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Disabilities Committee Meeting February 14, 2018 Pleasantville One Stop

Attendance

Donald Campbell	Cristine Chickadel	Kurt Ohlson	Pat Jones
Jennifer Sosdorf	Nina Stoltzenberg	Candace Titanski	Elizabeth Denham

Minutes

This meeting was called to order at 9:40am by the new Chair Candace T. DVR would like to introduce Staff Trainings back once again at the One Stop. The following changes has been made at DVR:

Currently there is no Director

Administrative Acting Director- David Free

Brian Fitzgivens is retiring

There are open positions in the Wildwood office, Master's Degree required.

Information: Jobs can be posted at www.careetconnections.nj.org

Jen S. added that Life Skills/Job Skills should be a focus for the committee, also employers should be invited to come in and let our committee know their needs. As per Kurt O. CODI has obtained a grant from Kessler for work preparedness. Candace T. added that it is the goal to train employees i.e. appropriate dress for interviews, applications, etc. Pat J. also said that the ARC of Atlantic County has done this in the past. The Closet of Hope received funds to assist in interview clothing; Candace T. added that men's clothing should be added to the closet. Kurt O. suggested that the Goodwill be contacted as well to inquire if they would be willing to provide interview clothing to customers. Cristine C. suggested to going back to grassroots is the way to go. Transportation is still a major issue that we should consider; our agency is working a "Ride for Life" program that would facilitate taking customers to interviews. Nina S. added that carpooling should be promoted. Elizabeth agreed adding that there was funding for this at one time so it should be revisited. Kessler may be a funding source for this.

Kurt O. asked how can we advocate for customers with disabilities to employers; Cristine C. responded that grant funding is one source that should be considered. With that said Candace T. informed the committee that DDD is in contact with Uber in hopes that they can facilitate and or accommodate customers with disabilities. According to Kurt O. the onus should be on big corporations to accommodate. Nina S. recommended that Jen S. to speak with employers to consider offering transportation also exploring the possibilities of a church providing space to house donated clothing items. Pat J. will speak with the ARCH to see they would be willing to provide interview clothing free of charge, Jen S. will check with the schools for a thrift, Kurt O. will contact the Casino's along with looking for internships for people with disabilities and Nina S. will contact the Closet of Hope.

Updates/Information

CODI is looking to hire Part-time employees for a 4pm-12am shift, also we should advocate to attend and speak at the Metropolitan Business Citizens Association.

Logisticare is offering limited transportation

Cristine C. will compile information regarding transportation resource in our area.

Donald A. agency is hosting a fundraiser and will forward the flyer to Alicia O.

Adjourned 10:39am