**Rehabilitation Council of Texas (RCT)**

**August 1-2, 2024**

**101 E 15th Street, Room 244**

**Austin TX 78778**

**In person and via Zoom**

Day 1:   [https://youtu.be/0rjNU2RB3Ck](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fyoutu.be%2F0rjNU2RB3Ck&data=05%7C02%7Clisa.godwin%40twc.texas.gov%7C0068669e4c8c4b87db3008dcbd53f898%7Cfe7d3f4f241b4af184aa32c57fe9db03%7C0%7C0%7C638593415588766721%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=nOVu4oe0DpJRM72DJ8VmuFKaf6s8e%2FA7InwS3%2FsCiQ8%3D&reserved=0)

Day 2:  [https://youtu.be/CIM3HA-leno](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fyoutu.be%2FCIM3HA-leno&data=05%7C02%7Clisa.godwin%40twc.texas.gov%7C0068669e4c8c4b87db3008dcbd53f898%7Cfe7d3f4f241b4af184aa32c57fe9db03%7C0%7C0%7C638593415588777449%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=aZu0wWUJvdfcgZOPrdmx%2BfBZQbfSIKAY7Hwm5x0Quu8%3D&reserved=0)

**Council Members Present**

Gennadiy Goldenshteyn, Chair, Dallas

Peggy Schmidt, Vice Chair, Lucas

Glenda Born, Austin (Virtual)

Lisa Cowart, Sour Lake (Virtual)

Norine Gill, Taylor Lake Village

Michele Harper, San Marcos

Michele Norris, LaPorte (Virtual)

Jordan Smelley, Burleson

Karen Stanfill, Houston (Virtual

**Council Members Absent**

Mark Baird, San Angelo

Jennifer Clouse, Temple

Cheryl A Fuller, Austin

Kiffany Jefferson, Rowlett

Joe Powell, Irving

Emily Robinson, Pflugerville

Daniel Solcher, Allen

Patrick Sturdivant, San Antonio

**TWC Employees Attendance as Panelist:**

Ed Serna, Melinda Paninski, Tammy Martin, Scott McCune, Andrew Ramirez, Anna Lee, Belinda Valero, Cassandra Medrano, Christopher Speckhard, Christy Lerche, Edna Otieno, Heather Cooke, Jamie Haywood, Jonas Schwartz, Karen Hess, Kevin Warren, Sara Weems, Daniel Prado

**TWC Employees Attendance non-Panelist: 38**

**Public Attendance: 82**

**Welcome**

* The meeting was called to order at noon by Gennadiy Goldenshteyn, Chair.
* Welcome and opening comments.

**Edward Serna, TWC Executive Director**

* Addressed the council
* Working on Legislative Appropriations Request
	+ Will be asking for an exceptional item additional general revenue to ensure we can draw down the maximum amount available for VR.
	+ Struggles with hiring qualified individuals. An AI bot was acquired to identify AI. SNAP hiring events where managers are there to interview on the spot and in a short time extend an offer.
	+ Co-location of VR Services with Workforce Solutions. This is changing as Workforce Solutions are looking to getting more in the community and closing the big offices. This is still being worked on. TWC is considering finding offices and then invite Workforce to co-locate with TWC.
* Questions
	+ Q- How many VR offices are currently co-located? How many will need to relocate and how will this affect the TWC budget?
	+ A- Budget will not be affected much because when we co-locate, we pay for modification, and we also pay for rent at those locations as well. Currently 96 offices are fully integrated. I anticipate a minimal impact on the budget.
	+ Q- First question I have is, what metrics are you using to gauge response time to emails from customers?
	+ A- It’s not the measure it the volume as well as where counselors are located. We are looking at tools, maybe AI that can take notes for the case. TWC is also setting up a customer care division. SARA is another system that is being used to free up counselor’s time.
	+ Q- What do we do to get feedback from the users on what could be done better and what can you do to education the users on functionality?
	+ A- By Scott McCune, Need a follow up survey in response to SARA. This is being worked on. Video conferencing through SARA has just been turned on.
	+ Q- Where does a customer go to get guides on how to use SARA?
	+ A- By Scott McCune, Currently putting together videos and des aids, and guidance materials are being worked on. Welcome RCTs input on the drafts during the drafting of these systems.
	+ Q- Back to AI how does that tie into the fast track and what is the hiring time of fast trace vs standard hiring?
	+ A- AI helps evaluate if applications are if it was generated by AI. SNAP hiring events are meeting in person, so the hiring process has gone from 30 day to maybe a week. VR applications may take longer due to verifying credentials.
	+ Q- How are you marketing SNAP?
	+ A- Advertise that there is a hiring event in XX city.
	+ Q- Back to the appropriation presentation. Is the base request the same as the current biennium or can it be increased?
	+ A- You must start off with what you had. We are asking for the max on the exceptional item.
	+ Q- Regarding asking for those funds, the budget itself also include rate increases for providers, salary increases. Does any of those calculations go in or it that all internal.
	+ A- All of those are internal in the request. Explanation of the process was given. The biggest selling point is drawing down federal funds.
	+ Q- When are legislative budgets set.
	+ A- Hearing have not been set. Legislature convenes around January 12 or 15. Hearings start probably in late January early February. Completed by May 31. Staff meetings start in December early January.
	+ Q- Will there be any co-locations in the school districts?
	+ A- I don’t know if they will set up in schools since most of the people, they serve are working age.

