

# Core Team Meeting

3/11/2024

Attendee's: Megan Benasich, Courtney Randall, Carol Sullivan, Lacey Lacroix, Lindsey Woodie, Diane Torres, Kara Righi

- Update on each agency and or school. HireAbility talked about Summer Career Exploration Program, Vermont Career Advance Program. Spoke about how the youth that can be served can be as young as 16 if their moving forward with training and or education. It could be a good next step upon SCEP or if there is a lot of motivation and it make sense to have them be apart of the program.
- Lacey explained the JOBS program and how it's looking with her as the Program Manager. She talked about how she's able to work with individuals out within the community. She is meeting with some youth within Mount Anthony Union High School and Burr and Burton Academy. She's open to referrals and provided her contact information for anyone to ask her questions or reach out if they thought it was a good referral. A question that was brought up was about if someone was working with a Designated Agency with the Developmental Services Program could they also use the JOBS Program in addition? We talked about how there would need to be clarity due to in years past that there couldn't be overlap. Author reached to Director of Transition Services to seek clarification.
- Next Core Team Event is to be hosted during the Bennington's Job Fest. We're asking that schools help provide youth to come down and walk around and get more information from the employers present. We discussed how some individuals have made connections and have grown their networks from this event. Even worked into internships and or opportunities for training and or education while attending this event. HireAbility and VABIR will be there on site to walk with youth around the event to help with easing nerves and understanding how to advocate for themselves. JOB FEST in Bennington will be talking place on 5/16 from 11am-2pm.
- Meg Benasich talked about Career Expo happening at BBA on 4/25 from 11:30am-2:30pm. HireAbility Transition Counselor and Youth Employment Specialist will be in attendance for this event to make sure we walk with youth that need assistance with gathering information from local employers.

Next meeting will take place at JOB FEST on 5/16.

Guest Speaker didn't attend meeting to speak about community grant that took place and how this grant can assist others with gaining access about Mental Health First Aid

for Teenagers. Author will follow up with Guest Speaker to get more information to send to Core Team if interested in gaining access to this training.