

# **CAC Minutes**

**Date: May 9, 2023**

**Time: 1:00pm**

**Meeting Held: Virtual- MS Teams**

In Attendance: Stacey Collins OVR Supervisor, Mike Braun, OVR Supervisor, Julaine Roth-OVR Clerical, Katrina Stern DEC, Grant Waltersdorf OVR VRC, Stefani Eichelberger-Community Skills Program, Andrew Pennington- Client Assistance Program, James Whitonis, VR in Central Office, Susan Richeson YDO DA, Traci Stauffer W. York ASD, Jaritza Nguyen Center for in living, Cory Cox.

## **Statewide Updates**

- OVR saw a decrease in processing time to serve customers through the initial application, eligibility, and plan process by 53%, 38%, and 44%. These numbers have increases as a result having in-service staff training and case management system improvements.
- OVR continues to monitor the implementation of the Rapid Engagement philosophy and protocols to ensure that customers are able to move quickly through the initial phases of service. Status 02 & Status 10.
- OVR has had 15,960 new referrals since July in the VR program, a 35% increase compared to the same time period a year ago.
- OVR has assisted 3,167 individuals to become successfully employed since July with BVRS at 54% and BBVS at 33% of their overall employment goal.
- As part of Rapid Engagement, OVR has kicked off a 5s Lean project statewide – this activity is essential to OVR’s overall statistical health and will help improve Credential Attainment and Measurable Skills Gains outcomes
- Staff will sort their case load to identify cases that are engaged, inactive or unsure. Staff will then contact inactive and unsure cases to reengage or close out.

## **Pre ETS Activities this Summer**

- OVR is projected to invest anywhere from \$15M to \$17M between now and the end of September on Pre-ETS. These projections should allow OVR to invest all of the FFY22 Pre-ETS reserve.
- OVR’s MY Work program (which is a summer paid work-based learning for students with disabilities at municipalities and non-profits) – In summer 2022 we had 325 students statewide that participated in MY Work and for this upcoming summer OVR anticipates having 550 students planned for MY Work summer 2023. This is a 60% projected increase from summer 2022.

## **HGAC/ CTI (Commonwealth Technical Institute), in Johnstown, PA**

- HGAC offering many PRE-ETS events.
  - In April they had an Autism Awareness Walk and Resource Fair. For transition students, HGAC is offering a recurrent Summer Academies; the Accessibility, Advocacy and Awareness Day (formerly Barrier Awareness);HGAC will be holding events like a Job Shadowing Day, a STEAM Day to students.

- **ACT 26**
  - Act 26 charges the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR), in collaboration with Pennsylvania's Department of Education (PDE), with collecting and reporting data related to students with disabilities who have transition plans and with facilitating the process of job and career development between local education agencies (LEAs) and public and private employers to ensure the successful transition of high school students with disabilities into competitive integrated employment.
  - Outlined in Act 26, and in collaboration with LEAs, OVR will:
    1. provide information for the development of IEPs for high school students with disabilities, ensuring that job skill training is included in the plans, when appropriate. When possible, OVR staff will attend individual education plan meetings in person or by alternative means, such as video conferences and conference calls, when invited by LEAs;
    2. Arrange for work-based learning experiences, which may include in-school or after-school opportunities or experiences outside the traditional school setting, including internships, at competitive wages in integrated settings with public or private sector employers;
    3. Provide professional guidance relative to job coaching services to eligible individuals when the services are included in an individualized plan for employment by OVR, so that high school students with disabilities may succeed in competitive employment with private sector and public employers; and
    4. Provide counseling on enrollment in comprehensive transition or postsecondary educational programs at institutions of higher education.
  - Act 26 Requires data collected to be reported out quarterly. A copy of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Act 26 report will be attached to the CAC minutes for your review

### **Staff Updates**

- 2 Vacant Clerical Assistant Position
- 5 Vacant VRC positions (York, Franklin and Lancaster)
- New VRC Grant Waltersdorf VRC Started December 19<sup>th</sup> has transition in his role.
  - Grant has a caseload in the Hanover area and is assigned Southwestern HS, Spring Grove and Hanover HS.
- Our intern Taylor King graduated April 29<sup>th</sup> and now holds her Master's Degree in Rehab Counseling. She is now officially a Voc. Rehab. Counselor and has transitioned in her role and is meeting with students and customers.
  - Taylor has a Lancaster County caseload and is assigned SD of Lancaster and Garden Spot HS.
- April 21<sup>st</sup>, Joan Shindel has fulfilled her Annuitant contract with the York DO

