



## **Transition CoP Advisory Council Meeting**

**Minutes – December 16, 2015**

**Attending** (due to inclement weather several members were unable to attend): Dan Juve, Cheryl Hess, Barb Burghart, Stacie Daley, Dawn Pearson, Peggy Shireley, Zanthia Hegle-Price, Tammie Johnson, Mary Robinson, Laura Mildenerger, Carol Lybeck, Matt McCleary, Lisa Stymeist, Gerry Teevens, and Laurie Skadsem.

**New members:** Tammy Mayer, Kristi Ware, Susan Gerenz

### **ND Transition CoP:**

- CoP continues the Advisory Council as a state team and adds a new and ongoing connections to regional teams.
- The membership on this council is actively involved in sharing practices and working on transition issues for students with disabilities with those in other agencies and family members across the state.

**2015 Secondary Transition Interagency Conference** was held on November 18 & 19 at the Ramada Hotel in Bismarck. There were 220 participants at the conference. There was positive comments regarding the speakers and conference in general. The evaluations are still being compiled and will be presented at the next CoP meeting.

### **National Center on Technical Assistance in Transition (NCTAT) Partnership Project:**

The NCTAT will provide intensive technical assistance and professional development to the state education agency, state vocational rehabilitation agency, local education agencies, and VR service providers to implement evidence-based and promising practices ensuring students with disabilities, including those with significant disabilities, graduate prepared for success in postsecondary education and employment.

### **Partnership Project Goals:**

- 1) **Increase pre-employment services delivered in cooperation with VR to local districts**
  - Identify and implement pre-employment transition curriculum

- Identify evidence based practice to keep students engaged and to use in cooperative teaching efforts
- Create targeted cooperative teaching matches between VR and LEA's to provide effective instruction in pre-employment
- 2) Increase the number of work experiences opportunities for students at risk and students with disabilities**
- Review data from the target districts and VR to show gaps and effectiveness of work experience programs
- Identify evidence base practices to keep student engaged
- Provide job coach training
- Sort by disability for trend analysis
- Create peer to peer mentor for job coaching situations

**2015 State Plan Proposed Goals and Objectives** – Gerry asked group if changes, or additions should be made for 2016

**Student Focused Planning Goal:** Increase student and youth engagement in transition planning tasks.

**Objectives:**

- Conduct youth survey to gather student perspective on what's working and what is not working in the transition process.
- Identify ways to increase participation of youth on advisory committees.

Student-led IEP's was suggested as a good starting point for self-advocacy training and should be strongly encouraged.

**Interagency Collaboration Goal:** Increase per-employment services for youth with disabilities.

**Objectives:**

- Organize a task force to identify and implement a pre-employment transition curriculum.
- Identify evidence based practices to keep students engaged.

**Family Involvement Goal:** Increase understanding of guardianship and alternatives to guardianship amongst transition stakeholders.

**Objective:**

- Complete guide to guardianship for ND

**Membership Updates and Sharing:**

**DD Council:** Cheryl reported 2 conferences coming up. 2016 Employment Conference on August 18-19, 2016 in Bismarck and 2016 Health Conference on May 13, 2016 in Fargo. There is money set aside for consumers to get the chance to attend continuing education opportunities. They also have some smaller grants and these are on their website.

**VR:** Barb reported they have WIOA agreements various cities and encouraged others to apply for the funding. They have transition modules that are from Maine and have been edited to work in ND which will be up on the VR website soon. These modules are to be used by VR councilors, teachers, paraprofessionals, etc. Information on Section 511 will also be up on the website soon.

**ND School for the Deaf:** Teen day is being planned for April 2016. Information will be forthcoming.

**Anne Carlsen Center:** Community Provider for VR now. They will be implementing the employment program in Jamestown, and Grand Forks first but will be moving across the state wherever we have offices. This summer ACC also again be hosting iCan Bike in Fargo/Moorhead and co-hosting in Minot with Pathfinder Parent Center. They will also be offering **Zot Artz for All** in 2 locations with more information coming soon. Annie's House is up and running for the winter season. To schedule a trip there, contact Rachael Buss 701.263.4556.

### **ND Post-Secondary Outcomes Report (June 2015 for 2013-2014 exiters) – Indicator 14**

Each year the NDDPI Is required to interview former students who were on an IEP during their final year of high school. This interview is conducted within one year of their leaving high school. Gerry presented the data and summary report for the Indicator 14 results for the sunsets who exited during the 2013-14 school year.

The committee divided into small groups and came up with the following questions or/comments:

- Jobs were higher than post-secondary but it was felt that was probably true for the typical students as well due to oil boom
- Decrease the number of questions and use basic questions
- The question regarding health insurance was discussed
- Use of Face Book may be helpful for increasing the number of responses
- Keep it local when completing the survey and use ND staff
- Go back to the local agencies or Social Security to track down the students

### **Practice Group (Sub-Committee) Updates:**

**Youth Leadership** – The youth survey was passed out and Matt explained the questions.

**Guardianship** – No report at this meeting.

**Employment** – The manual has been edited and Kyle Peterson will present the findings at our March meeting. Barb will forward a copy of the manual to Gerry and she will send it out to the Community of Practice.

**Health Transitions** – A new person will need to Chair this group. There has been good reviews on the Health Snap Shot manual.

**Presentation: Safe and Healthy Schools - Youth Risk Behavior Survey and Mental Health Training – Gail Schauer, DPI**

- Developed in 1990 by the CDC to monitor priority health risk behavior that contribute to cause of death, disability and social problems among youth and adults in the US
- ND began participating in YRBS in 1995
- Students in grades 7 – 12 are surveyed each spring of odd years
- The 6 priority health risk behaviors include:
  - Tobacco use
  - Alcohol and drug use
  - Dietary behavior
  - Physical activity
  - Violence/Injury/Bullying
  - Sexual Behavior/STDs/HIV/AIDS/unintended pregnancies
- For the complete survey results or more information go to:
  - [www.nd.gov/dpi/Administrators/SafeHealthy/YRBS/](http://www.nd.gov/dpi/Administrators/SafeHealthy/YRBS/)
  - [www.dpi.state.nd.us/health/YRBS/index.shtm](http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/health/YRBS/index.shtm)
  - [www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/index.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/index.htm)
- All schools are required to complete mental health training for 8 hours within the biennium such as “Mental Health First Aid Training” (this will comply with the law)

**Regional CoPs Updates:**

Region I: No report.

Region II: No report.

Region III: Meeting coming up on Monday – December 21.

Region IV: Focused on new goals and increase membership. Have 2 new sub-groups on transportation and rural work experience/employment.

Region V: Developing a “You Tube” channel on transition.

Region VI: In the planning stage for the 2016 Health, Trades and Technology Career Fair in Jamestown. This will be held at the Jamestown Civic Center in November 2016.

Region VII: No report.

Region VIII: No report.



**NEXT MEETING IS MARCH 16, 2016**