**OOD Council Briefing- January 20, 2021**

**Program Performance:** The following table summarizes Federal Fiscal Year 2021 performance for the Bureau of Services for the Visually Impaired:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
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| Metric | 12/31/2019 | 12/31/2020 | Percent Change |
| **Eligibility Decisions**  | 258 | 207 | -19.8% |
| **Plans Written**  | 157 | 158 | 0.6% |
| **Eligible + Served**  | 1,544 | 1,564 | 1.3% |
| **Rehabilitations**  | 71 | 82 | 15.5% |
| **Average Wage**  | $14.35 | $14.22 | -0.9% |
| **Average Hours**  | 28.55 | 27.9 | -2.3% |

During reporting period 12/31/2019 through 12/31/2020, eligibility decisions decreased by 19%, plans written decreased by .6%, the combined eligible and served increased by 1%, rehabilitations increased by 15.5%, the average wage decreased by 1% and the average hours decreased by 2.3%.

We believe applications will increase as we continue to increase our active virtual outreach which in turn should increase eligibility decisions. It may take a bit longer to get medical records to determine eligibility when working remotely, as a lot of doctor offices will not accept anything but a wet signature. This forces us to mail consents to participants to be signed which takes more time.

**Programmatic Updates**:

* Berna King presented an update on the program at the American Council of the Blind Ohio (ACBO) Statewide Convention. She updated the group on BSVI and ILOB numbers for FY2020. Berna also discussed BSVI’s desire to partner with consumer groups to get services to persons with visual impairment. She provided her contact information and invited ACBO leadership to reach out to me with suggestions or concerns they may have.
* Staff are piloting a new electronic form for processing PCA re-evaluations. The electronic forms should make re-evaluation quicker and more efficient by not relying on snail mail. OOD’s IT division reviewed the process to make sure it was secure, so CPI is protected.
* Berna King has been assisting the VR Policy and Training Unit in updating the Informed Choice Policy and Procedure.