

March 13, 2017 OKDRS Regular Commission Meeting
Submitted by Noel Tyler, ODRS Interim Director

Divisions & Schools' Reports

Disability Determination Service (DDS)

- A total of 18 DDS staff received National/Regional Awards from SSA for FY 16. Awards included for Performance, Accuracy, Innovation, Customer Service, and Diversity. Certificates and plaques have not all arrived so presentations will be forthcoming.
- Case processing time—we are 2nd lowest in the region for initial claims at 84.7 days.
- With restrictions on hiring/OT, we continue to look for ways to automate and improve processes to limit the negative impact to our customers.

Management Service (MS)

IT:

- The Office of Management and Enterprise Services will be transitioning the DRS Helpdesk to the OMES Service Desk. This means that calls to the helpdesk will no longer go through the 405-951-3500 number and will instead go to the Office of Management and Enterprise Services Service Desk number 405-521-2444. The go live date for the new helpdesk is currently set for Monday May 1st. Jonathan Woodward and William Martin have much planning to accomplish prior to the go live date including knowledge transfer, training on the new software to be used for ticketing (Cherwell), and marketing literature as well as training materials to send out to DRS staff.
- Jonathan Woodward and Stuart Johnson are finalizing language for the new agreement that will be stood up between Alliance and the Office of Management and Enterprise Services and hope this will be accomplished by the end of March. This contract agreement services the upgrade maintenance and support for the DRS client management system.
- Jonathan Woodward, Stuart Johnson and Rod VanStavern are in the process of finalizing an additional statement of work to add functionality to the client portal that will enhance the DRS consumer's experience. All three have worked diligently to get the price point negotiated down by over 50% of Alliance's original estimate.
- At the State Office location, we are in the process of utilizing space to make the most efficient use of State Office space as well as for cost effectiveness.
- We have additional resources committed by OMES at no additional cost to DRS.
- Contracts are working towards the new contracts this year utilizing an electronic signature process.

Human Resources:

- EmpowerHR, which is the new Oracle Cloud solution for the Human Capital Management System, is continuing to move forward. Tom Patt, Nancy Hurst, and Craig Glasscock are serving as DRS representatives to the Stakeholder Committee, which meets weekly to assess stakeholder concerns with the system and to work toward providing information and solutions. Calvin Small from the HR Unit will also become a member of the committee at the next meeting.
- The testing phase of the system will begin on March 13th, with a group called Conference Room Pilot 1, or CRP1. DRS has been requested to provide two “super users” for the group. These users, along with those from other select agencies, will test key functionalities, which will enable them to help guide the development of the system as well as bring up-to-date knowledge and information back to the agency. Stephanie Roe, of the HR Unit, will be the HR tester; and Susan Miller, of the Payroll, Leave and Retirement Unit, will be the payroll tester. They will be involved in the testing on nearly a full-time basis March 13 – 16, and on March 20 and 22-23.
- We are continuing to press for information on the cost of the new program to the agencies. We have been advised that, although OMES is close to an estimate on the cost, they are not yet in a position to release that information. As soon as they do release cost information, we will immediately apprise agency management and the Commission.
- E-92 Electronic HR Transaction Requisition Form:
The E-92 form has been reviewed for accessibility by Dana Primm of the IS staff and Fatos Floyd, VS Field Service Coordinator, and has been deemed to be accessible. Calvin Small of the HR Unit is in the process of setting up a meeting with the Department of Mental Health IS staff to review the nature and extent of changes to the form and to develop a plan for training on the form. Following the meeting with DMH, Calvin will set up training for the users in the pilot project.

Contracts:

- Contracts & Purchasing are pushing out new contracts and renewals for FY-2018.
- We are in the process of revising our Internal Acquisition Procedures.
- We are using the electronic process for signing and storing all Contract & Purchasing files.

Oklahoma School for the Blind (OSB)

- Braille Challenge was held on Thursday, March 2, 2017
- We are finishing up our new concession stand and will be utilizing work study students to work in it. Also, we received many nice pieces of equipment from BEP that we are able to utilize.
- Our jazz band will be performing Monday, March 6, at the NSU Green Country Jazz Festival.
- Ray Kirk Memorial Sensory Garden Dedication is schedule for Friday, April 21 at 1:00 p.m.
- March 13-17, Spring Break

Oklahoma School for the Deaf (OSD)

- February 9 -12, OSD girls were runner-ups in the Great Plains Tournament in Arkansas.
- OSD boys won the 3-point championship.
- February 21, PK – 3rd grade enjoyed a field trip to the Jasmine Moran Museum in Seminole.
- February 21, Chris Reagle was selected as a South Central Conference “All Star” coach.
- “All Star” students were Savannah Schlegel, Dawn Sledd, Michael Gordon, and Eleazar Ledezma.
- February 22, The OSD Academic team left for Indiana to participate in the Gallaudet Tournament.
- February 23, OSD students, 1st – 6th grades, took a field trip to Duncan to Hands-on-Health.
- February 24, OSD ambassadors gave a tour to Texas Woman’s University.
- February 28, The University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma (USAO) students majoring in Education of the Deaf toured the OSD campus and observed classes.
- March 9, OSD students and staff celebrated ASL Day. Supt. Hawkins gave a brief history of ASL and students and staff performed stories and songs in ASL.
- March 13-17, Spring Break

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)

- VR PMs meeting with the DA and the CFO. Budget issues and WIOA concerns were discussed.
- Division Administrator conducted a teleconference training for all VR/VS counselors, VR/VS PM's, and FC's regarding WIOA and the use of subminimum wage. A makeup session will be completed for those that couldn't participate.
- Division Administrator met with Alisa Estes and the Southern OK unit in Ardmore to discuss various topics at their unit meeting.
- Division Administrator and Rosemarie Chitwood completed three WIOA subminimum wage presentations.
- Division Administrator attended a meeting at the Southwest OK Juvenile Center, along with Kim Osmani, Jamie Hooper, and Jackie Carter-Hill to discuss the partnership.

Visual Services (VS)

- VS #91 staff in Tulsa participated in a public service event at Promenade Mall on Feb 10th, in which they held Braille demonstrations and helped people to Braille Valentine cards to give out. This helped to raise public awareness of blindness, Braille and what Visual Services does.
- OKC ABLE was held during the week of February 13-17, 2017. Not only did they have several consumers attend, but also a VS staff member who is dealing with vision loss. They started out with 11 attendees ended up with 8 due to sickness and other cancellations.
- VS consumers and staff continue to be watchful of the various House Bills that stand to affect the blind community. These include HB1861 and SB733 which deal with older blind funding, and HB2230 which would eliminate priority for blind vendors in jail commissaries.
- VS in Tulsa are holding a Career club every two week on Thursdays. This is run by Chris Brannaman, who is a job placement specialist at VS #64 in Tulsa.

Agency or Cross-Agency or Community Partnerships

1. Workforce Development Project for Individuals with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities
2. Monthly Workforce System Partners Meeting
3. Rep. Osborne and NewView Oklahoma
4. ORC Quarterly Meeting
5. NewView
6. Rep. Fetgatter
7. Rep. Hilbert
8. Rep. Humphrey
9. Health 360 Statewide Inventory
10. Governor's Executive Council Meeting
11. OJA/DRS/OCCY Administrators' Meeting
12. Appropriations and Budget Committee Meeting
13. IDEA Part B State Advisory Panel
14. United We Ride Subcommittee