



Rutland County Core Team

Meeting Notes 1/11/2021

1:30pm to 3pm

Zoom meeting by invitation

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



Co-Facilitators: Kathi Cassidy, Samantha Kowalski

Note Taker: Teri-Anne Walker

Participants put their contact info in chat is attached separately.

Kathi shared notes from core team event and folks put what was a priority for them in the chat:

(enter priorities from chat here)

Kathi went around and did some brief introductions.

Presentations:

1) Northlands Job Corps

Gene Woodcock-contact is woodcock.gene@jobcorps.org

Admissions Counselor

- For program overviews go to website: <https://northlands.jobcorps.gov/>
- 124 centers in the US, 68000 students. Ranked 4th in the nation for students having jobs before finishing the program
- For people ages 16 to 24. While on hold if they turn 25, they can still start and participate in program
- Lots of changes, bringing students back 10 at a time, quarantining, testing, getting back to class. So far, they have 80 students back with 0 positive cases. Only 2 staff members have needed to quarantine until negative tests. About 40 students withdrew from the program for different reasons, most to go to work to support their families.
- While closed, the staff gave center a fresh coat of paint, new furniture, new dorm renovated, used to be 4 people to room, now all are 2 people per room.
- New things: no in person tours, virtual tour to come, filming soon. Email Gene if you have someone interested, will send invite to get onto tour. Hopefully available towards end of month.
- Two online classes one for guidance counselors and providers, one for students
- Will not be having new students move in until later in February or March. Students will now take virtual classes before arrival in preparation. Will get them a chrome notebook if need access, then turn equipment back in.
- Tested academically upon arrival. Everything is paid for including clothing, stipend while there, laundry, meals.

- Have partnered with some technical colleges and other community colleges for advanced training and free tuition.
- Gym, lounge, clubs, video games, computers, after hours etc.
- Have health clinic nurse, dentist, doctor, hygienist, send out to optometrist, counselor. housing
- Transportation- we can go pick students up at home or bus/train station. Limited due to pandemic.
- No weekend passes, need to go through quarantine again
- WBL has been difficult during this time, but they are working on rebuilding. Does not have to be paying, but so far all are. Usually, 2 months long

2. Vermont Center for Independent Living

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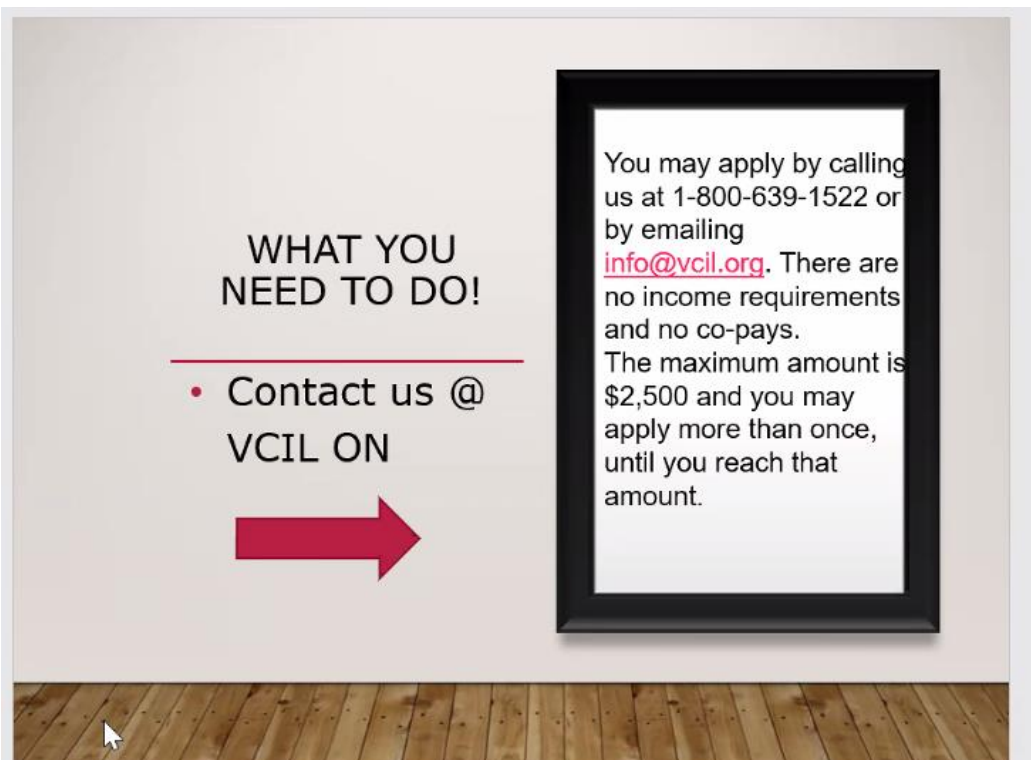
Youth Transition Program-had ppt—also attached

Gave overview of VCIL, went into more detail on the three projects she works on.

Slides pasted below:

RISE project

If you know someone who has a need that is covid related, access to technology, please refer by emailing. Funding from Cares Act



Youth Transition Program:

YOUTH TRANSITION PROGRAM

- Self-Advocacy Skills & Strategies
- Confidence Building
- Communication Skills: Aggressive and Passive
- Independent Living Life Skills
- Interview Practices
- Housing
- Transportation

Racial Justice

VCIL AND RACIAL JUSTICE & INTERSECTIONALITY FOCUS

- This journey has included educating ourselves about implicit bias, systemic racism, and working with external partners to assess opportunities to build racial equity strategies into the organization's structure and operations.
- Supporting the community of practice work
- Develop and organize strategic plans of serving people of color in the community
- Engage and partner with other organizations for full inclusion, diversity, equity and other issues of intersectionality

Special Project:

Deb Robinson gave an overview of Virtual Parent Info. Event she would like to put together. Should it be synchronous or asynchronous? Suggestion to have it be a recorded event people could return to along with using it as a webinar in the future. Suggestion to have Vermont Family Network involved.

Claudia Pringle, disability rights lawyer, special needs law and planning. What topics are parents and students looking for?

Margaret Haywood will survey parents, looking for another school to survey.

There was the suggestion to start a committee, will revisit in April

Next meeting April 12, 2021