

# Minutes

## State Rehabilitation Council

January 12, 2011

Denver Metro Rehabilitation Office  
2211 West Evans Avenue, Bldg. B  
Denver, CO 80223

Columbine Conference Room  
4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

<b>Meeting called by:</b>	Joyce Schlose, SRC Co-Chair Lynne Neese, SRC Co-Chair	
<b>Attendees:</b>	Gavin Attwood, Steve Bell, Todd Coffey, Jim Crowe, David DeLay, Rebecca Johnson, Lynne Neese, Todd Nielsen, Barbara Palmer, Debbie Petersen, Geoff Peterson, Penny Ray, Beth Schaffner, Joyce Schlose, Nancy Smith, Judi Stein Stutman, David Thomas, Larry Williams,	
<b>Guest(s):</b>	Mike Baksa, Judy Dettmer, Krista Dann	
	<b>Agenda Topics</b>	
<b>4:30</b>	Introduction	
<b>4:35</b>	Public Comment	
<b>4:40</b>	Education (DVR) Administrations Traumatic Brain Injury	Judy Dettmer
<b>5:10</b>	Dinner	
<b>5:20</b>	Recommendation to DVR for the State Plan	Krista Dann
<b>5:35</b>	State House Representative Contact Update	Steve Bell
<b>5:40</b>	Committee Reports	Chairs or Designee
<b>5:50</b>	Director's Report	Nancy Smith
<b>6:05</b>	JBC/Legislative Visit Update	Executive Committee
<b>6:20</b>	Review Goals Progress and Tracking Sheet	Council
<b>6:30</b>	DVR Budget Update	Sandy Pratt
<b>6:40</b>	SILC Report	Debbie Petersen
<b>6:45</b>	SRC Budget Update	David Thomas
<b>6:50</b>	SRC Poster Revision?	SRC
<b>6:55</b>	Q&A	
<b>7:00</b>	Adjourn	

# Minutes

## SRC Mission

"The State Rehabilitation Council (SRC) is a partner with the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) in developing and evaluating the effectiveness of its vocational rehabilitation programs. The SRC advises DVR concerning activities under the Rehabilitation Act, assists in the development of the state plan, and helps determine the extent of consumer satisfaction with DVR's services that affect vocational client employment outcomes."

**Meeting called by:** Lynne Neese

**Notes taken by:** Penny Ray

## Agenda topics

Introductions/Public Comment (No Request)	
Discussion:	
Education– The Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Program	Judy Dettmer
Discussion: A PowerPoint handout was provided and Judy Dettmer provided an overview of the services provided.	
The Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) has been the designated State Lead Agency on Brain Injury. The inference of this designation is that CDHS is responsible for helping people with TBIs and their families to navigate the state system. The report from the interdepartmental work group that looked at what it would take to coordinate services so they are easier for people to navigate was submitted to the Governor and can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.biacolorado.org">www.biacolorado.org</a> .	
Question: Is there some criteria for identifying people with TBIs regarding the onset of the injury? No. Anybody can apply at anytime.	
Recommendations to DVR for the State Plan	Krista Dann
Discussion: The DVR state plan is submitted on an annual basis and the next one is due on July 1 <sup>st</sup> . One of the roles of the SRC is to give DVR advice and suggestions for how to effectively and in the highest quality manner possible administer our program and services to people who have disabilities who are seeking employment in Colorado. Krista would like to request that the SRC allow her to spend an hour during the March meeting to facilitate a session that will give a DVR perspective and solicit SRC input on the services DVR provides and the SRC's ideas on how DVR can better go about achieving its mission and vision in Colorado. The SRC's input is a required part of the state plan submission.	
Handout: DVR is seeking two people from the SRC to help DVR create the state plan and review service delivery policy. The handout outlines the role that the two people from the SRC would fulfill.	
The participation as the State Plan liaison and Representative for the Service Delivery Policy Advisory Committee fulfills requirements from RSA and regulatory responsibilities of the SRC but also allow us a meaningful vehicle to operate our program and place in contest to our staff on what we do. Krista's goal is to have a state plan that truly represents the intentions of DVR.	
The policy committee is envisioned to be composed of a DVR Support staff person, a Counselor I, Counselor II, a Supervisor I and a Supervisor II.	
Question: What about the inclusion of an Independent Living member? Since the service delivery policy does not include Independent Living, it is probably not relevant to include someone from the IL community.	
Question: Are there any other stakeholders, besides CAP, being considered? DVR is considering other stakeholders, but have no specific plans at this time. There is also a concern to not make the committee too large.	
Dave Thomas was identified as the SRC liaison to the State Plan Committee.	

Gavin Attwood will be the SRC Representative for the Service Delivery Policy Advisory Committee.

