



Rutland County Core Team

Agenda 4/12/2021

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 and Teri-Anne Walker

Note Taker: Marianne Langelo

Attendance: Kathi Cassidy, Teri-Anne Walker, Samantha Kowalski, Maurice Ouimett, Sefakor Komabu-Pomeyie, Stacey Carmody, Will Pendlebury, Debbie Robinson, Martha McCaughan (guest), Lea Pettis and Marianne Langelo

Welcome and self-introductions

Martha McCaughin, Guest Speaker, VSAC Education Counselor Career & Education Outreach

- Works with adults and high school seniors, financial aid process and a resource
- Gear Up/Talent Search – can begin working with students in middle school, case managers assigned every school year, can refer students to guidance counselors.
- Guidelines for the programs include: first generation students attending college (neither parent has a bachelor's degree) and income guideline.
- Summer programs: Castleton has an Upward Bound program. Martha will forward a list of other summer programs and College Pathways event to Kathi.

Maurice - discussed a piece of legislation that is being voted on that would provide funding to the VT State College system. This is federal money that could provide one free college exploration course for not just students, but adults too.

Opportunities for organizations/agencies to share information about Covid-related changes, estimates when in-person services may resume

Stacey Carmody, DOL

- **Looking at transitioning back to the office**, not working in person with individuals; using a hybrid model
- Hiring events and workshops will continue to be virtual for details: <https://labor.vermont.gov/calendar> A link will be provided to join; contact the case manager at DOL to register for the workshops, reminder and link will be e-mailed, can also join by phone.

Will Pendlebury, VR - no definite date when VR will return to the office; it will be a hybrid model

Sefakor Komabu-Pomeyie – VCIL

- Working virtually
- Contact Sefakor if you would like her to visit students at schools
- Special program for youth panel, connecting youth with legislatures

- The Summit – Youth Advocacy Council May 20, encourage students to attend

Maurice – 90 % of courses scheduled to be in person this fall; will offer more online and hybrid courses than in the past. Students will have a virtual orientation and face to face before courses start

Lea Pettis – VT I-Team works with kids with complex needs, UVM funded, diversity equity and inclusion, kids have more than one disability, accepting contracts for next year. Some services are being provided in person; most are remote at this time.

Samantha Kowalski – VABIR's guidance is the same as VR, nothing has changed at this time

Summer Youth Opportunities/Workshops

Kathi Cassidy, VR – shared information about the Summer Career Exploration program, June 28 – August 20, \$11.75 per hour; job coaches available, employment and classroom, open to students 14 – 21 years old, deadline for the application is April 15 and is flexible. We are recruiting a teacher for this program with previous Careers CLiC TIPS curriculum experience, \$35.00 per hour for more information contact: Rich Tulikangas at VocRehab Vermont, richard.tulikangas@vermont.gov or 802 734-8170.

Samantha Kowalski, VABIR shared an interactive web site with summer opportunities throughout the state, <https://www.vermontafterschool.org/impact/map>

DOL – Focusing on more year-round opportunities, work experiences are now year-round, hoping to provide opportunities that aren't an issue for transportation. **Summer employment opportunities continue to be available, DOL is also focusing on year-round job shadows, work experiences, and OJT's. They are happy to partner with any agency during the summer when it comes to summer employment programs for youth.**

VCIL - June 4, "Expressive Design" 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. virtual event being planned for three states, CT, NH and VT youth program, arts focused to showcase their artistic abilities, UVM theatre department will be present to discuss college opportunities related to the arts.

May Parent Session Events, Deb Robinson – virtual information sessions for parents, videos will be available to anyone, series of 5 planned, each week in May will be a presentation topics include: guardianship and shared decision making, social security benefits, transition from high school to adult services and special needs planning and supported living options (see attachment for more information)

Poll, what topics should the core team focus on as a priority this year:

- Transition Fair
- Recruiting more school personnel
Shift meetings to allow for school staff to attend after school releases – 2:30 start?
- Recruiting & getting the word out
- Core Team Facebook page
- Advocacy workshop for major stakeholders, such as teachers
- Transportation

Results were captured in the chat below:

Chat

From [Kathi Cassidy](#) to [Everyone](#):

3. Take a poll to choose a couple of items to spend time on this year from suggestions below:

- o Transition Fair
- o Recruiting more school personnel

Shift meetings to allow for school staff to attend after school releases – 2:30 start?

- o Recruiting & getting the word out
- o Core Team Facebook page
- o Advocacy workshop for major stakeholders, such as teachers
- o Transportation

From [Teri-Anne Walker--Transition Counselor \(s/h\)](#) to [Everyone](#):

transition Fair, recruiting more school personnel and families

From [Lea Pettis, VT I-Team](#) to [Everyone](#):

Transition fair, recruiting, advocacy

From [Stacey Carmody, VDOL-Rutland](#) to [Everyone](#):

Transition Fair, transportation, getting the word out

From [Kathi Cassidy](#) to [Everyone](#):

recruiting school staff and overall

From Me to [Everyone](#):

Recruiting more school personnel, Transition Fair

From [Kathi Cassidy](#) to [Everyone](#):

Shift meeting times to include teachers. Once I get more input about times schools get out

Suggestion for the Transition Fair, involve STC's video communications program to videotape the fair to provide a virtual option

**Reminder – the next Core Team Meeting will be
July 12th, the second Monday of the month.**

The type of meeting held will depend on directives from the State of Vermont with respect to considerations during Covid with a concern for everyone's safety.