**TWC VR Budget, Scott McCune, Deputy VR Division Director for Program Operations**

* A PowerPoint was provided with full details
* State Fiscal Year (SFY or FY) 2024 Status​
* FY 2024 Budget, as of May 31, 2024,​
* 1st – 3rd Quarter Budget and Expenditure Report (By Division, Region, and Service Type)​
	+ Quarter 3 at the end of May, total budget went up from $300 million to $344 million, total obligation increased to $277 million overall, client services obligation $182 million
	+ Encumbered are services obligations that have obligated those funds for a service.
* 3rd and 4th  Quarter Client Services Distributions​
	+ End of Quarter three regional available balances
		- Region one $4.6 million, Region two $7.2 million, Region three $3.7 million, Region four $4.6 million, Region 5 $5.6 million, Region 6 $5.8 million.
		- Scott gave numbers for each service category and is included in the PowerPoint. Most everything is on par with expectation except post-secondary education. Cost per is going up. More demand and more semesters completed.
		- Total amount for Q3 and Q4 Distribution = $40m +$7M
			* $25M in VR Basic Support for Fall 2024 postsecondary education services, which are paid in July and August​
				+ $23M distributed to the Regions; and​
				+ $2M held at State Office.​
			* $9M in VR Basic Support​
			* $6M in Pre-ETS​
			* Additional $7M added​
				+ $6M to VR Basic Support & $1M to Pre-ETS​
* VRD Initial Client Services Projections for FY 2025 – FY 2027
	+ SFY 2025 $221,072,378
	+ SFY 2026 $234,706,252
	+ SFY 2027 $249,121,380​

**PCG Rate Study Follow Up/Implementation Plan, Jamie Haywood, Deputy VR Division Director for Program Policy, and Support**

* PowerPoint was provided with more detail
* This project aimed to improve the attraction, retention, and availability of qualified providers, and is comprised of various components,

including:​

* + Reviewing the fee structures and payment rates in TWC-VR provider contracts​
	+ Explore provider recruitment and retention in underserved areas​
	+ Evaluating provider requirements to lessen burdens and improve efficiencies where possible​
* Today’s focus is on recommendation one around provider rates
	+ Rate Build-Up Methodology Hourly wage + tax and fringe costs + administrative cost + non-billable cost = hourly service cost.
	+ PowerPoint was provided show detail. Summary of proposed rates, number of rates with changes 113 ranges, ranges of percentage changes in rates -22% to 299%
* Budget Projections for Rate Implementation
	+ Projected participants served and average cost per ​
		- Inflation of 3% annually ​
	+ Historical expenditures in these service categories and category expenditures as a % of all expenditures​
		- RHWs and WRAPS​
		- This provides an approximate projected utilization rate for each service category​
	+ Total projected fiscal impact = $20.6M​
	+ Phased Implementation to accommodate fiscal impact based on anticipated revenue​
		- SFY25 - 25%​
		- SFY26 - 50%​
		- SFY27 - 25%
	+ ​VR Client Service Expenditure Projections with PCG Rate Implementation Strategy
		- New Total Projected Client Service Expenditures During
			* SYF 2025 $226,571,446
			* SYF 2026 $251,000,740
			* SYF 2027 $269,743,26
* Question as to why on 80% of the rates are being adjusted. Answer, the 113 rates were all that were in this study. The majority of the of the other rates are services rates are set by Medicare/Medicaid.
* Question, What is VR doing to insure faster processing? Answer, in this study the 2nd recommendation is around business processes. This is something we are working on internally as it doesn’t heavily depend on the budget.
* The third recommendation has to do with rural areas. This will come later.

