Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council (ORC) Report

Since the last report, ORC has had its Quarterly Meeting on November 17 via Zoom.

The ORC Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2022 Annual Report was emailed to the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) and the Governor's Office on December 21, 2022. The electronic version can be found on ORC's website.

The Council would like to thank the Department of Rehabilitation Services (DRS), especially the Executive Team, and all the Committee Liaisons for their help in achieving all the objectives and activities in FFY22.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee met on January 19, 2023, via Zoom.

The Committee reviewed the Strategic Plan, and all the activities and objectives are ongoing.

Regarding the Council appointments, there are four vacant positions, including:

- The Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)
- Two Business, Industry, and Labor (BIL)
- The Workforce Board representative. Steve Shepelwich resigned on January 25, 2022.

The ORC Program Manager (PM) has communicated the vacancies to the Council, and the Committees are working to find candidates for them. The PM will continue to follow up with the Director of Appointments to discuss these appointments.

Program and Planning (P&P) Committee

The P&P Committee met on January 26, 2023, via Zoom.

The Committee was updated during the meeting about the Open Case Satisfaction Survey DRS is implementing this year. The P&P Committee assisted DRS with the Spanish translation of the survey and will review the results when available.

Policy and Legislative (P&L) Committee

The P&L Committee met on January 19, 2023, via Zoom.

The Committee discussed the Council's participation in People with Disabilities Awareness Day (PWDAD). The ORC will have a booth at the event, and at least two members will volunteer to assist DRS with the Legislative Visits. This year,

ORC is proud to be a Sponsor at PWDAD and will pay the entrance fee of the attendees to the History Center's exhibits.

The Committee is also working on the 2022 ORC Legislative Primer, and once completed, it will be shared with all Oklahoma Legislators.

Transition Committee

The Transition Committee met on January 26, 2023, via Zoom.

The Committee continues to promote increased student and family involvement in transition planning during FFY23 and plans to support the DRS Transition Unit's fantastic job throughout the State.

The Committee members are also working on updating the Transition Folders that were last updated in 2021. The dissemination of the 2021 folders was a success thanks to the DRS Transition Unit, and with the new version, the Committee hopes to share new valuable resources with students and parents in Elementary, Middle, and High School.

Employment Committee

The Employment Committee met on January 19, 2023, via Zoom.

The Committee supports and collaborates with DRS's Business Services Program (BSP) by assisting them in their activities.

Among the FFY23 upcoming objectives, the Committee will expand the dissemination of employment resources and workplace learning, including but not limited to apprenticeships or internships for adult clients.

The ORC PM participated on behalf of the Council in the Critical Occupation in Health Care with Mercy webinar hosted by BSP on January 24.

The next ORC Quarterly Meeting will be on Thursday, February 16, at the DRS State Office.

Respectfully submitted by
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