

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
June 15, 2017

Present were: Scott Miller, Ling Mei (Chris) Tsai, Shirley Abernathy, Pat Sterner, Mickey McNamara, Susan Comer and Joanne Mondell. Phone In: Michelle Howe

Announcement: Scott Miller is stepping down as chairman for the Citizens Advisory Committee. Shirley Abernathy has agreed to assume the role as chairwoman. Training for the Chair of the committee is provided thru the PA Rehab Council.

Pennsylvania Client Assistance Program (CAP) – Margaret McKenna via teleconference gave an overview of CAP services. There is only one CAP Office at the present time. CAP is located at 1515 Market Street, Suite 1300, Philadelphia, PA 19102. The phone number is 215-557-7112. Toll Free Phone Number is (888) 745-2357. Email: admin@equalemployment.org. Web address: www.equalemployment.org or on face book at www.facebook.com/vradvocate. CAP covers the entire state of Pennsylvania. The services include:

- Pre-employment transition services
- Services to pursue a meaningful career and live independently
- Provide information on Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) and Center for Independent Living (CIL) services
- Know your rights and responsibilities under these programs, Title 1 of the ADA.
 1. Issues with employer's discrimination
 2. Reasonable accommodations
- Navigate the OVR program to achieve a successful employment outcome.
- Resolve any concerns you may have with OVR and CIL

CAP services are free. CAP promotes self advocacy and are an Independent Living Advocate. CAP takes part in policy work groups such as the small business and college policy.

Margaret asked for a CAC Committee Membership flyer.

OVR Job Fair – Spring 2017

May 25, 2017. Good attendance. Leclerc (employer) asked for more candidates to work at their company. This is production work packaging. You are on your feet and need to move quickly as a team.

FabLab – OVR sponsored event – June 20, 2017. Two sessions will take place. One at 9 AM and one at 1 PM. Registration is required. FabLab was originated from a mobile program of the Carnegie Science Center. The goal is to inspire students to become interested in STEM-related careers. FabLab provides high school students with fun hands-on experience in STEM based designs and engineering projects.

S = Science
T= Technology
E= Engineering
M = Mathematics

(See attached information sheet).

OVR Public Meeting & Video Conference.

Two video conference dates have been set for the OVR Public Meeting. The first is August 16, 2017 from 1 to 3 PM. The second is August 29, 2017 from 3 to 5 pm. The video conference is statewide. There are no reservations needed, just come as it is open to the public.

Lycoming County Employment Committee is promoting the awareness and hiring of persons with disabilities. The October event has been set for October 19th. Rick Mirabito, County Commissioner, is interested in helping the community. Rick is helping to find a place to host the event. Each agency will share information about their agency and what they do. Plans also include customer experiences in finding employment and working as well as employer experiences of hiring persons with disabilities. Margaret from CAP would like to participate in this event.

Workforce Investment Opportunity Act (WIOA). Staff recently received training on Competitive Integrated Employment which is defined as full or part-time work in competitive integrated employment setting (including customized employment, business ownership, and telecommuting), or supported employment. Competitive Integrated Employment has three components:

1. Competitive earnings
2. Integrated location
3. Opportunities for advancement

The employment outcome must satisfy the requirements of all three components to be able to be considered Competitive Integrated Employment.

Roles of the CAC Committee

- Brainstorming, engagement and collaboration
- Should be consumer driven
- Should have a high relationship orientation with a big emphasis on collaboration.
- Should provide constructive criticism.
- Should be free to share ideas and opinions
- Should be a forerunner in sharing information
- Needs to increase in membership and partnership
- Always recruit new members

Member Comments

Mickey Professor at PCT

- “How can we make sure we are giving enough support for disability students?”
- PCT is offering a Masters Degree in Physicians Assistant.

- Mickey was asked to give a testimonial at the Disability Awareness Month program.
- Next year Mickey would like to see PCT do a disability Awareness Simulation.

Ryan's Success Story Video was shown.

Next meeting: September 21, 2017 at 1 :00 PM