

**Rutland County Core Team
Meeting
1:30pm to 3pm
Held Virtual Meeting via Skype**

Mission Statement: Collaborating to develop, provide, and manage an effective transition process for students in Rutland County.

Facilitator: Kathi Cassidy Note Taker: Kathi Cassidy

Attendance: Stacey Carmody DOL WIOA; Michael Smelser, Rutland Mental Health; Heather Brouillard, CAP Project SEARCH; Laura Flint, DMH; Melissa Hoellerich, DBVI; Kathi Cassidy VR; Marianne Langello, VR; Teri-Anne Walker, VR; Will Pendlebury VR

1. Welcome and Roll Call - Kathi

2. Attendees shared about present work status and how agencies/organizations are conducting business.

- Melissa Hoelerich, DBVI - conducting business remotely working to stay connected to consumers. DBVI is fully operational. Email is the best method of contact.
- Michael Smelser, CAP Career Choices/Project SEARCH – Holding meetings remotely with consumers and school case managers and checking in with employers. Contact by cell 802-342-8495 and email msmelser@rmhscn.org
- Heather Brouillard, CAP Project SEARCH – the Project SEARCH Program is not currently running in the hospital. The current year interns have completed enough internship hours to be considered graduates of PS. Heather is at RRMC a little bit. One PS intern is currently working in the hospital cafeteria. Contact via CAP email is best, hbrouillard@rmhscn.org
- Stacey Carmody, DOL WIOA – Working remotely holding meetings by phone and has been giving guidance about Adult Education Programs and Post-Secondary Education. Some DOL employees have been called upon to assist with unemployment claims. Stacy is available by email. Work cell 802-770-0649
- Teri-Anne Walker, VR – Working remotely to support consumers and provide all the services VR would typically provide. Can contact by Work cell 802-585-0955 and email.
- Marianne Langello, VR - Working remotely to support consumers and provide all the services VR and VR LLC would typically provide. Can contact by email and Work Cell 802-798-2607

- Kathi Cassidy, VR - Working remotely to support consumers and provide all the services VR and VR LLC would typically provide. Can contact by email and Work Cell 802-798-2873
- Will Pendlebury, VR – VR is keeping VR Services up and running. There have been some challenges with Technology. VR is committed to supporting consumers. Some are still getting work. VR is currently planning for transitioning to the future when the social distancing ceases.
- Laura Flint, DMH – The Department of Mental Health is working to keep supporting regional providers. Setting meetings via Skype, but can accept invitations to other online platforms for virtual meetings. Can contact by email llaura.flint@vermont.gov or work Cell 802-798-2207
- Message from **Jane Callahan of the Client Assistance Program, Disability Law Project and Vermont Legal Aid** - We are all working from home. We are not participating in any in person meeting with clients or other advocates. Our intake process continues to be conducted by phone at the 1-800-889-2047 number.

We also have developed a process to better accommodate community partners. I will forward that info. I can also be contacted directly at 775-1122 ext. 422.

3. Updates of Programs

- Heather and Michael shared that one **Project SEARCH** Intern is currently working in the RRMC Cafeteria, following proper procedure to keep himself healthy. He has managed to do this despite some anxiety.
Four Project SEARCH Applications have been received from young adults. Interviews will be conducted virtually, so the skills assessments will not be included. Heather will forward a short application to use for prospective Project SEARCH Candidates.
- Marianne shared that there are currently **12 LLC Research Grant Program** participants who are still in high school. The LLC Program continues to provide supports for students and graduates for post-secondary employment goals, whether it is for employment or post-secondary education. Phone meetings are the current mode of contact with LLC consumers. The LLC Research Grant will continue through September 2021.

4. Sharing Virtual Resources

- Laura shared about Outreach Vermont, a LGBTQ+ support group that is holding Zoom meetings to provide community. <http://www.outrightvt.org/home/fng/>
- Marianne shared about Universal Classes Link https://libraries.vermont.gov/online_library/classes

This is a State of VT online learning platform. It is interactive with a live instructor. There are over 500 classes. With a library card, one can take up to 6 free classes. Otherwise the cost is \$189/year. There is a variety of classes ranging from Dog Grooming, Computer Training Skills to Self-Employment classes. *“Any Vermonter can use their Vermont public library card barcode to create a Universal Class account. State employees can use the barcode number on their State Library card.”*

- Teri-Anne shared that local Libraries offer online services; audio books, e-books, access to databases and online activities for children.
- Kathi shared about webinars available by NTACTION and Y-TAC about distance learning with Transition-aged youth. Once a list is compiled of the resources shared in an April 7th webinar, it will be forwarded to Rutland Core Team Members. This is the link to the recorded April 7th webinar <https://www.transitionta.org/covid19>. Here is a link to NTACTION, an organization that support individuals working with transition-aged youth. <https://transitionta.org/>

Reminder– the next Quarterly Rutland Core Team Meeting is July 13, 1:30-3

VR Office, Asa Bloomer Building 😊