DSHS
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Quarterly Statewide Transition Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 17, 2025, Virtual Meeting
3-5 p.m.

Members Present:	Aimee Dunlap	Mallory Fleshman
	Jodi Truman	Susan Armstrong
	Michelle O'Neill	Ky Ly
	Chris Notaras	Stacy Lovell
	Karli Schwimmer	
Members Absent:	Cindy Hernandez Juarez	Rose Almanza
	JayDee Hoskins	Jill McCormick
	Lizzy Johnston	Jenna Ziegler

Advisory Associates:
Mary Crago– Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)
Ben Martin– Developmental Disabilities Community Services (DDCS)
Matthew Hines– Department of Services for the Blind (DSB)
Alexandra Toney– Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)

Council Partners:
Meg Iyer– Center for Change in Transition Services (CCTS)
Jay Shepherd– Center for Change in Transition Services (CCTS)
Aaron Dickson– Community Employment Alliance (CEA)
Cathy Murahashi– The Arc of Washington State
Daniel Bravo– Association of County Human Services (ACHS)
Richard Wilson– Association of County Human Services (ACHS)
Jaimie Laitinen– Wise
Shelby Satko– Washington State Rehabilitation Council (WSRC)
Elizabeth Gordon– Governors Committee on Disability Issues and Employment (GCDE)
Courtney Williams– Washington State Independent Living Council (WASILC)
Brandi Monts– Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC)

DVR Staff:	Pablo Villarreal	Larissa Wulfekuhle
Nonmember Visitors:	Shevonda Joyner	Heidi Scheibner
	Gabriel Delgado	Jen Chong Jewell
	Rose Spidell	Isabel Crisostomo

Ashley Curtin
Catalina Guzman
Rich Robinson
Janet Vaupel
Heidi Scheibner
Kimberly Adams
Yasenia Escalante
Zandra Leitch
Laura Batcheller

1. **Introduction**

   Kickoff meeting from Pablo Villarreal.

2. **Council Business**

   Transcribing for meeting minute purposes.

   September 17, 2025, meeting minutes considered final and to be posted on our website.

   Adding additional Council Partners and Advisory Associates update to start inviting them come January.

   Dropping the term "Sub" from Subcommittee for our Committee's.

   Update from DVR to ask Lead Committee members to write a summary on their committee work to be sent by DVR prior to quarterly meetings.

   Updates coming January 1, 2026, for our 2026 quarterly meetings. including exploring a formal process for public comment, exploring public participation in our committee meetings, and finalizing committee goals.

3. **Committee Updates**

   A. **Combined Committee update provided by Pablo Villarreal:**
      - New committee name to be established via a survey.
      - Changing the meeting duration to 1 hour.
      - Goal is to develop strategies to connect with communities, students that have been historically underrepresented with little transitional services.
      - Drafted a survey to Interagency Transition Networks (ITNs) and Regional Transition Networks on how they are reaching students and families.

   B. **Regional Networks update provided by Aimee Dunlap:**
      - Continuing to finalize a spreadsheet about different ITNs and add new information in order to align with those requirements of 5790.
      - Adjusted their meeting to 1 hour and a later time.
      - There is talk about hosting a statewide virtual meet and greet of the different ITNs.

- Possibility of having others join their meetings in the future.

C. Referral System update provided by Jodi Truman:

- Continuing to firm up their goals by reaching out to transition partners and advisory associates inviting them to meetings to learn more.
- They have connected with Alexandra Toney, Special Education Program Supervisor.
- They have recognized that all counties are different in size, culture, access and resources and has been a huge focus of conversations.
- At their next meeting, they will meet with WSRC.

4. Open Discussion for Council Partners, Advisory Associates and the Transition Council

a. Brandi Monts shared that the DDC is celebrating its 50th birthday, hoping 2026 will bring people across the state together in person for collaboration.

b. Brandi also shared the link Inclusionary Practices Technical Assistance Network (IPTN) when talking about collaborating with OSPI ultimately figuring out how to amplify voices of people that are depending on services offered by the state and segregated based off data by connecting with local government levels.

i. Heidi Scheibner commented in chat that most counties lead their local ITNs. We can help to support that work. We would love to be partners in the conversation.

1. Secondary comment from Jen Chong Jewell in chat agreed. Offering if the Transition Council is interested in adding ad hoc team members to the committees it would potentially be easy work to support.

Shelby Satko brought up bringing together the statewide ITNs and not letting that responsibility to gather those identified entirely on the Statewide Transition Council or one Council member.

Aimee Dunlap mentioned vacancies in Regional Network Committee.

5. HearMeWA Presentation from Shevonda Joyner

a. Shared links to their websites and shared email address for contacting directly, multiple people showed interest in being a part of their newsletter.

b. In 2016, the Attorney General's Office received legislated funds to focus on youth advocacy and creating a statewide reporting system for youth safety and needs.

c. HearMeWA launched in April 2024 after building relationships with youth, state agencies, educational service districts, school districts, law enforcement and other stakeholders, striving to be antiracist, trauma-informed, and have a youth centered lens.
d. The program was developed for youth up to age 25 with no minimum age requirement for the program.
e. HearMeWA offers a 24-hour hotline to reach out through phone, text web or their app with trained crisis counselors taking the calls.
    i. Questions for HearMeWA:
    Elizabeth: Does the youth have to reach out themselves or can someone reach out if they have a concern about a youth needing support?
    Shevonda: You can contact the program on behalf of another person. Adults can contact the program as well.

    Pablo: Does the platform offer virtual conversation like telehealth kind of conversation with a counselor?
    Shevonda: Yes, usually live chat and connected with Navigate360 and is accessible to the tip responders as well.

6. Public Comment

Jen Chong Jewel, Alexandra Toney and Brandi Monts all discussed the Transition Collaborative report being written by multiple entities and the efforts being made to be on the same page when they go to legislature.

Pablo mentioned there will be a public comment time for the Transition Collaborative and the final report is due in October.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00pm