

Vocational Rehabilitation
February 2020 Commission Report

- VR finished the 2019 production year with 4,203 applications, 3,796 plans, and 1,125 closures. All of these totals were up from 2018.
- Wages for 2019 finished 5% higher than 2018
- It appears the VR/SBVI programs are consistent so far with other states in terms of measurable skill gains, credential attainment, and employment rates.
- Work has been completed on an agreement for VR/SBVI to participate in the River Hawks program out of Northeastern Oklahoma State University. Meetings are being considered to discuss similar programs at OU and OSU.
- Our Assistive Technology Center had an open house recently. It was reported that 60 individuals attended.
- We have hired a new Program Manager for our services to the Deaf and HOH unit. David Hankinson started in October.
- Our Business Services Team kicked off a new Business Advisory Council in Enid. Work is being done to host a career fair/expo in February. Our Business Services Coordinator, Fatos Floyd also represented our program in Washington DC at NCSAB.
- The Division Administrator attended the annual Oklahoma Transition Institute, and presented on the topic of WIOA Sec. 511 part 397. Two conferences were held, one in Owasso, and one in OKC. Theresa Flannery, formally with Dale Rogers presented the topic in OKC.
- The Division Administrator attended the Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation annual conference in October.
- The VR Division held a management meeting in November. Topics on the agenda included Tableau reports, case management regarding measurable skill gains, WIOA performance measures, transition services, client survey pilot project, CSAVR updates, and updates from Director Fruendt.
- The Division Administrator participated in an interim study on traumatic brain injury. The study was requested by Rep. Trish Ranson, D-Stillwater. Dr. John Sassin, of Langston University, and Kevin Nelson (DRS) assisted.
- The Okmulgee office had an open house for their new location.
- Our long time Assistive Technology Coordinator, Leslie Lennier retired. She was a great leader in the field.
- Meetings continue to be held with Individual Placement and Support partners. Terri Murphy and the Employment Support Services Team have taken the lead on new developments in this supported employment pilot.
- The Division Administrator along with Program Manager Trish Osborn met with sheltered work shop employees in the Stillwater area to discuss WIOA and use of subminimum wage.
- The Division Administrator participated in assistive technology training with staff at the Moore Norman Technology Center. The training was focused on housing modifications and accessibility.
- DRS staff worked with senior students at the Oklahoma School for the Deaf to host Senior Days. This is an annual event focused on topics regarding employment.
- The Division Administrator, Employment Support Services Staff, Field Coordinator, Terri Murphy and Assistant Rosemarie Chitwood continue to meet with our DDS partners monthly to focus on our cooperative agreements and WIOA.
- The Division Administrator held a meeting with VR leadership staff to discuss the possibility of revamping efforts to promote servant Leadership, customer service, and targeted training for staff.

I'm very proud of our staffs efforts the past performance year, and I'm honored to serve with them.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Kinnison, M.Ed., CRC, LPC-S
Division Administrator
Vocational Rehabilitation Services