

## Minutes Region 1 Transition Meeting

12/06/16 Webex

In Attendance: Isaac Baldry, Theresa Baldry, Tiffany Costa, Cheri Reed, John Keener, Kasey Dosch, Nicole Jackson, Renea Bidwell

### 1. Introductions:

(IB) Isaac Baldry, MYTransition Region 1 Facilitator

(TB) Theresa Baldry, Geographic Lead for Pre-Employment Transition Services Technical Assistance Center

(TC) Tiffany Costa, Work Incentives Planning and Assistance, WIPA MSU-Billings

(JK) John Keener, Geographic Lead for Pre-Employment Transition Services Technical Assistance Center

(CR) Cheri Reed- Vocational Rehabilitation, 10 counties Region 1

(RB) Renea Bidwell, Special Education Teacher Broadus High School

(NJ) Nicole Jackson, AWARE Adult case services

(KS) Kasey Dosch, AWARE Adult case services

### 2. Presentation: Tiffany Costa, Work Incentives Planning and Assistance, WIPA MSU-Billings

- A. <http://www.msubillings.edu/urelations/releases/2013/2013Dec26SSN.htm>  
2016 WIPA Brochure attached meeting email and can be requested from Tiffany.
- B. Benefits counseling to Social Security disability beneficiaries who want to work.
- C. Contact information: Ticket to Work Helpline, **866.968.7842**. They screen for eligibility and answer basic questions. If benefits counseling is needed they refer back to Montana program by email. Intake packet sent out. Release forms need to be completed, signed and returned in self-addressed envelope. If Tiffany does not receive packet back she does do a follow up call. Once the paperwork is received Tiffany will verify Social Security Benefits and work with individual. Once they are a client of hers, they remain a client for assistance.
- D. Training on Work Incentives
  - a. Student Earned Work Incentive for individuals under 22 in school. Can earn \$1,780 per month and does not impact SSI.
  - b. 1619B provides Medicaid benefits for individuals who make less than 30,970 annually.
- E. Statewide program and serves individuals who are remote by phone. Accommodations are available if requested. Free
  - a. Teaches people how they need to report income and the impact on Social Security.
  - b. Turning 18 redetermination of eligibility to see if the individual's disability still qualifies as an adult. See Red Book.
  - c. Grant Funded. Currently second year of five year grant. Have been funded 16 years.
  - d. Social Security staff not trained in Benefits Planning. Need to connect with a WIPA for that information.

(CR) Noted the need to get parents on board early to help with planning and the process.

### 3. Regional Needs, Goals and Meetings:

- A. Information provided before meeting; minutes from last meeting, minutes from MYTransition conference regional break out, current regional guide, Southeastern Area Montana Resource Guide (CMT)
- B. Development of a Regional Guide still a goal. What we want and need is still in development.
  - a. (CR) suggests modification of SEMT CMT guide
  - b. (RB) parents need to know who to contact and phone numbers.
  - c. Suggestion to find something to modify for our use.
  - d. (RB) would like community specific information. EX. St.Vincent, Church resources, Sheriff's office and number Broadus. She will send the info.

### 4. Transition Activities:

- A. (IB) shared about success of MYTransitions Conference in November and thanked all for participating. Next year will have MYLF mini component. Dates already set for November 13-15 in Billings at the Red Lion.  
(IB) also shared for Miles City Job Service a thank you and the success of the Trades Fair on November 10<sup>th</sup>. 12 schools and as far away as Culbertson.
- B. (CR) shared that schools are engaging and participating in establishing contracts with Vocational Rehabilitation to provide Pre-Employment Services.
- C. (CR) shared LIFTT, Living Independently for Today and Tomorrow is doing a training on self-advocacy today and tomorrow at CCDHS.
- D. (TB) shared the recent webinar by the Rural Institute Consumer Advisory Council was an excellent resource on self-advocacy.  
<http://ruralinstitute.umt.edu/transition/trainingcalend.asp>
- E. Renea referenced a curriculum she liked out of the University of Oklahoma. Me! Lessons.
  - a. <http://www.ou.edu/education/centers-and-partnerships/zarrow/trasition-education-materials/me-lessons-for-teaching-self-awareness-and-self-advocacy.html>
- F. (JK) shared on the Moving On opportunity at MSU Billings this summer. There will be activities to participate in prior to coming that will be followed up on at campus with support when students return home.

### 5. Next Meeting:

- A. Group choose to keep quarterly meetings, monthly would be too much. Next dates were suggested for after CEC so individuals could share about what they had learned.
- B. (TC) suggested a presentation by Action out of Glendive to share about Youth Employment opportunities over the summer. Isaac will pursue information and possibility.
- C. IB will send out Doodle Poll for possible dates in late February.

Adjourn: Meeting concluded 4:50 pm.

