

From: Carol Shults-Perkins <cshults@cvabe.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 10, 2016 2:03 PM
To: Sue MacMartin
Cc: Michelle Tarryk; Pixie Loomis; Chris Hardy; Jack Glade
Subject: FW: follow up testimony on Governor's Budget re CHSVT

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Email from Michelle Tarryk, as promised.

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From: Michelle Tarryk [mailto:michelle.tarryk@neklsvt.org]
Sent: Thursday, March 10, 2016 1:32 PM
To: Carol Shults-Perkins <cshults@cvabe.org>; Pixie Loomis
<mploomis@vtadultlearning.org>; Chris
Hardy <chris.hardy@neklsvt.org>
Subject: Fwd: follow up testimony on Governor's Budget re CHSVT

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Michelle Tarryk <michelle.tarryk@neklsvt.org>
Date: Thu, Feb 18, 2016 at 9:42 AM
Subject: follow up testimony on Governor's Budget re CHSVT
To: Marty Feltus <martyfeltus@gmail.com>, jane kitchel
<Janek45@hotmail.com>, kittytoll@live.com
Good Day,

I wanted to follow up on the testimony that I gave the other evening
in St
Johnsbury regarding the Corrections Education budget and the
elimination of
the street sites. I am repeating my testimony but also adding some
other
areas that I think warrant a closer look.

I agree that there is redundancy in the services that are provided by
the
street sites however, I think that there are some things that could
happen to

strengthen the services for the folks that have been served by the street sites if this proposal is kept. It is my understanding that CHSVT has moved to proficiency based individual education plans which is much more beneficial and relevant for the participants. If CHSVT was given permission to enter into HSCP plans with their area Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) provider the plan that they developed inside the facility could transition to the outside simply by imbedding the plan into a HSCP plan. An important feature would be that the participants would have to maintain their "enrolled" status with CHSVT in order for funding to flow appropriately. For any HSCP plan written for an enrolled student, the signing/partnering school does not receive any money from the AEL provider other than \$100.00 for transcript maintenance which is paid after the student completes the plan and earns their diploma. Keeping students "enrolled" should alleviate the concern that CHSVT has already received dollars to educate the student. If the plan was developed on the inside of the facility, the plan development reimbursement could be removed so that the AEL provider was not paid for something that they did not do. Additionally, a crosswalk between the 50+ standards that were developed by CHSVT and the College and Career Readiness (CCR) and Equipped For the Future (EFF) standards that the Agency of Education uses could help to transfer the plan. Additionally, being on the outside, the plan could be amended to include opportunities for the student that are not available within the facility. I can only speak for my area - the tri county region of the NEK, but with this change I would need to add staff to support the case management of these new students - I would look to anyone who lost their position with CHSVT as a optimum candidate because they have knowledge and experience with the corrections population which is critical to the success of this work.

Comments I did not share on Monday evening:

I wonder what the implications of CHSVT in the facilities has in regards to

special education requirements. Have there been any unintended negative consequences financially on the system? I wonder how the State can be assured that CHSVT is meeting the letter of the law in regards to providing special education services and if there have been any calculations on the exposure to liability for the State if an inmate decides to challenge CHSVT meeting their special education needs.

It is my understanding that CHSVT was created to meet an identified need of an unique population, since that time the Vermont High School Completion Program was created, implemented, and has evolved to be a very successful model for delivering personal education plans that are relevant to the individual student. I wonder if CHSVT has lived its useful life?

If CHSVT was completely eliminated, I could see the Adult Education and Literacy system delivering High School Completion Program services within the facilities creating proficiency based plans that would easily transition in and out of the facility - and back in again if the person re-offends. It is truly a transferrable model. Similar to the old Adult Diploma Program model. This would potentially create a very large savings for the state.

In FY 2015, the average cost of a high school completion plan (HSCP) in VT was \$3728 per student. I can only speculate that this per student cost is likely to be much less than the per student cost within CHSVT. Also, I believe the HSCP program affords much more flexibility and opportunities for students while not being tied to mandated special education requirements. That being said, while the Adult Ed System is not mandated by Special Education we do recognize and accommodate for different learning styles and needs for student success. Reducing expenses while increasing services is a great option on the table.

Regardless if CHSVT goes away or not, I see the Adult Education & Literacy system needing to work closely with the Community Justice Centers throughout the state to support offenders re-entering their communities and

their services would likely be written into HSCP plans, when appropriate, to support success.

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Thank you for your time and I welcome further conversation on this issue. Please feel free to share my thoughts with anyone else you deem appropriate.

Respectfully,
Michelle

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Thank you very much.