

October 8, 2018 OKDRS Regular Commission Meeting
Submitted by Melinda Freundt, on behalf of Director Noel Tyler

Order of Selection Update

Priority Group 1	38
Priority Group 2	2,773
Priority Group 3	361
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Grand Total	3,172

Process Improvement (PI)

Federal Reporting

The WIOA Annual Report for PY2017 was submitted on September 28, 2018.

AWARE

The AWARE team has been working to roll out a new case type (Independent Living) and a new feature for reporting non-authorized services (Actual Services). A webinar later this fall for transition staff will cover pre-employment transition services data entry through Actual Services for WIOA reporting. In addition, the team is in the fact gathering phase for a project to capture Pre-ETS services under a Pilot Project between DRS and the University of Oklahoma for serving potentially eligible transition students, using an approach currently used in Missouri, another AWARE state. The team will identify the costs to be incurred and is now writing up specifications to get a statement of Work by Alliance and possibly another IT partner to develop a web-portal to interface with AWARE.

Program Standards, Statistical Research

The research staff are working on the legislative map update for SFY 2018 and data analysis for the Statewide Assessment.

Policy

Administrative rules were posted to iDRS on September 13, 2018 to become effective on September 14, 2018 per the effective date issued by Governor's Declaration. The revised rules were posted in the newly created DRS Administrative Rules Manual to comply with accessibility. An additional manual was created, DRS Internal Policies. The previous policy manual contains both the 612 administrative rules and the internal DRS policies. The creation of separate manuals helps distinguish internal vs external rules/policies.

Summit 2018

The Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services, Process Improvement Unit team (PI) welcomed 135 attendees who came from across the United States and Puerto Rico to attend the 11th Annual National Summit held at Skirvin Hilton, September 4-6 in Oklahoma City. OKDRS hosted the event in collaboration with The Summit Group, Program Evaluation and Quality Assurance Technical Assistance Center (PEQA), Rehabilitation Program Evaluation Network (RPEN) and Workforce Innovation Technical Assistance Center (WINTAC).

Performance Management Excellence was the theme for three days of challenging and engaging sessions. Lyuda Polyun provided presentations on using Lean and Six Sigma in Government while Rod Van Stavern did a presentation and Poster Session on Data Visualization, both were very well received. Other PI team members orchestrated both Native American and Western music for opening ceremonies, assisted with registration and coordinated individual room monitors for each session.

Sponsors expressed that Oklahoma presented a successful, well organized event with excellent customer service provided by all. Although the PI Unit was charged with the responsibility of coordination of the Summit along with Renee Sansom, the conference was a success based upon a team effort from OKDRS staff who provided Keynote Panel, AV technical support, decorations, publicity coverage, interpreters, and signage including Braille menu's for the Skirvin to keep which was most appreciated.

A special Thank You and recognition goes out to our OKDRS Team of volunteers:

Renee Sansom, Becky Wiersig, Lyuda Polyun, Rod VanStavern, Tina Calloway, Tiffany Davis, Brenda Brasher, Victoria Drake, Jon Ringlero, Kay McDowell, Candy Murrell, Kathy Lowry, Sarah Tebow, Alisa Estes, Joe Carr, Tonya Garman, Stacey Birchfield, Chris Kennedy, Teresa McDermott, Susan Smith, Randy Weaver, Charlie Watt, Kim Lohr, Tracy Brigham, Mark Kinnison, and ORC Program Manager, Carolina Colclasure.

Program and Management Services

Disability Determination Services (DDS)

The DDS is beginning the first month of FY 19 and is working with the Social Security Administration on its Annual Plan. Estimates include determinations for nearly 84,000 individuals including not only Oklahomans but also additional States where disabled individuals are awaiting decisions.

Budget estimate for FY 19 is \$46.9 million.

DDS recently finalized a Data sharing agreement with the Department of Education that will enable us to obtain school records much quicker, reducing the wait time for disability determinations for school age children.

Confirmation hearing is scheduled for the first week of October to consider President Trump's nomination for Commissioner of Social Security. Social Security has not had a confirmed Commissioner in six years, so a confirmed Commissioner will be beneficial for consistency and vision.

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)

Held a meeting with VR PM's and FC's to discuss future priority group releases. Collaborated with VR/VS staff to submit policy draft provisions.

Renee Samson, Tracy Brigham, and I had a meeting with White Fields youth program Executive Director and Superintendent to discuss Transition Services.

Participated in the ORC strategic planning conference.

Attended Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE) conference.

Teri Egner received the Life Time Achievement Award.

Will be attending the Zarrow Symposium Conference and work the VR/VS booth.

Will be presenting at the Individual Placement and Support conference (IPS).

Will be presenting with Terri Williams and provide closing statements.

The OTI conference is coming up later in October.