



UPSTATE WORKFORCE BOARD DISABILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

November 1, 2018

8:30 A.M.

Vocational Rehabilitation Center – Bryant Center

Present:

- Ms. Jennie Thomas, Committee Chair
- Ms. Lisa Thomas, Committee Member
- Mr. Chris Sparrow, Committee Member
- Mr. Wayne Gregory, Committee Member
- Ms. Vicki Lawson, UWB

Welcome and Introductions

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

Survey Results

Ms. Thomas shared the survey results where committee members rated potential focus areas of the committee for PY18. Creating an Upstate Disabilities Resources website was discussed. Ms. Thomas explained that in the past, the committee held events on disability awareness. Though successful with consumers, providers and some business partners, the committee would like to see more employers and business partners attend. The survey mentioned supporting ABLE SC with their grant initiative. Mr. Sparrow explained the grant includes: breakfast and learn sessions for employer training, plant manager forums, human resource specialist lunch and learns and training workshops for SC Works staff on working with people with disabilities.

PY18 Planning

Tabled for a later meeting until more committee members can be a part of decision-making.

Other Business and Adjourn:

Ms. Lisa Thomas asked Mr. Sparrow about the focus of the ABLE SC grant. Mr. Sparrow shared the grant is intended to increase the capacity for people receiving services from SC Works, train staff quarterly on working with clients with disabilities and educate employers about reasonable accommodations. To date, they have completed 2 staff trainings for SC Works Greater Upstate. They are currently in planning with Ms. Johnnie-Lynn Crosby for an employer training. Assistance that would be appreciated includes promoting the event and possibly providing food.

Discussion was had regarding the need for federal incentives for businesses who participate in training for reasonable accommodations. The possibility of having employee/employer panels of successful businesses currently employing the disabled population to share their stories with employers who are interested but not comfortable with the process was also discussed. With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:25a.m.

The next meeting will be December 13, 2018, at the Bryant Center.



Advancing the Future of Business and Community

**Upstate Workforce Board
Disabilities Committee Meeting**

November 1, 2018

8:30 a.m.

The Bryant Center

Facilitated by Ms. Jennie Thomas, Committee Chair

8:30 AM

Welcome & Introductions

8:40 AM

Survey Results

8:50 AM

PY18 Planning (to include budget)

9:15 AM

ADA Report- YouthStop

9:25 AM

Other Business

9:30 AM

Adjourn

Next Meeting Date:

December 13, 2018

Disabilities Committee
Thursday, November 1, 2018
The Bryant Center
8:30 AM

Name

Organization

Janie Thomas

SCURD

Chris Sparran

Able SC

Wayne Gregous

Board Member

Lisa Thomas

Clemson LIFE

Vicki Lauson

UWB

Constant Contact Survey Results

Survey Name: Disabilities Committee
 Response Status: Partial & Completed
 Filter: None
 Oct 31, 2018 3:39:52 PM

1. Please rank the following items in order of priority, with 1= most important.

	1	2	3	4	5
Plan and hold an event similar to previous years	0%	67%	0%	0%	33%
Hold Community Forums to increase disability employment awareness	0	0	2	1	0
Promote the Innovation Grant Strategies discussed during the first meeting (employer Create/Participate in a Disabilities Employment Awareness marketing campaign)	67%	0%	0%	33%	0%
create a web page with local disability employment resources	33%	33%	0%	0%	33%
2 Comment(s)	0%	0%	33%	33%	33%

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.

2. Please list other ideas the committee should consider as a project for PY18.

1. Please rank the following items in order of priority, with 1= most important. - Comments

Answer
1 and 2 are interchangeable in my eyes. 3 is an idea I have advocated for, but there are logistical issues with it. 4 is there because of logistical issues and low success rate. 5 is there because this is being done through Hire Me SC already.
Love all of these ideas though it makes sense to partner with ABLE SC's Innovation Grant Strategy.

2. Please list other ideas the committee should consider as a project for PY18. - Responses

Answer
1. Establish a single entry point model among service providers (VR, SC Works, Charles Lea Center, SCSDB) for employers to locate employees with disabilities.
Follow up with those who attend any of our programs, events or discussions so that we may be able to increase awareness and measure the outcomes.
Because lack of transportation is such a hindrance to our workforce, we need to develop a class or program to help individuals with intellectual disabilities study for the written permit test. The inability to pass the written test is what causes so many people to be unsuccessful in getting their drivers licenses.