

**Policy Academy  
Meeting Minutes  
05-13-14**

Facilitator Mary Wollin  
Note Taker: Caralee Morrison

**Reviewed and Approved previous minutes - All**

**John Haugh Welcomed a new member** Erin Barstad from WDA 9

**Jo Anna – Reviewed the State Plan and input was provided by the Committee**

Discussed when and where the public Hearings would be  
Discussed Promise Grant to include nutrition  
Discussed Transportation piece with MCO's  
Discussed Retention piece for VRC.

**Allison Spoke about The Department of Justice Background Checks** and Committee members discussed when they are purchased, why purchased, how often, and how purchased.

**Purchase for Self Employment Plans**, when person is looking into occupations that deal with money – see if retail theft etc. shows up. Some placement vendors do checks and pay for them. Some staff use CCAP. Staff do them for the REDI Program and Project Search. Some staff do them when a person will be going to school for nursing, or child care to see if any history of abuse would show up and person couldn't work in the field.

**Linda Vegoe asked if consumer orientations in the field are Mandatory –** Committee members stated that not all DVR offices have orientations, that they are preferred but not required.

**Linda Vegoe asked if TG funds would be going directly to the schools** this upcoming year and it was stated yes they would be. It was also asked that if an individual had a history of not successfully managing their money could a VRC send a PO directly to the school now and the answer was yes.

**The committee discussed Vendors Transporting Consumers – the following comments were made:**

- Vendors are doing this and charging for it by various means including job coaching
- Happens often in SE
- Mainly being done in Assessment phase and when there is a sudden hire
- Only being done as a last resort
- Transfer to interviews
- Happens more in rural parts of a WDA where there is no public Transportation
- Sometimes job coaching occurs in the car – Placement attempts to build up consumer and decrease anxiety during the drive there.
- Members of the committee felt that the Providers are doing this at their own risk.
- No VRC staff should ever transport consumers.
- DVR should not pay providers to transport consumers unless they were an approved/licensed transportation company
- The committee should see what other States are doing
- The committee should consult with legal counsel on this matter.

**Kathleen and Allison provided an update on the DVR Info Center** – should be completed sometime this summer and a study hall will then be coming out on it.

**JoAnna provided discussion on the topic of Rapid Consumer Engagement**

Research shows us that the sooner we can engage the job seeker in the process the more likely they will keep engaged and have an interest in seeking employment. Can we lessen the time it takes to develop a plan? Can we do anything to reduce the wait list or do something for the jobseeker while they are waiting for services? It was suggested that we develop a work group to look into this matter. The following volunteered:

JoAnna Richard,. Kathleen Enders, Deepa Pal, Meredith Dressel, Craig Wehner, Sandy Ellsworth, Allison Gordon, Caralee Morrison

Next Meeting will be July 8, 2014

Submitted by: Craig Wehner