



## Commission on Rehabilitation Services Meeting

January 12, 2024

10 a.m. (Eastern)

Virtual via Zoom

### MEETING MINUTES

- I. Call to Order/Roll Call/Welcome
  - a. The meeting was called to order by Marc Ruiz

V	Mandy Blaise	V	Kate Barrow	V	Ron Brown
V	Katie Connel	V	Jennifer Diaz	V	Mason Ellis
A	Abby Fleenor	V	Shawn Fulton	V	Kate Heger
V	Zaida Maldonado-Prather	V	Danie'l Mize	V	Ian Ragains
V	Cadence Riley	V	Marc Ruiz	V	Stacey Smith
V	Willaine St. Pierre-Sandy	A	Kindall Stewart	V	Mike Thibideau
V	Barbara Thompson	V	Theresa Koleszar	V	Kristina Blankenship
V	Mark Noyes	V	Will Colteryahn	V	Whitney Ertel
V	Jonathan Kraeszig				

(A=Absent, P=Present, T=Teleconference, Virtual =V, I=Invited Guest)

- II. Welcome New Members
  - a) Members who were recently appointed introduced themselves
  - b) Link to Commission bylaws: [https://www.in.gov/fssa/ddrs/files/Rehab\\_Serv\\_Comm\\_BY-LAWS.pdf](https://www.in.gov/fssa/ddrs/files/Rehab_Serv_Comm_BY-LAWS.pdf)
  - c) Link to Federal Regulations 34 CFR 361.17: Requirements for State Rehabilitation Council: <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-34/section-361.17>
  - d) Functions
    - Advise VR regarding order of selection; extent, scope and effectiveness of services; functions that effect ability for VR participants to achieve employment outcomes; state plan; comprehensive statewide needs assessment
    - Partner with VR on developing goals/priorities, evaluating effectiveness of the program, and submitting annual report
    - Review customer satisfaction; coordinate activities with other councils
  - e) Committees
    - Policy/oversight & planning/evaluation; recruitment/public outreach; customer satisfaction; employment first; transition; VR staff awards
- III. Approval of the November 3, 2023, meeting minutes
  - a) The Commission voted unanimously in favor

IV. Public Comment

- a) There were no members of the public who made comment

V. BRS Director's Update – Theresa Koleszar

a) Order of Selection Update

- Over 3700 released from waitlist to date
  1. Most recent release January 2024 (second group from priority category 3)
- Priority category 2 opened July 2023
- Currently one category closed – priority category 3
- As of January 3rd, 579 remain on waitlist (all priority category 3)
- Next release – April 2024

b) RSA Federal Monitoring Visit

- Final Report now posted - [2023 Indiana VR Monitoring Report](#)
- Strategic Action Plan 5 priority areas:
  1. Program Growth – increase # of participants served
  2. Increase percent of students receiving Pre-ETS who enter VR
  3. Increase postsecondary enrollment of VR participants
  4. Improve vendor capacity
  5. Explore opportunities to increase non-federal match
    - a. SAP aligns with State Plan goals and priorities

c) State Plan and Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment

- State Plan public comment period – targeting January release
- CSNA focus groups completed with providers
- CSNA draft survey – to be presented to commission membership during today's meeting, along with opportunity for input/discussion

d) 2023 Annual Report

- Thank you for your feedback!
- A PDF version was sent to commission members with January commission packet
- [2023 Annual Report online](#)
  1. Report in queue to be posted; anticipated to be online by January 19 if not sooner

e) VR 2023 Highlights

- RSA Monitoring – no findings
- Opened second service priority category and shared goal for ending order of selection in 2024
- Exceeded 15% federal reserve Pre-ETS requirement
- Drafted new State Plan
- Implemented provider performance incentive payments
- Exceeded all federal performance measure targets
- Kicked off SE+, following the initial planning year
- Enhanced business engagement efforts

f) Will Colteryahn, SE+ Project Manager, provided an update on the SE+ Grant

- g) Kristina Blankenship, Director of Business and Community Engagement, provided an update on business engagement
- h) Jonathan Kraeszig, Director of Youth Services, provided an update on Pre-ETS

VI. Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment Update

- a) Mark Noyes provided an introduction to PCG, a review of the CSNA, a summary of survey methods, and a draft survey questionnaire

VII. Committee Updates

- a) Customer Satisfaction Committee – no update
- b) Employment First Committee
  - Committee met to discuss a variety of topics, will continue to discuss their identity and refine committee structure
  - Next meeting planned for January 22<sup>nd</sup>; will continue meeting every other month
- c) Recruitment, Public Outreach, and Commission Development Committee – no update
- d) Policy & Oversight and Planning & Evaluation Committee – no update
- e) Awards Committee – no update
- f) Transition Committee – no update

VIII. Other Business

- a) Marc will email a list of committees to the group and encourage new members to join

IX. Meeting Adjourned

Future meeting dates:

Date	Time	Location
March 8, 2024	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Virtual <a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a>
May 10, 2024	10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Bosma Enterprises 7225 Woodland Drive Indianapolis, IN 46278
July 12, 2024	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Virtual <a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a>

September 13, 2024	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Bosma Enterprises 7225 Woodland Drive Indianapolis, IN 46278
November 8, 2024	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Bosma Enterprises 7225 Woodland Drive Indianapolis, IN 46278