Virginia Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired Richmond, Virginia <u>ANNOUNCEMENT OF PUBLIC MEETINGS</u>

During the fall of 2016, the Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired (DBVI) will conduct a minimum of four public meetings providing stakeholders an opportunity to make comments regarding DBVI Vocational Rehabilitation Services. DBVI seeks input from agency stakeholders to develop, implement, and update the State Plan as required by the Rehabilitation Services Administration and to assist with developing vocational rehabilitation (VR) policy and procedure. While all comments are welcome, specific types of comments address State Plan requirements and include, but not limited to:

- Transition services, including pre-employment services for students and youth.
- Skills DBVI VR staff should possess to provide quality VR services to consumers;
- New initiatives that would enhance workforce development, vocational training, or competitive integrated employment opportunities for individuals who are blind, vision impaired, or deafblind;
- Recommendations to enhance supported employment services, including customized employment; and
- Improving and/or expanding services specifically to minorities and underserved or unserved populations of consumers.

Individuals requiring interpreters or other special accommodations should contact Susan Davis Payne (800-622-2155) at least two weeks prior to the meeting to request the preferred accommodation.

Bristol Public Meeting

111 Commonwealth Ave. Suite 200 Bristol, VA 24201 October 12, 2016 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Richmond Public Meetings

Virginia Rehabilitation Center for the Blind and Vision Impaired (VRCBVI) AA Building Conference Room 401 Azalea Avenue Richmond, Virginia 23227 October 17, 2016 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Roanoke Public Meeting

Lions Club 501 Elm Avenue, SW Roanoke, Virginia 24017-3916 October 19, 20016 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Virginia Beach Public Meeting

Wyndham Virginia Beach Oceanfront 5700 Atlantic Ave, Virginia Beach, VA 23451 November 11, 2016 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Written and e-mail comments may be submitted prior to December 30, 2016 to Susan Davis Payne, Policy and Training Coordinator, DBVI, 397 Azalea Avenue, Richmond, VA, 23227, Susan.Payne@dbvi.virginia.gov 804-371-3140/1-800-622-2155 (Voice/TTY).