming Off

- Certificates and Plaques giving by Chair, Rossany Rios.
- Members included: Joy Norman, Chris Moder, Carl S. McKinney, Lewis Wheaton, Kenneth “Kip” Slade, Steve Oldaker, and Justin Pressley.

WIPA/SSA Stable Accounts & ABLE Accounts by Adrienne Williams

- Introduce herself as the manager of the WIPA Project through GVRA with a staff of eight people with four funded through social security and four funded by DBHDD.

- WIPA is Work Incentive Plans and Assistance that is a program through social security where they fund benefit navigators as we are calling within GVRA or Community Work Incentive Coordinators.
- The goal is to work with individuals who currently received social security disability benefits understand how work will impact those benefits.
- She presented a presentation discussing the reasons to go to work and when you stop working the benefits that are available and process of receiving those benefits.
- She discuss the different type of form needed and what they're used for and the number 31,757 in order to continue Medicaid.
- She discussed the things to you must know about ABLE and STABLE Accounts. Also what's it used for, the eligibility, expenses allowed, which is the right account for you and how to open an account.
- She provided sources and handouts to refer back to.

VR Programmatic Update by Vocational Services Director Christine Fleming

- Spoke on the corrective action from RSA, which does monitoring every couple of years for all of the VR programs across the country.
- Discussed some of the things that she's been working for the quarterly report and a couple of those things RSA identified is on the RSA's website.
- Discuss the recommendations and corrective action from RSA.
- One of the recommendation area discussed has to do with attrition, and it has to do with tracking people that apply for services and begin the process of developing a work plan.
- The second area discussed was the employment outcome and this is looking at what services are being provided, the quality of those services and are they leading to an employment outcome.
- Discussed working together with providers to look at services needed and develop matrixes and standards to manage better.
- The third area discussed has to do with Pre-et and pre-employments transition services. Also discussed working with Wina Low to look at trying to establish a system where GVRA and Georgia education work together with the schools.
- Discussed the prior approval process from RSA for purchases.
- She also discussed the IPSE Programs.

GVRA Executive Update by Shawn Ryan

- Spoke on Administrative functions within the agency and improving those functions.
- Discussed on getting better focus on administrative on making sure they are supporting the staff out in the field, the VR staff.
- Spoke on the Division of Judication Services at Warm Springs.
- Discussed learning GVRA and learning about the Boards and Councils interaction and the primary functions
- Spoke on changes coming to GVRA making it more effective and an efficient agency.
- Discussed partnering with SRC pretty closely and be communicating some of the changes that are needed to be made and feedback from clients.
- Focusing on how to do a better job of delivering the services and communications.
- Discussed on being in organization management leader and not a VR professional.

NCSRC 2019 Spring Conference/Review of Policy Committee Functions Update by Rossany Rios

- Spoke on the conference being that of a lot of three of the nine mandates and how public hearings are put into policies.
- Discuss the training that took place of the actual expectation of the mandates and what is currently being done as a council.
- Discuss what the SRC is doing right in the policy committee and what is the expectation.
- Spoke on having a seat on the table when they're making policy and make sure that the experience that the providers are having for the consumers and the feedback from the consumer.
- Discussions were made about policy and the changes.

GVRA Communication & Marketing Update by John Boan/Patrice Meadows

- Patrice Discuss some of the work that have done for SRC.
- Talked about the white board in Michele's office that's fill directions to talk about how the Board and Council can help to support not only the clients but also the staff.
- Spoke on how this helps show what everyone is responsible for and how can we work together better to be more effective for the community.
- Spoke on getting the information shared with all of the field staff so know who the SRC is and what they do as well as the clients.
- Discussion on seeing some information about the SRC added to the Client Service Hand Book.
- Joan discussed the Website and what it would look like.

SILC Update by Shelly Simmons

- She presented handouts for the Council.
- She discussed the SPIL Development and its functions.
- Spoke about the Legislative Success and the different steps.
- Discussed success stories.
- Invite the Council to the Strengthening Independent Living Event on September 25, 2019 at the Rooftop Terrance, Nelson Mullins Law Firm.

121 Program Update by Peggy Venable

- Discuss the Muskogee Rehabilitation 122 Program and how there the only state in program of Georgia.
- Talked about the different programs and there functions.
- Discussed they are one of the more advanced programs and so they are an example to the new programs that are starting.
- Discussed jobs and self-employment and how they have got a lot of consumers and secondary education.
- Invited to Council to the mid-year conference in Connecticut at The Foxwood Resort and in December it will be back in New Orleans.

Rossany Rios, Chair, wrapped up and adjourned the meeting

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DAY 2: April 25th, 2019

SRC Members Present: Rossany Rios, Jennifer Page, Lisa Leiter, Kip Slade, Brenda Bentley-Parrish, Karen Addams, Kayla Wilson, Dawn Johnson, Joy Norman, Mike Pryor, Lewis Wheaton, Ruby Kaspers

SRC Members Participating via Conference Call: Deborah Lovell, Brian Mosley

GVRs Board/ SRC/ SILC Liaison: Michele Mason

GVRs Board/ SRC/ SILC Program Associate: Jacqueline Gregory

Guests: Stephanie Woods, Adria Brown

SRC Chair Rossany Rios called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

SRC Training/On-Boarding Update by Rossany Rios

- Stated that WIOA changed certain things with the laws and they are the process of updating the Blue Book.
- Discuss the On-Boarding materials and process upon arrival of the new SRC members.

Committee Breakout Session

- SRC members broke out in groups to discuss the questions that were presented, with each question have five minutes to discuss.
- Each group selected a speaker to discuss their responses to the questions.
- Rossany suggested that the council put their ideas in writing and that there will be more exercises like this one more often in the upcoming meetings.
- Different discussions were made about reaching out to the communities and community providers and also visiting centers.

Public Comments

- There were no public comments made.

Rossany Rios, Chair wrapped the meeting up with discussions of upcoming projects and meetings.

- She adjourned the meeting at 10:45 AM, so the meeting room can be set up for the next phase and asked the council to be back at 11:30 AM for the Lunch and Learn with SILC.

Lunch & Learn with SILC

Ticket to Work/Employment Networks Presentation by Adia Brown

SRC adjourned the lunch & learn with SILC meeting at 12:30 PM