​**2024 Survey of Employee Engagement Results, Tammy Martin, Deputy VR Division Director for Field Services Delivery**

* PowerPoint was provided with more detail
* Introduction to the Survey of Employee Engagement​
* Survey Process and Timeframe​
	+ Conducted every other year on even number year
	+ Online conducted by UT Institute for Organizational Excellence
* Survey Structure​
	+ 12 Constructs; Pay, Employee Engagement, Workplace, Community, Job Satisfaction, Workgroup, Information Systems, Supervision, Employee Development, Benefits, Internal Communication, Strategic
* 2024 Survey Results for the TWC VR Division
	+ VR Division had 82.8% response rate
	+ Overall VRD Score 376 desirable range
	+ VRD Constructs: Supervision 403 ideal range, Pay 229 source of concern range, all others were in the desirable range.
* Regional scores for 2020, 2022 and 2024 were provided. For 2024 all regions are in the desirable range.
* VRD Engagement 26% Highly Engaged, 25% Engaged, 35% Moderately Engaged, 14% Disengaged.
* Now what
* VRD results were reviewed with VRD managers and all staff in June.​
* ​Regions are discussing the results with their staff to solicit their feedback and develop strategies to improve engagement.​
* ​Action plans will be created based on that discussion.​
* Answer to question of why employees leave. Exit survey results for employee separation is workload and training.

**VR Staff Salary Structure and Benchmarking, Scott McCune**

* Word Document was provided with more detail
* The 1,769 positions in the VRD use 83 of the 1,164 State Job Descriptions posted by the SAO.
* Average counselor position salary is $57,000.00. California $67,000 New York and Florida. Texas is in the middle. Compared to private sector they are much higher. But states benefits are much higher at 35% vs private sector 21%.
* Counselor positions range from one to four, our salary range is determined based on level of experience and education.

**VR Provider Contract Processes and Life Cycle, Jamie Haywood**

* PowerPoint was provided
* Currently VR has 1,201 contracts in total, of these 1,019 are open enrollment, and 69 result of an RFP, over half are BTE program, 176 are interagency contracts and 37 other.
* Comptroller defines the procurement and contract cycle
	+ Procurement Planning
		- Business need, needs assessment, cost estimate, acquisition plan
	+ Procurement method determination
		- Identify the Procurement Method, Issue a solicitation
	+ Vendor Selection
		- Making a Selection Decision, Multiple Steps
	+ Contract Formation & Award
		- Contract Manager Assignment, Contract Development, Notice of Award Posted to ESBD, Provision of Good or Services
	+ Contract Management
		- Administer the Contract, Enforce the Terms of the Contract
* Question who can providers contact for conflicts? Answer contract manager or regional contact.

**Customer Complaint Process Review, Tammy Martin**

* VR is working on a clear contact information on the VR website.
* All applicants get the “Can We Talk” brochure that explains options for appeal procedure if they disagree with their counselor or what their options are.
* Local contact your VR counselor or ask to speak to VR supervisor or manager.
* Regional Reach out to the Regional Office leadership
* Statewide contact State Office Ombudsman, VR Division Director/Deputy Division Director, Disability Rights Texas-Client Assistance Program (CAP), or file an appeal.
* Customer Relations tracks call that come through them.
* Jordan suggested giving a timeline that customers should wait after making a complaint before moving up the chain.

