

CORE Team Minutes June 28, 2022 Brattleboro Region

Introductions/participants:

HireAbility, VABIR, Job Corps, Youth Services, BUHS, SPED Regional, VSAC, CCV, College Steps

Agenda:

- Welcome and Introductions
- Guest Presentation; College Steps/College Compass, Director of Admissions, Brya Emery
- Announcements

Presentation:

- Brya Emery is available as the College Steps Director of Admissions. admissions@collegesteps.org.
- College Steps, the primary program, is in 6 states and at 14 colleges.
- College Steps Vermont colleges include, Castleton, Northern Vermont University Linden, Northern Vermont University Johnson.
- Near to Southern Vermont is American International College in Massachusetts.
- Students served are customarily 18 to 26.
- Applications open each October.
- HireAbility Vermont partners with College Steps for a secondary program called College Compass, expanded from the above campuses to CCV's Montpelier, Winooski, St Albans. Further expansion is under discussion.
- College Steps serves DS eligible students and supports a focus on Academics, Social Skills, Independent Living Skills, and Pre-Employment Skills. Students are mentor supported for 4 college courses over a 2 year period.
- College Compass serves HireAbility eligible students up to 10 hours weekly as they progress towards academic success, matriculation, and independence.
- High school students can engage with college steps through early College, Dual Enrollment programs.
- College Steps and College Compass develop individualized College Plans for each participant. There is some flexibility in each program as per accommodation needs.
- The College Steps website offers Webinars with program outlines and additional information. <https://www.collegesteps.org>.

Announcements:

- HireAbility; is launching a new program with a specialized caseload, VCAP; Vermont Career Advancement Program. Caroline Trevarrow, Vocational Counselor, will be building a caseload of participants that are pursuing and engaged in post-secondary education and training. This is a focused program of support in place to assist folks towards credentials, higher wage goals, and career development.
- Job Corps; On site tours and program orientation is reinstated as of 6/29/22.
- VSAC; There continue to be additional financial programs including special grants and scholarships. Explore the VSAC website or contact an advisor to explore, CCV 802 Opportunities Scholarship, Critical Occupations Scholarship for '22 and '23, the expanded Enhancement Grant now at \$7500, Curtis Training Scholarship and Pilot Program.

-Regional; Several Special Educator positions are open at area schools. Inquire with District Special Education Coordinator Tate Erickson at terickson@wsesdvt.org.

-Vermont Family Network; link to site and Brattleboro CORE Team information at-
<https://www.vermontfamilynetwork.org/what-we-do-/family-support/care-transition-teams/brattleboro/>.

SUMMER; No CORE Team Meeting for July and August, Have a great Summer break!

Next CORE Team Meeting is 9/27/22 at 3:30 to 4:30 remote via ZOOM. Invite to be shared.