# VRS Community Partners Conversations

**Meeting Summary**

**Meeting Date:** August 3, 2023

# August CP Conversations Summary

The August discussion topic was Extended Employment. We had 28 attendees.

CP Team Updates:

* We are excited to have our new CP Director, Lori Thorpe, start today! We want to thank Janeen Oien for stepping in and stepping up this summer to serve as Interim Director.
* We are expanding our Pre-ETS Community of Practices across the state!
	+ The Metro CoP has been meeting since 2021. They meet on the third Thursday of the month from 9:00-10:30. The next meeting is Thursday August 17th. In September we will be hosting a marketing event, complete the form to sign up to present: [Pre-ETS CoP September 2023 sign up](https://forms.gle/GXg2s54ks2MhPHEi7).
	+ The first Northern area CoP will be on Tuesday October 17th from 8:30-10:00.
	+ The first Southern area CoP will be on Tuesday October 24th from 9:00-10:30.
	+ If you want the invite to any of the CoP Meetings email Sara at sara.sundeen@state.mn.us and let me know which area distribution lists you want to be added to.
* A reminder, we have an RFP Open for new partner applications through August 31, 2023.

## Discussion Topic:

Meghan Hanson formally introduced her new role. Meghan shared a PowerPoint and gave an update on the Extended Employment program.

# Next CP Conversation

In September we will be updating partners on the VRS Youth Team and how they can support the Pre-ETS referral process. Here is the Registration Link for September: <https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJItcOqopz8qE995cKV0kZvUllpK3bjAIl8>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Here is the Community Partners webpage: <https://mn.gov/deed/job-seekers/disabilities/partners/>

## Feel free to contact us at any time:

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