**Council Business**

* Approve May Minutes push to next meeting
* RCT Budget Report push to next meeting
* Election RCT Chair and Vice Chair
	+ Norine Gill Nominee Vice Chair withdraws her nomination
	+ Jordan Smelley Nominee Vice Chair I think I would be a good fit as Vice Chair what I bring to the committee is the unique background of not only being a consumer of VR services, but I also have had the opportunity of learning how to navigate the different complex systems within VR to the point that I actually got someone approved as a vendor so that I could get training that they provide covered. I think there’s lots of room for improvement within VR, and so that would kind of be my focus would be helping to improve relations between consumers, providers, and VR staff. Thank you.
	+ Peggy Schmidt I am currently the provider liaison for the RCT, and I work in the North Dallas area as a provider for a nonprofit and have done that for actually just over 25 years. I think I just hit that mark last year. So, I have a wide array of the provider issues and I really strive to ensure individuals are hitting their benchmarks and what they want. I love supported employment and employment in general and how it assists people.
	+ Jennifer Clouse nominee Vice Chair unavailable to speak
* Walkin item NCSRC/CSAVR October in Seattle. If members are interested in attending let RCT Chair or Lisa Godwin know.

**Public Comment**

* None

**Recess for the day**

**Resume meeting 9:00 am Friday August 2**

**Welcome and Introductions, Gennadiy Goldenshteyn, Chair**

**Region 3 Presentations** **Kelly Yarbrough, Deputy Regional Director**

* Region 3, Capital Area: Robyn Farris, Unit Support Coordinator and Catherine “Katie” Amatangelo
	+ - Robyn and Katie provided Katie’s success story and journey. Katie had a Work Experience with Brian Hernandez at Phalanx Outreach Solutions. Brian also provided his experience with Katie and VR. A PowerPoint was provided.

**Criss Cole Rehabilitation Center (CCRC) Julie Johnson, Director**, Trae Shaw, Deputy Director, Karla Martinez, and Randall Babbitt, and Brian Schuster, Spero Rehab

* CCRC is a residential training center for persons who are blind and visually impaired that are referred by VR Counselors. Must be legally blind, medically stable and have stamina. They must take a tour of the center and have an educational or vocational goal.
* Since February 2023 52 new staff have been hired
* Student population rebuild after COVID.
* Construction on the center since it was built in 1957.
* April 1, 2024 moved to double room occupancy, 34 rooms available, and two orthopedic rooms.
* Tour palooza, weekly tours
* General population, day students, post-secondary program, group skill training, outreach
* 21-22 served 126 customers for the year, 22-23 served 137 customers, 23-24 served 163 customers so far.
* Title IX Liaison position and ombudsman for students and staff related complaints at the center.
* Trae spoke about the training at CCRC such as blindness, independent living skill, communication skills and vocational skills. Technology, braille,
* Success Story, Karla and Randall, both spoke on their experience with CCRC.
* Success Story, employer partner, Brian Schuster, Spero Rehab spoke on his experience working with student at CCRC.
* RCT requested to set up a tour of CCRC. Julie agreed to coordinate the tour.

**CSNA Report Christopher Speckhard, Manager VRGIS Team, Information, Innovation, and Insight (I|3) Division and Anna Lee**

* PowerPoint was provided with more detail.
* The CSNA is a federally required report that evaluates the vocational rehabilitation (VR) service needs of individuals with disabilities in Texas. ​
* Conducted every three years, the CSNA identifies goals and priorities for VR program administration and aligns with the state’s Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Combined State Plan (CSP) to address workforce system needs.​
* Five statewide virtual town hall meetings with in-person broadcast options (92 attendees), including an online SurveyMonkey town hall questionnaire (11 respondents).​
* An internet-based VR needs assessment survey of customers, staff, and providers contracted with the Public Policy Research Institute (PPRI) at Texas A&M University (1,074 total respondents).​
* 16 key informant interviews, including three state office personnel, one VR manager and one counselor from each of the six integrated workforce service areas (12 total), in addition to one supervisor from the Criss Cole Rehabilitation Center (CCRC)​
* Customer satisfaction surveys conducted each quarter for VR by Westat​
* Data from ReHabWorks (the automated case management system used by Texas VR)​
* The 2023 CSNA identified three overarching categories of service needs:​
	+ Provider Network: supporting and training a robust network of providers to ensure access to equitable and diverse services​
	+ Staffing and Expertise: recovering and maintaining sufficient staff and expertise to effectively serve job seekers with disabilities, including labor market knowledgeability​
	+ Business Partnerships: expanding and maintaining a diverse network of employers to recruit, train, and employ individuals with disabilities​
* VR Needs Survey: Role of Services​-Survey results indicated that all types of VR services were perceived as playing a significant role in successful rehabilitation. The highest ranked services for contributing to VR success include (all respondents): Assistive Technology and Equipment (70.3%); Academic and Vocational or Occupational Training (69.9%) and Job Exploration and Work Based Learning (69.5%). ​
	+ ​Participants were most positive about Academic and Vocational or Occupational Training ​
	+ Staff were most positive about Job Exploration and Work-based Assistance and Learning ​
	+ Providers were most positive about Assistive Technology and Equipment ​
* VR Needs Survey: Service Delivery-Respondents also indicated satisfaction with the delivery of services. All services were evaluated positively for their quality and timeliness. ​

