

Springfield Core Team meeting February 4, 2025

The Mission of the CORE team meeting is to make a difference in the lives of youth and support successful transitions to life after high school by fostering cooperation, collaboration, and the development of best practices among cross stakeholder communities.

Guest Speaker- Kiersten White shared information regarding the VSAC services. The program supports low income and first-generation college students. They help FAFSA, scholarships, applications and more. There is also a program called Gear Up, which is another program that they offer that has no eligibility requirements. Schools need to apply for this program at their school. For more information about the program- [Helping Vermont Students Prepare For College | VSAC.org](#)

Introductions took place

Upcoming events-

February 7th, Bellows Falls students tour River Valley Tech Center

March 8th. A free College and Career Planning event, meant for parents, students and adults who are going back to school or changing careers. It is offered in person at UVM, or over Zoom. Participants can get their questions answered, talk to Vermont experts, and discover free resources to help with planning and paying for college or career training.

March 13th College and Career Planning event at Landmark College in Putney- 9-2

Find more details, and register here:

[College & Career Pathways Events | Planning for College | VSAC](#)

[nTIDE Lunch & Learn Webinar Series | Center for Research on Disability](#) (thank you Regie Cooper, Vermont Department of Health, Children with Special Needs for sharing this resource in email)

April 16th Job Fair in Springfield (more details to follow)

New Business- Transition Fair - The group was on board planning a transition fair for professionals, families, and students. The group agreed that May would be a good time of the year. The group agreed that Fall would be a good time for a second one. We could start small this season and build for the future.

Sam McAllister from River Valley Tech Center is willing to see if the Tech center would have an open to hosting a transition fair. Lori Cooms-Barry from Bellows Falls shared that they have their own transportation. She is going to check to see if using a bus would be an

option to assist families that don't have transportation. Jenn Merrill from HCRS volunteered to check in with her marketing department for assistance with a flyer to promote the event. She would be looking for our committee to provide the information.

Matt Meserve from DOL shared about services offered by DOL and is always willing to do workshops for those that are interested in a topic such as resume writing.

Samantha M. gave an update on the River Valley Tech Center.

Some expressed that they would like to learn more about the P2P grant and welcomed them to be guest speakers at the Core Team meeting.

Relevant topic for youth- poverty and their ability to emotionally regulate. (This could be a topic for the future.)

A note of appreciation was made to our guest speaker and for those attending the meeting.

Next meeting-

The next meeting is scheduled.

March 4th, 2025, at 1:00

Guest- Stephanie Bissonette

Director of Children Services, TVI and COMS

Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (VABVI)

60 Kimball Ave.

South Burlington, VT 05403

Looking for a Volunteer- minute taker on a rotating basis.

Review future meeting time/date