

CAC Meeting Notes for 4/21/22

Attendees:

Craig Schield	Michelle Wright	Sherri Hack
Lisa Modico	Holly Hollenbach	Nicole Fisher
Autumn Temple	Kaytlyn Clapper	Rebecca Miller
Lori Mutchler	Lyn Frieda	Kristie Sharer
Ed DeAgostino	Mark Klingner	Jacki Thornton
Kiley Foley	Amanda Turner	Lindsey Palumbo
Anne Strollo	Andrew Pennington	

Craig opened the meeting and stated we anticipate that next meeting will be in person.

Craig introduced Andrew Pennington of Client Assistance Program. Andrew shared a visual presentation and explained CAP, its mission, principles, values, and its various services, as well as its role and its relation to VR process. No State VR can receive funding without CAP. CAP is independent from state government.

Andrew listed all the contact information for CAP, then asked for any questions. There were none, and the meeting was turned back over to Craig. Andrew also provided a copy of his presentation to Lyn, if anyone wants a copy.

Craig shared that there have been many changes in OVR: Shannon Austin is no longer in place; Ryan Hyde is now back and is the acting Executive Director. The former Deputy, Jeremiah Underhill, is also gone. Additionally, the BVRS director was John Miller, is gone as well. Marci Katona is now the acting director. In BBVS, the former Director was Rod Alcidonis, who has now been replaced with Dawn Sokol. These people have a lot of experience in BVBS/BVRS.

Altoona's BVRS District Administrator, Colleen Woodring is now the acting Regional Manager for Central Region, with Craig Schield now the acting District Administrator for the office.

Anne Strollo is back as the Altoona BBVS District Administrator.

Other updates in the Altoona BVRS office include Eddie DeAgostino is becoming a Business Services Counselor as of April 28, and Michelle Wright is now a VR Supervisor. We also have several interviews scheduled: for an Early Reach Coordinator, another VR counselor and another Business Services Rep. There are a lot of vacancies statewide.

Craig shared other information regarding career/job fairs:

Rotary Career Fair on the 27th at the Blair County Convention Center.

Central high school has a job fair on the 28th at the Central High School for both Central and Williamsburg high school students.

The Curve baseball team career fair on Friday, Apr 29 at the baseball field.

Bedford County Career Fair on will be on May 19th at the Bedford Fair Grounds. 9:30 – 10:00 for veterans and 10:00 – 2:00 for everyone else.

The My Work Summer Program: The Youth Forestry Camp in Huntingdon, as well as some others, is working on getting a “My Work Summer Program” set up. Please reach out to Craig if you want more information.

Andy Wagner, the BBVS Assistant District Administrator, was unable to attend this meeting, but has asked that we share Altoona BVS information: They have just hired a new O&M Instructor: Mark Klingner and a new O&M Intern: Justin Laffey. They also just posted another O&M instructor position at the end of last week.

Andy also mentioned that they are continuing the Strive On program and that they are getting a lot of positive feedback from participants.

The Altoona building is now open to the public. Masks are now optional.

Craig then opened the floor to CAC members for any questions or anything they wanted to share.

There were none. Craig then closed the meeting.