

Minutes
Developmental Disabilities Resource Board of Directors
Services and Finance Committee Meeting
May 20, 2019

The **Services** and **Finance Committees** met on May 20, 2019 at 5:30 pm at the DDRB office. Present at the meeting were Tom Bradley, Stephen Elliott by telephone, Pat Schoenrade, Alan Naylor and Robert Sevier. Present was DDRB Administrative Director Sonja Bennett. Guests present included Julie Edlund, Mark Bertrand and Jim Huffman with Life Unlimited. The meeting was called to order by Finance Committee chairman, Tom Bradley.

The meeting was called by Tom Bradley, Finance Committee Chair and Pat Schoenrade, Services Committee Chair to review proposed changes to the Life Unlimited Employment Program. Copies of the announcement by Life Unlimited to partner with Job One to expand the community employment program in Clay and Platte counties. Tom asked Pat to take the lead in asking questions relative to services and support of the individuals in the program.

Pat asked Julie to tell how Job One was chosen as the partner for this program and what does a partnership look like. Julie said that when Life Unlimited initiated the program in 2016, Vocational Rehab suggested they needed a mentor to help them with the start up. The program had to be running successfully for 6 months and receive approval from the Department of Mental Health before Vocational Rehab (VR) could approve and provide assistance and funding. VR suggested that Job One would be a good mentor as they had been operating successfully in Jackson County providing support for over 150 individuals for several years. She said the director and employment specialist with Life Unlimited both resigned and it made sense to them from a financial and services point of view to partner with VR as well as the history of the two organizations. Julie said that Life Unlimited will hire an Employment Specialist and that person will have a mentor at Job One. Pat asked what roles Job One staff would be playing in relation to consumers. Julie replied that, as soon as employment specialists are hired, Job One staff would be working to support the specialists and seeing to contractual and some administrative issues, but Life Unlimited staff would be handling the interactions with consumers.

Tom asked how the financial structure would work. Julie stated that they had a management agreement with Job One. They would perform the oversight and leadership of the program that was previously performed by the Employment Program Director. They will help identify employers, help develop individual plans and outcomes i.e. discover, interview skills, etc. Tom ensured that there would be an audit trail to track the progress over the next year. He also mentioned that he was concerned that Job One may become an added overhead.

Julie explained that the programs does receive funding from Vocational Rehab but most of funds are tied to outcomes and time frames. Individuals can also receive funding from DMH through the Medicaid Waivers.

Tom dismissed the representatives from Life Unlimited thanking them for coming and for the open discussion. He asked the committee members to remain to finalize their recommendations. The Finance and Service Committee members present agreed to continue with funding the program with the

changes as outlined by Julie. Additionally, they will review the program's progress with the FY2020 funding process and make any future funding decisions beyond 2019 at that time.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted: Sonja Bennett

May 21, 2019