- On March 13<sup>th</sup> the York DO welcomed new Supervisor Mike Braun. Mike is bilingual and fluent in Spanish. He served as a VRC at the York DO for 29 years.
  - Mike is now assigned to CAC as co-chair in place of Ashley Wilson. Although Ashley will no longer be joining us for CAC meetings, she still remains as a supervisor with the York DO.

### **York DO Goal Updates**

- 22/23 York DO Goal is: 467
  1. As of May 1<sup>st</sup>, we are at 88% of our goal- about 397 successful closures. We have 7 weeks remaining to reach our target goal.
  - Our 02-compliance rate is currently 89% slight drop from our previous month of having 93%-
    1. staff was having some issues with CWDS accepting dates. A few client corrections were sent. Also, issues with Rights & Responsibility form being returned from students.
  - Our 10- compliance rate remains the same at: 93%

### **York DO Updates**

- **FAB Lab Returned to the York DO**
  - To recall, The Carnegie Science Center in partnership with the York OVR office, presents transition age students to participate in a mobile workshop called FAB Lab.
  - FAB LAB allows students hands-on opportunities in utilizing things such as 3D printers, milling machines, 3D scanners and laser engravers. Students created a glider airplane and Personalized Key tags.
  - FAB Lab provides introduction to the field of CNC Machinery, Drafting, Coding, etc.
  - High Schools in York, Adams, Franklin and Lancaster County participated in the FAB Lab.
    - FAB Lab was also provided to our BJJ/ PACTT Affiliate students in Lancaster & Franklin County.
- **York DO Summer My Work Initiatives:**

The York DO My works 78 students participating.

Through the The Arc of York Provider- OVR is offering a s My work Initiatives with:

  - **YMCA Camp Spirit**
    - Wage: \$10.35/hr
    - Tasks: clean up, set up, direct modeling in activities, prep for activities, theme set up and creating, staff morale activities

- Location: 505 Jerusalem school Road Mount Wolf 17347 (near John Rudy Park)
- **York Fresh Food Farms through the ARC**
  - Wage: \$10.35/hr
  - Tasks: Clean, weigh, sort produce, planting, weeding, harvesting produce
  - Location: 150 Willis Rd, York, PA 17404

In partnership with the Youth Advocate OVR is offering another Work Initiative with:

- **Codorus State Park**
  - Students will be providing Park Clean-up and Maintenance
  - Wage: \$12/hr
  - Location: 2600 Smith Station Road | Hanover, PA
- **Group Services:** York DO is providing paid group services in 3 counties this Summer
  - **YORK**
    - Keystone Kids Space- helper in childcare setting ex. Get craft ready for children
    - York College- ended in March rotation light cleaning and landscaping on campus
    - Chartwell's at York College- Cafeteria food prep
    - Stauffer's Biscuit- York Suburban HS must be 18 work in factory or their retail store.
    - YMCA- Targeted for Central & West York Students to work as a aide in providing after school activities to patrons
    - -York City Parks
    - - Leg UP Farmer's market- This summer will be providing experiences as a farm hand and light maintenance
  - **LANCASTER**
    - -Hershey's Chocolate World- completed in March looking to hire 3 of the 8 students that participated
    - -Lancaster City Parks:
  - **ADAMS**
    - -Gettysburg Recreation Department
    - -Gettysburg College
  - **Franklin County**
    - Chambersburg YMCA- students have experience cleaning gym area, front Desk, they will be reorganizing closets and rooms.
    - Washington Boro- students will be doing different outdoor projects. Lancascaping, painting etc.

### **School District of Lancaster Project**

- Susan Richeson presented and highlighted the great things the York DO is doing with the School District of Lancaster Project.

- **Impending CAC Plans**

- Next CAC meeting, Tuesday, August 8, 2023. It will be held in person with the option to dial in.