State Rehabilitation Council Agenda  
February 1st- 2nd, 2022  
In Person-Choteau, MT

**VRBS Vision Statement:** Montana values people with disabilities in our workforce and our communities.

**VRBS Mission Statement:** Montana Vocational Rehabilitation and Blind Services promotes opportunities for Montanans with disabilities to have rewarding careers and achieve maximum personal potential.

**SRC Mission Statement:** The State Rehabilitation Council advises the Vocational Rehabilitation and Blind Service program to improve policies, programs, and delivery of services through a collaborative effort with other agencies.

**February 1, 2021** 

10:00 – 10:30  Ground rules/Interpreter/CART, **Shawn Tulloch**  
Welcome, roll call **Emma Rooney**  
Mission Statements  
Introductions and welcome new members  
Approval of Meeting Minutes  
Announcements  
Public Comments

10:30-11:00  Committee Breakouts-(Ensure members are evenly distributed amongst committees)

11:00-11:30  Reports from Committees

- Planning & Review Committee  
- Education and Membership-Bylaw changes/edits  
- Consumer Satisfaction & Needs Assessment  
- Policy, Procedure, & Personnel Development  
- Employer of the Year Award

11:30-12:00  **NCSRC**- Discuss training modules and appoint a committee member to attend quarterly meetings (Zoom), review email communications as needed, report quarterly to our SRC  
[National Coalition of State Rehabilitation Councils - Home Page (ncsrc.net)]

12:00-12:30  **LUNCH**

12:30-1:00  Federal & State reports, **Chanda Hermanson**

1:30-1:45  Budget report, **Anna Gibbs**
1:45-2:00  VRBS report, **Brook Hodge**
2:00-2:10  BLVS report, **Darrell Hannum**
2:10-2:20  PreETS report, **Tammy Hogan**
2:20-2:30  Extended Employment, **Lacey Conzelman**
2:30-2:40  **BREAK**
2:40-4:00  SRC Manual and Bylaws edits

**February 2, 2022**

8:30-8:45  Member Moment: **Tom Manthey**
8:45-10:00 Manual and Bylaws review, finalize and vote
10:00-11:15 SRC Members Open Forum/Roundtable Discussion
11:15-11:30 Wrap up

**Next Meeting April 20-21, 2022 in Great Falls with SILC**

**Agenda items:** Member Moment,

**Member Moment:** Is an opportunity for SRC members to learn about a member and their organization, business, involvement in the community, VR experience, SILC involvement, disability involvement in life/work etc. Could include: Why are you on the SRC? What are your strengths that you can offer to the group?
National Coalition of Statewide Rehabilitation Council:

Copied from NCSRC website under For Members and drop down to SRC member training

This document is intended to facilitate strong partnerships between State Rehabilitation Councils (SRCs) and state vocational rehabilitation (VR) agencies consistent with the principles articulated in Section 100(a) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (the Act). This publication provides guidance and support to states as they partner in a mutually beneficial manner on behalf of people with disabilities. The partnership described in the Act is unique and calls upon SRCs and VR to jointly conduct business with the primary focus of successful employment outcomes for people with disabilities. The wonderful challenge is to blend the sharing of responsibility with the talent of the partners who come to the table.

Fortunately for individuals with disabilities in the United States, crafters of the Act as amended in 1992 identified a significant need for SRCs and VR to contribute equally in the accomplishment of certain tasks. The intent of the partnership—to share responsibility for the development of specific products and outcomes while advocating on behalf of individuals with disabilities—is critical to ensure full inclusion in employment and integration into society for people with disabilities.

The SRC-VR partnership includes several key required activities and demands a spirit of respect and collaboration. Such central activities include but are not limited to the following:

- Developing, agreeing to, and reviewing an annual VR state plan, including updates and attachments
- Evaluating the effectiveness of the VR program and services for people with all disabilities, including those with cultural and linguistic differences
- Reviewing and analyzing consumer satisfaction with VR services and service providers
- Writing an SRC annual report
- Examining agency policy, procedures, and performance
- Selecting impartial hearing officers and mediators
- Partnering in comprehensive statewide needs assessment development
- Developing resource plans
- RSA’s monitoring protocol includes soliciting input from the SRC as the VR agency’s
- Partner in the VR program and includes having SRC representation at the entrance and exit conferences as well as at other sessions as appropriate.
All of these activities have a major impact on the ability of VR to accomplish its primary objectives as outlined in the law.

**Definition of Partnership**

To proceed with building solid partnerships between the SRCs and VR, consideration of the definition of partnership is in order. Depending on the definition used by business, the arts, or human services, “partnership” refers to a business or organization where two or more individuals share equal responsibility for the management of profits and losses. Words like “cooperation” and “collaboration” are often used when defining partnership. Synonyms include “relationship,” “connection,” “association,” and “link.” The WordNet project housed in the Department of Computer Science at Princeton University defines partnership as a “cooperative relationship between people or groups who agree to share responsibility for achieving some specific goal or as a contract between two or more persons who agree to pool talent and money and share profits and losses.” “Cooperative,” “relationship,” “agree,” “share,” “responsibility,” “achieving,” “specific goals,” “contract,” “talent,” “management,” and “sharing of profits and losses” are all key words or phrases defining one thing—partnership.

The SRC-VR partnership is only as strong as the relationship that exists between the SRC chair and VR director, who set the tone for the full membership and staff.

**WHAT IS THE NCSRC?**

**OUR MISSION:**
On behalf of people with disabilities, our national membership coalition will advocate for and work in partnership with the national public vocational rehabilitation system’s continual quest for excellence.

**OUR VISION:**
NCSRC will be the premiere national organization of the consumer voice to enhance the employment opportunities of persons with disabilities through the public vocational rehabilitation system.
OUR CORE VALUES:

INTEGRITY - We are honest and straightforward in all that we do. We treat everyone with dignity and respect. We act responsibly with resources entrusted to us. We are accountable and act in accordance with these values.

COMMITMENT – We support the full implementation and enforcement of disability non-discrimination laws, particularly the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended and the American with Disabilities Act of 1990.

EXCELLENCE – We trust that customers of public vocational rehabilitation will be empowered to make choices which lead to ultimate independence.

ADVOCACY – We will work to educate and inform the public and government policy makers regarding issues affecting people with disabilities.

DIVERSITY – We will uphold a broad definition of diversity that honors and appreciates disability alongside race, ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, and religion as an integral part of the human experience.

LEADERSHIP – We will foster leadership among people with disabilities that upholds excellence, quality and inclusive opportunities.

PARTNERSHIP – We will promote a positive collaboration with state and non-governmental agencies to enhance meaningful and sustainable employment for people with disabilities.

TEAMWORK – We are committed to a partnership based on a spirit of trust and cooperation with Vocational Rehabilitation Administrators and staff so that collaborative efforts will benefit from the NCSRC customer voice.

CULTURE – We support a public vocational rehabilitation service system that is structured in a manner that reflects the social, political, historic, and economic experience of disability.

COMMUNICATION – We value effective communication through appropriate formats.