​

* + The highest ranked item for participants in terms of service delivery was the courtesy and respectfulness of VR staff, followed by the VR eligibility determination process.​
	+ Regarding the availability of VR service providers, staff were significantly less positive than providers and participants.​
	+ Regarding responsiveness to requests, phone calls, and emails, providers were significantly less positive than staff and participants.​
* VR Needs Survey: Challenges to Success- Overall, respondents identified as the challenges that most often get in the way of success:
	+ Lack of affordable childcare housing, or transportation. ​
	+ Concern over loss of government benefits. ​
	+ Lack of easily accessible information about benefits and work incentives. ​
	+ Employer perceptions of people with disabilities.​
	+ Lack of qualified services providers to choose from.​
* VR Needs Survey: Knowledgeability- Respondents indicated that they possessed at least some knowledge of a variety of topics related to employment and disability. Respondents were most confident in their ability to 1) create accessible documents; 2) assess and make workplace accommodations; and 3) utilize assistive technology and equipment.​
* Participantsconsistently rated themselves as less knowledgeable than staff or providers. In particular, they rated themselves as least knowledgeable about 1) the relationship between employment, government benefits, and disability-related services and 2) labor market information tools.​
* Relative to other areas of knowledge, staff and providers were least confident in their understanding of the 1) Social Security Administration’s POMS manual and 2) labor market information tools (LMI).​

**VR Performance Update, Geoffrey Miller, Director of Analytics and Evaluation (A&E), and Christopher Speckhard, Manager VRGIS Team, Information, Innovation, and Insight (I|3) Division**

* PowerPoint was provided with more detail
* Program Year 23: Strong Increase in Participants Served, Dip in Success Rate​
	+ The VR program experienced significant growth in participants served, from 64,863 in Program Year (PY) 2022 to 69,243 in PY 2023 (increase of around 6.8%).​
	+ Region 2 (Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex) led the growth with an increase of 14.7%, year-on-year​
	+ The number of VR participants with intellectual or learning (cognitive) disabilities increased by 13.8%, year-on-year​
	+ The statewide successful closure rate dipped from 53.14% to 51.4%, year-on-year​
	+ All regions experienced a decline in the success rate except for Regions 4 (East Texas) and Region 5 (Gulf Coast)​
	+ Legally Blind and Other Visual had the sharpest decreases among disability categories ​
* PY 22 Exiters: Increase in Employed/Enrolled Q2 Post Exit Rate and Growth in Median Earnings​
	+ Statewide, the percentage of VR exiters (participants with case closures) who were employed in the second quarter after exit rose slightly from around 59% (PY21) to around 60% (PY22)​
	+ All disability categories saw growth on this measure, except for Intellectual and Learning (Cognitive) and Psychological and Psychosocial disabilities ​
	+ Median Earnings continued to climb, increasing by around 11% statewide from PY21 to PY 22, from $6,360 to $7,080.​
	+ All regions and disability categories experienced growth in Median Earnings​
* Q2-Q4 Post Exit Employed/Enrolled:​ Slight Decrease Statewide in Retention​
	+ The Q2-Q4 Post Exit Employed/Enrolled rate indicates how many individuals employed in Q2 post exit are still employed in Q4 post exit. The R4Q (rolling four quarter) period is October 2021 – September 2022.​
	+ This employment retention measure dipped slightly statewide during the R4Q (87.69%) compared to Calendar Year (CY) 2021 (88.13%), although still indicating a solid recovery from the pandemic.​
	+ Among disability categories, auditory and communicative disabilities and legally blind saw increases on this measure​

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* TBI, Stroke and SCI Comparison​
	+ Compared to PY 22, in PY 23 individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), Stroke/ Acquired Brain Injury and Spinal Cord Injuries (SCI) experienced higher successful case closure rates ​
	+ Participant counts have been historically higher for Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) than for Stroke/Acquired Brain Injury or SCI. ​
	+ All these disability categories experienced declines in the Q2 post-exit employed/enrolled rate for PY 22 exiters​
	+ Median Earnings increased for individuals with TBI but fell for those with Stroke/ Acquired Brain Injury and Spinal Cord Injuries.​
* Request from RCT First is to research the down trends in blind and visually impaired. The second item, look at the performance for a couple key measures, just quarter over quarter for the past year and compare it to the same in the year past. So basically, the last eight quarters, just to see if it is seasonality. Is there budget feedback? Is it something else? Is it a precursor on what's to come? Was it just a blip?

