



**Objective:** Connect-Ability Employment Committee Meeting

**Meeting Date:** August 26, 2008

**Meeting Place:** Office of Protection and Advocacy

**Attendees:** Mary-Ann Langley, Susan Monteleone, Linda Guillorn, Margarita Torres, Melissa Marshall, Quincy Adams, Noreen Shugrue

**Action Items:**

Item		Responsibility	Due Date	Status
2.	Margarita will call Joe Entwisle re: his recommendation on how we should use the websites he has reviewed (i.e., make them accessible via our website? Review them ourselves? etc.)   G:\BOS\Connect To Work\MIG\2008 Proje	Margarita	9/25	In Progress
3.	Margarita will call George to see if he knows of any internship models used in colleges that are considered "best practice".	Margarita	9/25	In Progress
4.	Provide information on the NTAR conference	Susan	9/25	On-going
5.	Linda Guillorn will call Nikki Richer to request DMHAS participation in the SC meetings and for specific projects in the work groups.	Linda	ASAP	In Progress
6.	Invite CT BLN members to a workgroup meeting to help us understand the various technologies being used to assist job applicants with physical and/or hidden disabilities	Reggie	9/08	Unknown
8.	Present Internship Recommendations	Margarita/Patti	9/25	In Progress
10.	Draft pros/cons of "disability-friendly Employer Cert"	Margarita/Susan	9/25	In Progress

**CT BLN Update**

- Melissa Marshall, the new Executive Director for the CT BLN was introduced and welcomed to our workgroup.

**Previous Month's Action Items Review**

- MA Commission for the Blind: Margarita and Susan LaBreck have traded voice mails, but should connect the week of 9/2 after Susan's vacation. Questions are around the success and best practice of their internship program.
- Employment WG R&Rs: A draft was presented to the WG for comments. A 2<sup>nd</sup> draft will be completed for the week of 9/2, with the final recommendation distributed to WG for feedback prior to the 9/9 meeting.
- NTAR Conference: Susan provided information regarding the success of the conference as well as their next steps. NTAR grant recipients have decided to create small committees focusing around employment issues for people with disabilities. We will keep NTAR on our monthly agenda.

- “Disability Friendly” Employer Indicator: Linda has invited Mike Bartley from DOL to our 9/25 Workgroup meeting to present the process and the implementation results of the *Recovery-Friendly Employer DOL job-opening indicator* – (will assist job seekers in identifying employers that will interview/hire individuals in recovery).
- WG Structure: We reviewed and approved the proposed WG structure. It will be presented for comments at the SC meeting on 9/9.

### **Accessible Applications**

- Joe Entwisle from NCHSD has done a lot of research on accessible applications. We will get input from him prior to deciding next steps. However, Margarita also requested the WG browse through some of the websites (reference attached), and provide comments on their usefulness, ease of use, etc.

### **2009 Continuation Grant**

- The WG reviewed the proposed projects submitted for grant approval. While the proposed projects are on track with the Grant objectives, active workgroup participation will be required for successful completion. The Continuation Grant is the basis for our 2009 work plan and is very ambitious. The WG recommends that the SC members suggest names of individuals that are able to participate and assist us with furthering our goals.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 25 at 1pm.