

CAC Meeting Notes for 12/9/21

Attendees:

Amanda Lyon	Holly Hollenbach	Kristie Sharer
Amanda Turner	Interpreter for Craig Schield	Lyn Frieda
Amy Somers	Jacki Thornton	Marty Dombrowski
Andrew Rupp	Janice Werfel	Melissa Long
Andy Wagner	Janice Werfel	Melissa Martin
Anne Strollo	Jennifer Riggle	Nicole Fisher
Beth Wineland	John Flaherty	Rebecca Miler
Craig Schield	Johnna Casale	Sherri Hack
Dr Marla Moon	Kaytlyn Clapper	

Andy Wagner opened the meeting and gave update. BBVS and BVRS is still closed to the public, but counselors are seeing customers in the field, in people's homes if requested, and virtually if that is what the customer prefers.

The ILOB funding was raised to \$2500 until Dec 31 of this year. There is no guidance yet regarding spending for the next calendar year.

BBVS held interviews for an O&M position and was able to give a conditional offer. Last week BBVS also interviewed for another O&M position and is awaiting results of that interview. Upon finalization of these two positions, BBVS will no longer have any open position.

Craig Schield gave an update regarding BVRS. Their office just recently had a conditional job offer go out for a VRC position and they are going to be interviewing for a VRS position. They do still have several other vacancies. BVRS is not yet open to the public and the building itself is not open to the public, but their counselors are seeing customers both in the field and virtually.

Central office has many vacancies and is bringing in new people. Funding is in good shape.

Andy asked if there were any new CAC members on the line, to please unmute and introduce themselves. He also asked if any CAC members wished to give any updates before the presenter speaks, to please do so at this time. There were no responses.

Andy introduced the speaker, John Flaherty. John Flaherty, RESNA ATP, is the Assistive Technology Specialist for Transitional Paths to Independent Living.

There was a state AT Act passed in 1998, requiring that all states have a program push out information regarding Assistive Technology. At the Institute on Disability there are four programs they want people to know about:

1. The Assistive Technology Lending Library now located at UPC Central. It is a warehouse of equipment that allows people to use for evaluation purposes, or to check equipment out while their device is being repaired. No cert of disability is required for this service.

The number 1 piece of equipment being required lately has been iPad and , telephone devices. Requested items are shipped out via UPS at no cost to consumer, to wherever the consumer wants it shipped. UPS will come back later and pick it up, at no cost to consumer.

2. TDDP program provides telephone/communication equipment. Formerly only landline, now can be mobile as well, at no cost to the consumer. You can apply every 3 years for a mobile device and a landline device. You must provide proof of residence and income, and that you will have landline and/or mobile service necessary to use the devices. Whatever you get cannot be sent exchange, so try it out from the lending library first to make sure it fits your needs.
3. National Deaf Blind Equipment Distribution Program. Consumers who are deaf/blind or are progressing to being deaf/blind can go through this program's "I CAN CONNECT", which will provide equipment. They will put together comprehensive package of what this person needs. The consumer will be trained on how to use the devices. You will need physician certificate, etc. as in the TDDP. The program will work with the consumer to help maintain the equipment.
4. The Reuse and Exchange Equipment Program. Used equipment is donated to this program, and provided to the consumer if the program has the appropriate equipment on hand. While this is no cost to the consumer, the program will generally ask for a \$10 donation, but this will not prohibit individual from getting the equipment.

You can go to the local ATRC for device demonstrations. They also do customized presentations. The BBVS/BVRS counselors can certify disability of the consumer.

John's contact information is:

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Mr Flaherty then turned to meeting back over to Andy.

Andy advised that Anne Strollo is back at her District Administrator position, and he is now back to his position as Assistant District Administrator

Andy asked if anyone had something to add.

Craig advised if anyone has any questions, please reach out to him or to Andy.

Andy closed the meeting.