

Advisory Committee Meeting

Southwest

12 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 1670 Mankato, MN 56001

Friday, December 2, 2016

Members: Cassie Ramerth, Eric Nooker, Roberta Johnson, Kristin Hemstock

Guest(s): Mike Goodlander, Howard Rosten

Absent: Tracy Bell, Jacqui Shasky

Staff: Mike Provancha

Note taker: Natalie Regenscheid

Community Updates:

Mike Provancha:

- Attended the SE Advisory Committee Meeting on Tuesday the 29th, Marissa passed away that night. She planned on becoming a member of the AC, she was a vital person in the community and will be deeply missed.
- The SW Advisory Committee is seeking input from community members for topics to be presented on including the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) and the Olmstead Plan. Roberta Johnson recommended Christine Bauman to present on WIOA.

Cassie Ramerth:

- Working with teachers to provide more education for parents with deaf and hard of hearing children. Plan to do a Family Getaway sometime in March, will figure out the details when the time comes.

Kristin Hemstock:

- Son is doing well.

Howard Rosten:

- Talking and making appointments with various agencies.

Mike Goodlander:

- Been working with mostly new people, helping them transition to iPhones.
- Looking forward to becoming a member of the Advisory Committee.

Roberta Johnson:

- Today is my last meeting, I finished my term and I hope to attend the next meeting in January.

- Going through some drastic changes with funding, 16,000 people are working minimum wage in Minnesota. The government chose our agency to do assessment surveys, due to our new policy we have been undergoing intense training.
- People are finding it hard to get a job through the state due to the application process. Via state, applications are scanned and key words/qualifications will stand out to be processed. Most applications are tossed if they don't contain the key words or qualifications. Found that if you use key words from the job posting it can help increase your chance of passing the application scanner process.
- Will be posting two full time job positions to help with transitions.

Eric Nooker:

- DHHS is trying to figure out what to do for the next 10 years as far as serving immigrants, services, etc. I am excited to see DHHS grow yet a little concerned about funding.
- Minnesota does a great job in providing services and excellent care for our customers and clients.

DHHS Updates via Mike Provanča:

David Rosenthal:

- Still working on the gap analysis. Feedback from the consumers have validated the study.

Tracy Bell:

- Natalie is the new OASI for the DHHS-Mankato.
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing Specialist position have been posted, plan to do interviews next week.
- TED program is still giving out iPhones and iPads until the funding runs out, otherwise until February. Department of Commerce is leery due to cost.
- DHHS Mankato will be hosting the 17th Annual Ice Skating event January 4, 2017.