



**Upstate Workforce Board  
Disabilities Committee Meeting**

**October 26, 2017**

**8:30 a.m.**

**The Bryant Center**

**Facilitated by Ms. Jennie Thomas, Committee Chair**

**8:30 AM**

Welcome & Introductions

**8:40 AM**

Facility Reviews

**9:00 AM**

Event Brainstorming/Ad Hoc Committee Assignments

**9:25 AM**

Other Business and Adjourn

**Next Meeting Date:**

**December 14, 2017**



## **UPSTATE WORKFORCE BOARD DISABILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING**

**October 26, 2017**

**8:30 A.M.**

**Vocational Rehabilitation Center - Bryant Center**

### **Present:**

- Ms. Jennie Thomas, Committee Chair
- Ms. Lisa Thomas, Committee Member
- Ms. Jennifer Pitts, Committee Member
- Ms. Dana Wood, UWB
- Ms. Vicki Lawson, UWB

The meeting was called to order at 8:40 a.m. by Ms. Jennie Thomas, Committee Chair. Ms. Thomas welcomed committee members.

Ms. Dana Wood discussed the upcoming ADA compliance evaluation of all the Upstate facilities per SCDEW request (by instruction letter). Ms. Wood proposed to the Upstate Workforce Board's Executive Committee the possibility of hiring of an outside organization to perform the reviews. The reviews are due to SCDEW no later than March 31, 2018. Any findings will be shared with the committee and corrected by the UWB.

The committee discussed next year's event, with Invisible Disabilities being the targeted theme. Dates discussed were May 10, 11, 17, 18. It was agreed that Spartanburg Community College would be a perfect repeat venue, with lunch being delivered by 11:30am and the panels beginning promptly at 12:00pm. Ms. Dana Wood will request use of the facility and also inquire about securing Mr. Chuck Ewart as a facilitator again. Committee members agreed to host a panel of experts in the following focus area: PTSD (Veterans), Intellectual Disabilities, Asperger's/Autism and Depression/Anxiety. Panelists will be asked to speak on the topic for 15 minutes and maybe provide a case study of a successful employee. The Vocational Rehabilitation Occupational Therapist will have approximately 20 minutes to finish out the panel with information and questions. The committee agreed that it would be beneficial to have service providers present at booths prior to and following the luncheon/panel. Service Provider booths mentioned were: Vocational Rehab, ABLE, Charles Lea and Veteran Employment.

Committee assignments are as follows: Ms. Jennie Thomas agreed to identify speakers for the following topics areas: PTSD and Depression/Anxiety. She also agreed to speak to the occupational

therapy team about their involvement. Ms. Thomas also mentioned that Project Hope would be a great resource for the topic of Autism. She agreed to speak to Mr. David Turnipseed with Greenville VR about that program. Ms. Lisa Thomas also agreed to ask Dr. Joe Ryan with Clemson LIFE to participate and represent intellectual disabilities. All committee members are challenged to bring ideas for a name for the event to the next meeting.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m. The next meeting will be December 14, 2017, at the Bryant Center.