

Full Board Meeting
ZOOM
Friday, September 17, 2021
8:30 AM-9:30 AM

Committee Members Present:

Beth Bowers, Amy Turner, Franca Armstrong, Robert Brenchley, Allene Monaghan, Alice Savino, Karin Piseck, Scott Ingmire, David Mathis, Terry Humphries, Brenda Wolak, Zoë Vandermeulen, Tim Rosbrook, James Delude, Theresa Jalowiec and Emily Arthur

Call to order:

Meeting called to order by Beth Bowers at 8:30am

Minutes from May 14, 2021

Financial Report from May 31, 2021

Budget Program year 21-22

Approved....M/S.....Amy Turner, James DeLude

Operator /Partner Report - Zoë Vandermeulen

Had a great partners meeting on Wednesday, September 15. How to take action to strengthen the partnership and our workforce area. There's been a lot of new staff and turnover, a little bit of a challenge to introduce new staff. At future partner meetings, partners bring new staff to introduce and update our directory at each of the centers.

Over the summer, went over our old strategic plan. One thing that came out is better communication is needed about what WS is and what's offered. Improvements needed on website and adding more to social media. More to come. The only center not open is Utica, all others are open to public. DOL has not come up with a Utica reopen date. Has it come up with any partners about remote/hybrid workers and hiring throughout the country due to Covid and how the systems have to evolve, maybe something down the road to discuss. DFAS did 2 more webinars and they are hiring for remote only, employees need to be within driving range if they need to go in for any in person meetings.

Update on local and regional plans, completed and up for comment on our websites, signed off by Chief Elected Officials and they've been submitted to State and approved. Waiting on MOU's to be signed by NYS before we can send out.

HMO WDG Grants

- Received funding for Rural Healthcare Grant, including 16 counties. In 6 months have reached 50% of our goal, funding up to \$2,000 per participant, coming in quickly, written over 100 contracts. Will quiet down until January with next semester. Can include home health aide to a BSN, direct care staff.
- Excite Grant for Technology, working with SUNY, MVCC, Morrisville and Utica College. Generous funding for those going into technical/IT field. Have had a lot of progress.

- WANTO (Women in Apprenticeships & Nontraditional Occupations) Grant, a bit more challenging. Placed several women in trades and manufacturing. Running a pre apprenticeship training for the trades for women.
- Gun Violence Prevention Grant - \$600,000 for 12 months to provide services to youth up to age 25 in 13501 and 13502 zip code. Training through BOCES, short term certificates. Also with MVCC. Venice Ervin, previously with MVCAA is doing the outreach. Working with Youth extension program.

Virtual Job Fair

August job fair had about 100 attendees, 65 businesses, all were happy. Next one is October 7. Rush to find jobs has not occurred yet. Beth asked how we solicited employers – State sent out email, we used social media, sent to our own list, business service sent out emails. Partner with MVSHRM to spread out to members.

Addition of pre-apprenticeship training for Career Pathways

- Career Pathways III Grant, Alice sent outline and recruitment piece. Need Board approval to add this as a credential to CPIII. M/S.... Amy Turner, Bob Brenchley

Summer Youth Programs

- **David – Oneida County** -fairly successful summer, 328 youth served, worked with number of partners, most jobs were outside, UC had Young Scholars. Other partners were MVCC (Utica and Rome), MHA, MV Latino, and Rome School for the Deaf, worked about 75 hours, \$12.50 per hour, a few youth left that will finish up the end of September. Gun Violence extension, \$160,000 funding. State wanted us to run from July through December but it was difficult while running regular SYEP. Goal is to have 75-100 youth between now and end of December, up to about 20. Youth are doing same type of jobs, working with similar agencies, Utica MHA, MV Latino Assoc, Johnson Park.
- **Karen – Herkimer County** – Summer program went well, 85 youth worked about 120 hrs. Started slow but started trickling in. 14-15 year olds at BOCES, went well, in person. Rest were spread out throughout County, towards the end, we had extra money, offered an extra week or two. Gave them \$100 incentive if perfect attendance. 2 youth were hired on at worksite. In Herkimer, busy with Remington workers, as unemployment ended, if in school, had to transfer to Trade Readjustment payment. Extended UI for those enrolled in school. Weekly forms to complete, have teachers sign and bring to center to fax. First week, inundated with that process but it went well. Some people are getting offers from RemArms and they are taking them. Going back at same rate they left at. Karen will have completed training #'s during next meeting. We're partnering with H1-B HC grant, anyone going to school, we will give them WIOA funds. Open to doing any OJT. Traffic expected to rise with UI ending but haven't seen it yet. Seeing a few more youth, LPN training being done. DSS had taken off their hold on their individuals participating in work programs. Employment Readiness training started back up, referred from DSS and they are put in a 4 week class. Revamped class through pandemic, added metrix training that is free, in person instruction, using laptops at center. In person job fair at Herkimer College last month, 65 attendees, another on September 29 in the gymnasium. Lisa Betrus thanked Karen for all her hard work

helping Basset Healthcare fill openings and they hired both summer youth, great work ethic.

- **Scott – Madison County** – challenge this summer, made connections with school and public events. 43 students, normally around 100, 29 through BOCES, municipal projects doing outdoor work. Variety students placed in area business, non for profits, Caring Kitchen, Children’s Center, Oneida Healthcare and a number of others. Most students in 14-15 age range. Job opportunities of working age was more plentiful. BOCES is a huge partner, educating students. Looking forward to full enrollment in 2022. Trickle of people after UI ending. Beginning to work with DSS clients on trainings.

Other business

Alice asked Mike and Phil if there is a work search requirement for DSS that was reinforced. Mike said not for SNAP, no work requirements, but for family assistance, safety net, there is. Same for Oneida County per Phil. Planned on sending over people to use our resources, will start to ease back into things.

Alice would like to ask everyone to participate in one of these committees – Board Membership and Orientation and Business Engagement. Zoom meeting committee, hold 2-3 meetings over next 6 months. Several members already expressed interest. If interested, please reach out to Alice.

Rome Center - People were unaware that their UI was ending so they are there to help them find a job. During the pandemic in OC, served well over 100 trainees, \$250k in funding, mostly for adults not self-sufficient under WIOA. H1B grant brought a huge surge of interested clients. Working on developing a new Out of School Youth program with MVCC, meeting with Franca and David, great proposal that will operate out of Rome campus, serving 18-24 year olds in Rome, focusing on work experience, job readiness.

Next Executive Committee meeting October 8, 2021

Next Board meeting November 10, 2021

Adjournment at 9:03am:M/S.....Amy Turner, James DeLude