Geoff Peterson will be the CAP Representative for the Service Delivery Policy Advisory Committee

State House Representative Contact Update		Steve Bell	
Discussion: Lynne noted that she had contact with Cheri Gerou. Joyce had contact with some other Legislators.			
Steve Bell created an e-mail to start communication with Representative Mark Waller. He shared it with the SRC members.			
It was noted that each SRC member will have their own method and style of communication. Every SRC member should reach out to the Legislators in their area. Relationship building takes a lot of contact and listening.			
Action items:		Person responsible:	Deadline:
SRC members are encouraged to contact their legislators to educate them about the work of DVR and its successes.		SRC	ASAP
Steve will send copies of his letter to Rebecca as well as his thoughts on communicating with legislators.		Steve	
Committee Reports		Chairs or Designee	
Discussion: Employment Committee provided a Handout			
Dave DeLay will be stepping down as the chair of the Employment Committee after this year.			
A new Chair needs to be identified.			
Action items:		Person responsible:	Deadline:
Send the Customer Satisfaction status report to Rebecca		Todd	
Send the letter and list of employers to Rebecca for the mail merge		Jim	
Director's Update		Nancy Smith	
Discussion: Handout During the May SRC meeting, DVR would like to provide a demo on the CO-AWARE case management system.			
Question: Is it normal to hire people from out of state for the Executive Director of CDHS? It is certainly not typical.			
Comment: When Karen Beye was appointed the SRC, the Chairs met with her. Perhaps the SRC Co-Chairs should make an overture to Reggie Bicha to meet.			
Question: What does BOND stand for? BOND is the Benefits Offset National Demonstration study. The purpose is to determine if providing enhanced work incentives to people receiving Social Security Disability benefits will result in more people choosing to pursue employment.			
Comments: Recognition was given for the efforts Nancy and her staff have made to cultivate relationships with the Federal Government.			
JBC/Legislative Visit Update		Executive Committee	
Discussion: Members agreed that their attempts to contact members were not meeting with too much success.			

Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:
Continue to pursue educating the leaders of the Legislature.	SRC members who are not employed by the state.	ASAP and ongoing
Please give Rebecca the information on your status regarding meeting to educate Legislators.	Members	ASAP and ongoing
Review Goals Progress and Tracking Sheet		
Report from Committees were from progress reports submitted to Rebecca. Handouts provided		
DVR Budget Update	Sandy Pratt	
Discussion: Handout		
<p>This is the time of year that office leases need to be considered. The Colorado Springs office is moving. The Fort Collins and Greeley offices are being remodeled to accommodate staff and client needs.</p>		
<p>DVR will end the fiscal year under spent in case services. The money will be carried over as deferred revenue to use for case services in the next year. Given the increased level of spending this year, the funds should all be spent.</p> <p>Question: Can the deferred revenue be matched? In answer to the inquiry, the deferred revenue can be matched. DVR matches it as we spend it and we need to have deferred revenue to provide match for the federal funds next year.</p> <p>There was some discussion about concerns from the SRC regarding how much is being spent in case services dollars. One member felt that DVR might be holding back on purchasing appropriate services for clients. Nancy stated that DVR is not holding back nor is it trying to get other agencies to pay for services. DVR came off the Order of Selection in May and it needs to be noted that any state having been on an active Order of Selection with a Wait List experiences a recovery period for ramping up service provision. Many people coming off the wait list were in the most significant disability category. It takes time to put them into a plan and to begin services, which is the point at which the case services dollars begin to be used. The State also had a hiring freeze, so there has been a shortage of counselors to provide services to those people coming off the Wait List.</p> <p>Concern was expressed about the December case services expenditures being less than the prior month. Sandy noted that December and the winter months are typically slower months for DVR. However, the trend is for increased activity around April.</p> <p>Question: Is it better to ask the spend-down questions at the end of the fiscal year? Sandy said that it is hard to say because we have a lot of things in play right now. DVR took people off the Wait List and now are just starting to see the up swing in expenditures. There were the hiring freezes. So much is in play when we work with a budget. The costs get spread out over time; it is difficult to predict how much we will spend, so it is done based on averages.</p> <p>When DVR gets new case management system they will be able to use the data to produce</p>		

more quality reports that will more fully enable us to predict expenditures in the future.

There was some discussion about Bayaud's claim that DVR clients who are homeless people are being encouraged by DVR Counselors to go to Bayaud for bus passes. It was noted that if they have not yet developed an IPE with DVR, then they cannot get a bus pass. While at Bayaud, they may be resourceful enough to discover another way to get a bus pass.

Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:
Dave will follow up with Jim Crowe about the claim that DVR Counselors are referring homeless people to Bayaud for bus passes.	Dave Delay, Jim Crowe	March 1, 2011
SILC Update	Debbie Petersen	
Discussion: Handout The SILC has acquired a new Coordinator. He was heavily involved in developing the Emergency Preparedness Plan for the SILC.		
State Mental Health Advisory Council	Steve Bell	
A retreat was held last week in Lakewood. The new Health Care Reform Act was the main topic of conversation. What is it going to mean for Mental Health, both providers and clients? The Office of Behavioral Health has a transformation grant of \$750,000 per year. It is being used for Supported Employment in conjunction with DVR. The Focus of the grant is on youth. It is being piloted at three different mental health centers in Colorado. Steve will share the progress of the pilots in the future.		
Developmental Disabilities (DD) Council	Todd Coffey	
The DD Council is working on a 5 year strategic plan. They will hold public forums throughout the state to help determine where to spend the grant funds for the year. There is likely to be an RFP for some of the funds.		
SRC Budget Update	David Thomas	
Discussion: The vast majority of money in December was spent on expenses related to the October retreat.		