

Disabilities Services Committee  
MS Teams Meeting  
July 26, 2022 – 11:00 a.m.

## MINUTES

A meeting of the Disabilities Services Committee was held Tuesday, July 26, 2022 via Teams. Those in attendance were:

**Attendance:** Jody Classen, Elizabeth Reed, Norma Cordeiro, Lani Allen-Davis, Anne Garrison, Barbara Nedohan, Ramon Casanova, Guy Davidson, Kathy Massey

**Staff:** Jaime Gomez, Cindy Angelo

**I. Welcome and Opening Remarks**  
**Approval of Minutes**

Jaime opened the meeting by welcoming all attendees. The meeting began at 11:04 a.m. Jaime read the Open Public Meeting Act and Mission Statement. She requested a motion to approve the minutes from April 2022. Motion made by Jody Classen. Seconded by Cindy Angelo. All in favor, motion approved.

**II. NJDOLWD Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services**

- **Cumberland/Salem**
  - Jody reported an increase in client services. They are doing in person appointments and the virtual option remains. They are short one bi-lingual counselor.
- **Cape May**
  - Norma reported they are fully staffed and back to pre-COVID services but could handle more. Working on youth outreach and engagement – this is their focus. She wants to start earlier going to the schools to outreach. As a part of the Capstone program – they are working on a formalized youth toolkit.

**III. Cumberland/Salem/Cape May Offices of the Disabled**

- **Cumberland**
  - Barbara: offices are open to the public. They are going back into the Senior Centers.
- **Salem**
  - Kathy: seeing people in office and community. They are going to food banks and in person for monthly luncheon. Praises from community about in person services.
- **Cape May**
  - Anne Garrison: running PRETS (Pre-Employment Transition Services) until 12/31/22. They have 5 referrals and working with Norma for additional

referrals. They have a dress for success as well. Norma asked if transportation is a barrier. Anne responded that they can find funds and DVR can help as well.

#### **IV. Other Reports**

- Guy Davidson, Executive Director of Academic and Special Services at RCSJ, oversees ACT program. Ramon is handling the day to day in both Cumberland and Gloucester counties. Ramon reported that they are growing:  
Fall 2021 – 6 enrolled  
Spring 2022 – 13 enrolled  
Fall 2022 – can enroll 21-25 students.  
They had a gala where everyone got dressed up. It was a really nice event and want to expand. Ramon gave an overview of what ACT is; bridge to workforce or higher education. Youth are enrolled from all over southern counties. Guy explained that they are looking for youth who can navigate the campus independently. They have an extensive enrollment process so they do not set anyone up for failure. They refer those who are not the right fit to other organizations who can help them better.

#### **V. Old/New Business**

Jaime made a plea to have someone step up as chair of this committee. Ideally it would be a workforce board member.

#### **VI. Adjournment**

Jaime requested a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Norma Cordeiro; Seconded by Anne Garrison. All in favor, meeting adjourned. The meeting ended at 11:19 a.m.