

**VOTA Meet and Greet,
Date: Oct. 3 2018 , 4-6PM
Red Hen Cafe and Bakery, Middlesex, Vermont**

Attendees:

Debra Ann Pinsof-Defillis, Twinfield/Cabot, DebraAnnPD@gmail.com
Kelly Melasky, Champlain Valley SD and MontpelierRPS, Kellymgoodell@yahoo.com
Megan McLane, Washington Central SD, mmclane@u32.org
Dana Howe, Washington Central SD, danafahowe@gmail.com
Stephanie Smart, Washington Central SD, ssmart@u32.org
Nykia Hunter, Lake Dragon Aquatics, nykia.hunter@gmail.com
Barb Ebenstein, HUUSD and Mount Anthony SD ebenste@gmavt.net
Marcy Pelkey, Lamoille South SD marcyotr@gmail.com
Caren Maslowsky, Burr and Burton Academy, otvermont@gmail.com
Viki Delmas, VOTA Membership Chair, votamembership@gmail.com
Karen Downey, Essex Westford and Burlington SD, VOTA Treasurer, kedot2018@gmail.com

Other interested OTs who could not attend:

Ashley Garwood, Essex Westford School District, agarwood@ewsd.org
Catherine Armani-Munn, Burlington School District, carmani@bsdvt.org
Karen Fiekers, Burlington School District, kfiekers@bsdvt.org
Heather Preis, Burlington School District, hpreis@bsdvt.org
Ute Patrick, Southwest Vermont School District, ute.partick@swsu.org
Michele Pompilio-Fry, michelefr@me.com
Chelsea Vaillancourt, South Burlington Schools, cvaillancourt@sbschools.net
Kate Forkey Bujold
Bailee Gordan
Deb Sharpe deborah.sharpe@uvm.edu

Agenda:

Introductions

Announcements-

- UVM TRIPSCY/RIPSCY Conference:
 - **SAVE THE DATE**
 - **TRIPSCY “TRAIN & TALK” #3**
 - Training and Resources for Interdisciplinary Professionals
 - Serving Children and Youth
 - *Sponsored by the Vermont I-Team*

- Date: Thursday November 1, 2018
- Location: The Davis Center
- University of Vermont

Contact Pam Cummings, PT for more information and to register:
 pamela.cummings@uvm.edu

- **UVM- OTD program** projected Start Summer 2020. Program needs fieldwork sites to get this started. Please contact Karen Downey (kedot2018@gmail.com) to let her know if this is a possibility for your workplace.
- **Ella Dupont is a Representative from Vermont to AOTA-** contact Ella regarding concerns/comments about the OTD vs. Masters Level for Basic Entry for OT.
 Ella.dupont@fchha.org
- **Castleton University- COTA program being developed-** (2 year COTA program and students can continue for a 4 year health science BS)- Projected Start Date Sept. 2020. Please contact Caren Maslowsky or Karen Downey if you are able to commit to take OTA fieldwork students.
- **VOTA conference March 16, 2019. Save the Date. Will be held in Central Vermont location TBD**
- **Vermont OT Association Information-** See the VOTA website www.vermontot.org - Sign up for the 2019 membership before January 2019 (2 free months, November and December 2018, if you sign up now). New Membership pricing-
 \$40.00 per year OTR
 \$25.00 per year COTA
 3-Year Memberships at a reduced price
 Join VOTA to get our voices heard in the Vermont legislature.
- **OT Advisory Board in Office of Professional Regulation- Licensing** for OTs has an opening since Linda Kogut has moved to New Hampshire, more information needed about this- there are presently approximately 450 licenced OTs in VT

Discussion:

Consult vs. Direct

- Is the emphasis on Direct Services driven by educational Medicaid? Do School District receive more funding if OT is Direct? How many OTs are billing School-Based Medicaid in their Districts? Several OTs at meeting are billing Medicaid in their District, others are not.
- Direct Service can be considered working in the classroom with the focus being one student.

- Consultation is not done without seeing the student, and having opportunity to understand student's needs, challenges, strengths, etc. "Hands On Consultation" provide when training the special educator or paraeducator or classroom teacher
- OTs who work in districts for several years do get to evaluate students at the 3-year comprehensive time. New OTs need time to do a screening or an evaluation if these have not been done by previous OT
- Ideal Model is for OT to have both direct and consult options (See AOTA and APTA resources on Workload Model)- to have time for collaboration and meeting with PT, SLP and teachers/paraeducators, other team members, Part time employees may not have the ability to get to all meetings.
- In some states that is a cap on the number of students on a full-time OT's caseload/workload= 45-50 (North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin), in some Vermont District average is 100 (Burlington, EssexWestford, South Burlington)
- OT Consult question- if OT has set up a specific program to be carried over by other staff (teacher, special educator, paraeducator), how do you keep track of what's happening?
 - use data sheets and ask for others to fill in details when they see student
 - easier to keep data for students have a 1:1 paraeducator
 - if no para frequent communication (email, in person, meetings) with teacher and sped teacher really important.
 - service needs to be done on an individual basis, depending on the support staff available, needs to be based on what the students need.

Charging for OT Time if Self-employed-

- Evaluations- How to get reimbursed for our time? School-based Evaluation including meetings and documentation can take up to 5 hours: Some self-employed OTs set charge for evaluation separate from IEP frequency, full Comprehensive Evaluation including Planning and Eligibility meetings with team can cost \$350.00- and up. Evaluation time should be separate from service time on the IEP
- Need to build in programming time on the IEP service page to include: (team communication, documentation, program development, setting up of materials, etc).

Google Doc of Resources for Pediatric OTs-

- Stephanie Smart has link to get the **google doc**. for resources and communication for school based OTs- contact Stephanie if you are not yet included stephanie.smart.ot@gmail.com
- Agency of Education- Is anyone overseeing OT services? This needs to be discussed at November 1 I-Team Train and Talk.
 - training programs

-grants
-caseload/workload caps

- **VISTA-** role of PT/OT related services in schools- see this program that was developed by Michael Giangreco from UVM back in 1990's. The book is out of print but you can contact Michael at UVM for more info and perhaps get an old copy: michael.giangreco@uvm.edu or look at this resource-

Also look at this resource for VISTA supplemental and worksheets
<https://scholarworks.uvm.edu/cessfac/1/>

- **MTSS-** Multi-tiered System of Support- for Vermont schools- being developed by various school districts- to be discussed November 1 Train and Talk by team from Champlain Valley School District: Keynote and session presenters will be Megan Roy, Sped Director, Ali Karmosky OT, and Peggy Sands PT who will discuss the service delivery model they have implemented in their district. There will be information shared among participants on direct vs consultative models, and a shared resource folder will be available.
- **COACH- Choosing Outcomes and Accommodations for Children-** a guide for educational planning and program development for students with disabilities. Product of Michael Giangreco, Chigee Cloninger and Ginny Iverson, and others from UVM Special Ed-
<https://products.brookespublishing.com/Choosing-Outcomes-and-Accommodations-for-Children-COACH-P463.aspx>
- **Virtual File cabinet for forms- from Nykia Hunter- this will be shared on the Google Doc or contact Nykia directly via email**
- **OT Advisory Board in Office of Professional Regulation for Licensing** for OTs may have an opening since Linda Kogut has moved to New Hampshire? More information needed about this- there are presently approximately 450 licenced OTs in VT

Combined Notes from Megan McLane and Karen Downey.

