

Core Team Meeting

4/11/2022

In attendance: Cody Miller (CCV), Robbie Marra (SWT), Wendy Calleart (VABIR), Sefakor Pompeii (VCIL), Rob Bahny (SWT), Aelish Nelson (JOBS), Christian Harris (JOBS), Dawn Campbell (LEA) Diane Torres (HireAbility), Kara Righi (HireAbility).

Sefakor is seeking data to be collected for VCIL about how many students understand and are aware of the concept of disability.

The following questions she is looking to extract further information:

- Is disability a part of our identify?
- Do we need to own our disabilities?

More questions are going to be asked however, 10 minutes wasn't enough time to go around to each person and take into account what they are observing.

A perspective from a person who worked with young adults who were entering college students didn't understand their educational record. They weren't aware of what accommodations they had received in High School and weren't sure how that would work in a secondary education environment.

- Question about how much information can students share with HIPPA in place?
- What if classmates now understand a peers disability? Is that a conflict?

Sefakor: Talked about disability pride and how individuals can become confident in understanding what their disability is and how it works with them in every aspect of life. Having students understand that they need to speak up about a reasonable accommodation. Making sure the student is comfortable with speaking up for themselves. Disability shouldn't be viewed as negative it's is the mindset of those around who have turned something into a negative light.

As a group we had decided to continue this conversation next month on 5/9/22 where we can spend more time together to discuss what others are observing.

Southwest Tech: Rob Bahny discussed different programs that the local technical center can offer. Understanding that this might be a good fit for a young adult who isn't quite ready or wants to go to college.

LNA course is due to take place next week and will be offered in the summer. Great way to start a pathway into the nursing field. Gaining a credential, the perk of this program instead of going

through an employer is that the individual who completes the program will be able to have a say in shift and starting rate. Offered to individuals as young as 16. A misconception on adult classes is that you need to have graduated.

SWT- looking to explain the Adult education classes. Funding may be able to be offered to adults and youth with some of the programs. Rob is working on this currently.

Currently offering a Commercial Driver's License.

Automotive Program: Can offer some credentials, however, is limited depending on where a person will work since most employers will have their own training programs that need to be taken in order to understand a certain manufacturers vehicle.

Step-up to Childcare-

Early Education training and certification to understand soft skills, CPR and First Aid and other training that would allow an individual to work as a teacher assistance in a classroom.

The class did not run due to low enrollment but may be offered in a year or two. Would only be offered to youth if it was second half of senior year but not to 16-year-olds. May not be up and running for a year or two due to gathering more information and working with local agencies to ensure that the training will offer details that will help employers. This class would come with a paid internship.

Partnering with Bennington Rescue Squad for EMT training. One of the harder courses offered by SWT. Will require more math and science compared to LNA. EMT training can't be offered at the rescue squad due to lack of staff and SWT is partnering with training EMT. Currently need to be 18 years of age.

Rob mentioned that he would like to come to core team meetings to get the word out about classes. Since the pandemic they have noticed a decline in enrollment and word of mouth always works best.

Conversation started about where Core Team can go next year? What do individuals want to see for next year? What did they like? What could be improved upon? Asked to bring their feedback next month to further the conversation and collaboration.