

Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council (ORC) Report

Since the last report, ORC had its Quarterly Meeting via Zoom on February 18th.

Executive Committee

The Committee met on Thursday, March 18, 2021, via Zoom.

The Council has one vacancy at the moment; it's for the Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC). The ORC Program Manager (PM) has reached out to both the SILC Executive Director and Chair; we are waiting for their response.

Planning and Program (P&P) Committee

The Committee met on Thursday, March 25, 2021, via Zoom.

The Committee is partnering with the DRS Process Improvement (PI) Unit on the Open Case Survey Pilot. The survey will now include an Assistive Technology (AT) survey and a Spanish version of all the surveys for the DRS Hispanic Unit.

The Committee reviewed the DRS COVID-19 Client Survey with the PI Unit; it will be shared with the whole Council during the May Quarterly Meeting.

Lastly, the Committee will partner with the PI Unit and host a 2017-2019 Needs Assessment Focus Group on May 17 for a brainstorming session on how to meet the report's pending needs.

Policy and Legislative (P&L) Committee Report

The Committee met on Thursday, March 18, 2021, via Zoom.

The Council supported People with Disabilities Awareness Day (PWDAD) by sharing the 2020 ORC Legislative Primer and the ORC DRS Resource and Services Flyers with all State Legislators, and created a [Facebook page](#) to share resources.

Also, the Committee is planning to record an Advocacy Training that will give DRS clients the knowledge and tools to reach out to Legislators before PWDAD 2022. The training will be posted on ORC's website and shared with DRS and other partner agencies.

Transition Committee Report

The Committee met on Thursday, March 25, 2021, via Zoom.

The Committee has continued to share resources with the Council, especially Student and Family involvement resources like the DRS Share Fairs in December and February.

Lori Chesnut shared with the Committee and DRS the FY21 Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) Child Count report. DRS will use this report's information in their Needs Assessment plan.

The Committee is partnering with DRS and OSDE to update the Transition Folder; the final version will be available before the next school year starts.

Employment Committee Report

The Committee met on Thursday, March 18, 2020, via Zoom.

The ORC PM participated on behalf of the Committee in the DRS Job Readiness week that took place on February 22-25. The Committee will also assist with the upcoming Job Readiness week in April.

The Committee continues to share resources via email and Facebook with all ORC Members and its partners.

ORC Program Manager Report

Since the last Quarterly Meeting, the ORC PM participated in the Oklahoma Transition Council's (OTC) Strategic Planning Meetings, which took place on January 22 and 29.

The PM attended the Oklahoma City Business Advisory Council (BAC) meeting on January 26.

On February 8, the PM attended the DRS Policy Public Comment Hearing and read the ORC support letter on behalf of the Council.

The ORC PM has participated in the National Coalition of State Rehabilitation Councils (NCSRC) National Meeting on February 10. The NCSRC decided to host a bi-monthly Zoom Meeting instead of Spring Conference as was done in the past during the pandemic. They hope to return to an in-person conference this fall.

The PM participated in DRS Job Readiness week on February 22-25 and assisted with the mock interviews.

PM attended the OTC Zoom meetings on February 11 and March 11.

The PM participated on behalf of the Council in the Transition Oklahoma State Advisory Committee hosted by the Oklahoma Parent Center on March 24.

The PM attended the ASPIRE Grant kick-off meeting on March 23 on behalf of the Employment Committee. This grant is part of the Individual Placement and Supports (IPS) model that the Committee supports.

Regular Meetings

Department of Rehabilitation Services Commission Meeting on February 8 and March 8.

ABLE Tech Advisory Council Meeting on January 27.

The next ORC Quarterly meeting will take place on May 20, at 9:30 am, via Zoom.

*Respectfully submitted by
Carolina Colclasure, ORC Program Manager*