



## Disabilities Service Committee

*Center for Workforce & Economic Development*  
3322 College Drive, Vineland  
January 28, 2025 – 11:00 a.m.

### MINUTES

**Approved during the April 22, 2025 meeting**

A meeting of the Disabilities Service Committee was held on Tuesday, January 28, 2025 at the Center for Workforce & Economic Development.

**Attendance:** Brittney Guthri, Chuck Nagel, Irene Perez, Jenna Hogate, Joe Sittineri, Jody Classen, Kelly Dean, Kimberly Quigley, Lani Allen-Davis, Nicole Sikking, Rachael Wilson, Rebecca Iacovone, Sarah Schimeneck

**Staff:** Amanda Barnes, April Gomez, Cindy Angelo

#### I. Welcome and Opening Remarks

April Gomez welcomed all members and thanked them for coming. The meeting began at 11:01 am, starting with the reading of the Open Public Meeting Act.

#### II. Approval of Minutes

April requested a motion to approve the minutes of the October 22, 2024 meeting.

2024 October 22 Minutes

**1<sup>st</sup> Lani Allen-Davis**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Jenna Hogate**

Abstention: Jody Classen

**Vote passes**

#### III. NJDOLWD Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services

##### ○ Cumberland/Salem

Jody Classen- Actively working with the youth in every school in Salem and Cumberland County. The Internship Program is year round; 4 vendors applied in Cumberland. Students interested in the program must first go through DVR. DVR fills out the application and sends it to the vendor. Can start as young as 14 years old.

##### ○ Cape May

Rachael Wilson – are finally fully staffed now with 3 counselors and 3 clerks. Also running an Internship Program. Case loads are increasing.

#### IV. Cumberland/Salem/Cape May Offices on Aging & Disabled

##### ○ Cumberland

Not present

##### ○ Salem

Jenna Hogate – Their office is ramping up their disability services in Salem. Trying to put out more for advocacy services support. In the process of planning their Disabilities Awareness Day coming in October. Also looking to do smaller quarterly events

throughout the year.

- Cape May  
Not Present

**V. Adult Services – St. John of God Community Services**

Kimberly Quigley – Based in Gloucester but also serves clients in Cumberland. Looking to expand into community based evaluations and looking for businesses and community partners. Seeking partners in retail, food service, thrift shops, small businesses are preferred but can work with large businesses. Also offers Support Coordination in many counties.

Kim shared with the group that she teaches the DSP Course at RCSJ; Course is online in Cumberland County and in person in Gloucester County. There is a demand for DSPs in Salem and Cumberland Counties.

**VI. Other Reports**

- Irene Perez – Shared that if you have a DVR client and you'd like them to also get OJT, they will need to apply for Employment State.

There is a Paid Internship offered where DVR pays 100% of the wages (excluding taxes); for students and for adults who have been out of work.

Irene shared her concerns with the changes with DEI laws affecting the hiring of individuals with disabilities. If she gets any clarification or details on the matter, she will provide an update at our next meeting.

Apprenticeships are now available January through March. At the New Jersey Office of Apprenticeships there is a list; applications are being accepted.

**VII. Old/New Business**

**VIII. Adjournment**

April requested a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Jenna Hogate and seconded by Kimberly Quigley. The meeting ended at 11:20 a.m.