





TO: The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents
FROM: Ceylane Meyers-Ruff 
SUBJECT: Appointment to the New York State Rehabilitation Council
DATE: March 4, 2021
AUTHORIZATION(S): 

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision (Consent)

Should the Board of Regents approve an appointment to the New York State Rehabilitation Council (SRC) to fill the vacancy for a New York State Independent Living Council (NYSILC) representative?

Reason(s) for Consideration

The Federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) requires the Board of Regents to appoint members to the New York State Rehabilitation Council (SRC).

Proposed Handling

This issue will come before the Full Board for action at its March 2021 meeting.

Procedural History

As vacancies occur, the Board of Regents approves recommendations to fill such vacancies.

Background Information

Information on the proposed appointee is noted in Attachment 1.

Related Regent's Items

[State Rehabilitation Council Appointments February 2021](#)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/221brca1.pdf>)

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Regents take the following action:

VOTED: Lafayette Williams, the newly designated New York State Independent Living Council (NYSILC) representative, be appointed for an ongoing term beginning upon approval of the Board of Regents.

Timetable for Implementation

Upon approval by the Board of Regents of the recommended candidate, the appointment will be effective as of April 1, 2021.

Attachments

Attachment 1

New York State Rehabilitation Council

(New appointment for ongoing term beginning April 1, 2021)

Representative of the New York State Independent Living Council (NYSILC)

Lafayette Williams

NY Connects Independent Living Specialist

- Educates individuals on various resources, services, and programs to maximize care
- Recommends improved life choices to enhance individual outcomes
- Attends yearly meetings with the Seneca Nation Area Office of the Aging to ensure effective communication and barrier-free referrals
- Maintains confidential documentation to prevent data compromises and compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) regulations

Attachment 2

New York State Rehabilitation Council

Current Members (Effective February 8, 2021)

Ellice Switzer, Chair, representing Business, Industry, and Labor
Ithaca, NY

Joseph M. Delgado, Co-Vice Chair, representing Disability Advocacy Group
Holtsville, NY

Susan Scheer, Co-Vice Chair representing Community Rehabilitation Service
Providers
New York, NY

Joseph Amodeo, representing Community Rehabilitation Service Providers
New York, NY

Naomi Brickel, representing Community Rehabilitation Service Providers
Valhalla, NY

Megan Brown, representing the New York State Education Department/Special
Education (NYSED) responsible for the public education of students with disabilities
who are eligible to receive services
Albany, NY

Sebastian Chittilappilly, representing Disability Advocacy Group
Bronx, NY

Alan Gallagher, representing the New York State Department Labor (DOL) State
Workforce Investment Board
Albany, NY

Valarie Gambino-Carelli, representing Business, Industry, and Labor
Kingston, NY

Kathleen Grosvenor, representing Community Rehabilitation Service Providers
Brooklyn, NY

Nancy Grant, representing Community Rehabilitation Service Providers
Canandaigua, NY

Miranda Harms, representing Business, Industry, and Labor
Rochester, NY

Jenny Hutkowski, representing a Parent Training and Information Centers
Rochester, NY

Gregory Lau, representing Transition Educational Services
Pelham, NY

Jennifer M. Machucki, representing Community Rehabilitation Service Providers
Williamsville, NY

Chana Meir, representing Current or Former Applicant for, or Recipient of, Vocational Rehabilitation Services
Syracuse, NY

Anthony Morano, representing Community Rehabilitation Service Providers
Syracuse, NY

Hillary Nichols, representing Community Rehabilitation Service Providers
Kingston, NY

Evelyn Pugh, representing a Parent Training and Information Centers and Current or Former Applicant for, or Recipient of, Vocational Rehabilitation Services
Brooklyn, NY

Brenda Shannon, representing the Client Assistance Program (CAP)
Albany, NY

Robert Statham, representing Disability Advocacy Groups A Cross Section of Individuals
Rochester, NY

Toni Sullivan, representing Community Rehabilitation Service Providers
Getzville, NY

Non-Voting Members, Ex-Officio Members, and State Partners

Ceylane Meyers-Ruff, representing the New York State Education Department - Office of Adult Career and Continuing Education Services-Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCES-VR)

Melinda Dolezal, representing the New York State Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs

Peter Herrig, representing the New York State Commission for the Blind (NYSCB)

Lynne Thibdeau, representing the New York State Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD)

Andrew Sink, representing the New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH)