

Maryland State Rehabilitation Council
Minutes
Workforce & Technology Center
February 12, 2020

Members Present:

Scott Dennis
Chris Conklin
Cindy LaBon
Denise Carter-McCormick
Patrick Peto
Marsha Legg
Christy Stuart
Rene Averitt-Sanzone

DORS Liaisons to Council:

Jody Boone, DORS – OFS Director
Kim Schultz, DORS – Public Relations
Jean Jackson – WTC Director
Toni March – OBVS Director

Support Staff for Council:

Sandy Bowser
Patrick Peto

Welcome/Introduction:

Marsha Legg, Co-Chair welcomed guests and members to the Council meeting and asked that everyone introduce themselves.

The November 13, 2019, minutes were approved as written.

Referral Module – Patrick Peto

A new standardized online referral is in the process of being developed. The referral information will be automatically entered into the DORS Application Module.

DORS Annual Report – Kim Schultz

The 2019 DORS Annual Report is complete and in the process of being printed and will also be available on the DORS website. A few highlights from the 2019 Annual report include:

- DORS provided services to 23,121 to individuals with significant disabilities – 2019
- Apprenticeship Think Tank
- WIOA Partnerships
- DORS prepared 7,479 students with disabilities move from high school to employment, higher education or career training.
- The Agency's Pre –Employment Transition Services Program has an additional 5,737 students. Forty-Two percent of the individuals served by DORS are between the ages of 14 and 24.

- Personnel and programs helped 1,256 Marylanders with significant disabilities become successfully employed in competitive integrated environments.
- DORS Business Services staff provided 3,598 direct services to Maryland businesses, including recruitment assistance, disability training, and information and technical assistance on hiring and tax incentives.

Director's Report – Scott Dennis

DORS FY21 Budget:

The FY21 Budget is out.

Wait List/Category I:

Twenty long term PIN vacancies have been targeted for abolishment. Fifteen of these PINS are located at the Disability Determination Services and two are located in the Office for Field Services. Dr. Salmon provided a strong response as to why it would be detrimental to our Agency to lose these PINs.

Category II is still closed for services.

There are 3,120 individuals on the DORS Waiting List. Field Staff will concentrate on closing cases by sending out 14 Day Pre-Closures Letters.

Due to the high number of cases on individual counselor caseloads, Transition Youth cases will be shifted to other counselors.

Combined State Plan:

The last day for public comments on the Combined State Plan is due today. Comments will be reviewed and revisions will be made. A conference call will be held next week with RSA. All comments will be shared with the MSRC.

2020 Public Meetings:

Phone Conference Public Meetings will be scheduled for June, 2020. The purpose of the public meetings is to comment on the DORS State Plan.

Respectfully Submitted
Sandy Bowser
MSRC Staff Support