



Region I Disability Access Committee Meeting

Tuesday, January 14, 2020
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Members Present: James Sigwarth, Jamie Phipps, Jeanne Helling, Kayla Baxter, Lisa Curtin, Lisa Farley, Margee Woywood, Michelle Schmitt, Ron Axtell

Members Absent: Anna Stamat, Kris Cote, Lea Dahlquist, Lynn Gallagher, Nancy Steffensmeier, & Bob Hendrickson

Others Present: Sue Larson, Clerical Support

- 1. Call to Order:** Helling called the meeting to order at 1:50 p.m. Roll was taken and it was noted that a quorum was established.
- 2. Approval of Agenda:** Motion Axtell, seconded Farley, to approve agenda as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.
- 3. Establish Quorum:** It was noted that a quorum was established.
- 4. Action Item:** Motion Axtell, seconded Farley, to approve the minutes from the November 12, 2019, Regional I Disability Access Committee meeting. All ayes, Motion carried.
- 5. 2020 Strategic Plan - Disability Awareness/Services.**

Jamie Phipps and Jeanne Helling.

Item 1: Making sure we are meeting quarterly to review progress and develop next step of committee. This committee will post meeting agendas and notes to the public in the Dubuque and Decorah offices. Commented that everyone is doing a great job on these items. Ron agreed these two items are being met.

Item 2: We will continue to hold an activity annually in October to bring awareness for Disability Awareness Month. Invite a wide variety of employers, agencies, education field and individuals with disabilities to participate.

Item 3: Region will have two tickets by the end of 2020 – IWC team IDB, IVS and staff will make monthly contact with clients to work. Work on skill building activities, resumes and job placement. As of right now there are 30 tickets out and some are full-time and some are limited hours. This is an ongoing activity. Decorah reported they are getting some tickets but not a lot. Lost Choice as an employer in the area. Standards should be in place and a certain amount of time allowed to get to their goal, otherwise they may not want to get off disability. Could be a gradual process building more hours of work every six months or until they are comfortable. Follow-up and on-going contact once client has been moved off social security and TTW.

Item 4: Discussed raising the goal from two TTW participants to ten meeting full-time and part-time employment. Networks are geared towards moving customers off Social Security or SSI and into full-time employment. TTW is supposed to move participants off disability. If they are job ready they can participate immediately or they will need to work with a coach. Some participants have been on TTW for more than three years. If participants are enrolled and do not participate, then they are disengaged after 90 days and we close them out. Advantage of participating is putting off their disability review. Goal should be to get off SS or SSI in a year's time. IWF strategic plan is to help individuals on SS or SSI, who are able to work and transition back into the workforce. Provide job search assistance, job referrals etc. Some individuals do not want to lose their Medicaid or it is not feasible because of waiver services. It will also affect their monthly SS or SSI if they work too many hours. Contact IVRS if you have someone who wants to work. Suggestions would be internal document for self-evaluation, a tool to accomplish strategic plan and would like to see case management collaborate together. Feel we are meeting our goals.

Note: 2:44 p.m. Michelle Schmitt, Margee Woywood, and Jim Sigwarth left the meeting.

6. WINTAC review Case management activities for 2020.

Core leadership group is questioning how to move forward. What is the continuum on this, is each committee supposed to report back to the state? Jeanne has reached out to David Mitchell on what our expectation is on this. Would like guidance and expectations for WINTAC and what we can do to add value to this group.

Decorah is handling their case management the same as Dubuque. We coordinate meetings and call each other into those meetings. If we have mutual clients, we coordinate and meet jointly. This is working very well and we set aside time for monthly meetings to get together and chat through clients and referrals.

Let Mary know if you need any help, she wants to hear of ways you would like to improve or any concerns you may have or if you have a better process.

7. Discuss topic for next month meeting – February 11. Telecommunications Access of Iowa.

One or two people will be coming from Telecommunication Access of Iowa to do an Assistive Technology program for the Deaf and Blind. 45 minutes to an hour needed.

Motion Ron, second Jamie to adjourn. All ayes, Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

Submitted by: Sue Larson, Keystone AEA