**Liaison Reports – Full reports are included in the binder**

* Community Rehabilitation Provider (CRP), Peggy Schmidt
	+ Providers continue to meet and give feedback. Last meeting was June with over 200 attendees. One question was timely communication with VR. Response was giving staff one week then reach out. Second was when provider trains a customer, and the customer doesn’t continue the process the provider isn’t paid for the training. So, I'm hoping we can look at job placement services and include that provider work group or a way for providers to give feedback on the process of job placement services
* Texas Workforce Investment Council (TWIC), Michele Harper
	+ TWIC met in June at that meeting the council approved readoption of the council's rules. Councilmembers voted to recognize skills standards for six information technology job clusters as specified by the guidelines for Texas skills standards‑based program recognition. Members also heard several briefings starting with the application review process for the Texas Talent Connection grant. The council was then briefed on the fiscal year 2024 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program employment and training state plan by the Health and Human Services Commission, and for our final briefing item that morning, council staff summarized the key data points on Texans with disabilities from the report, people with disabilities of Texas profile. Following our reports and any updates, the council heard from some panelists representing the tri‑agency workforce initiative which does include the Texas higher education coordinating board, the Texas Education Agency, and the Texas Workforce Commission. The panel informed members on how each agency is collaborating to further the goals of the Texas Workforce system's strategic plan, and our next meeting will be Friday, September 13th. Great, Friday the 13th in Austin.
* Client Assistance Program (CAP), Karen Stanfill no verbal report
* State Independent Living Council (SILC), Patrick Sturdivant no verbal report
* Texas Education Agency (TEA), Emily Robinson no verbal report

**Committee Reports**

* Policy, Procedure & Personnel Development, Gennadiy for, Karen Stanfill, Chair
	+ Reviewed VRSM policy manual. Power DMS software is not meeting the accessibility standards for VR so will be posting using SharePoint. There was a question about public hearings, rate increases and financial contribution changes. Jamie addressed this is being worked on internally to decided if it needs a public meeting. There was an update discussion on self-employment. Ticket to work status. It was discussed to speak with Jonah Schwarts and his team to inquire on VR closure and long-term social security after VR closure. IPE guide for application there was a request to revise to reflect what it needed to in regard to reference to disability advocate as opposed to disability organization. There was a discussion on VR staff and providers, training in regard to UNT training versus the VRC training and the differences. There was an IHO decision. The case was dismissed. We also discussed having someone from DOS present on a Tuesday policy meeting regarding audit process. And lastly SB50 promote employment first using public funds. This would be a good topic for one of the Tuesday meetings.
* Customer Satisfaction & Needs Assessment, Lisa Cowart, Chair
	+ No additional updates as it was covered in the CSNA report earlier.
* Education and Membership, Jordan Smelley for, Emily Robinson, Chair
	+ Reminder to place your vote for RCT elections by Wednesday
	+ Heather gave a legislative update full report was provided in Director Report Main RCT 2024 Report provided to the council.
		- HB 728 - Relating to the Statewide Interagency Aging Services Coordinating Council
		- SB 55 - Relating to a Study and Report by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Regarding Best Practices for Assisting Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder
		- HB 1, Article VII, TWC, Rider 34, Vocational Rehabilitation Reporting Requirements
		- HB 1, Article VII, TWC, Rider 49, Apprenticeship, and Internship Opportunities for People with Disabilities
		- 2021 87thTexas Legislative Session: Senate Bill 50
* Ad-Hoc Strategic Planning Peggy Schmidt
	+ September 16-17 at Disability Rights of Texas in Austin
* Next RCT Quarterly Meeting October 31-November 1 Dallas Texas. This information needs to be confirmed.

**Public Comment**

* No Public Comment

**Adjourn**