

Monthly WDBs/DOL Meeting
Friday February 17, 2016
1:00 PM
Department of Labor
200 Folly Brook Boulevard
Wethersfield, CT
Conference Room C

Welcome and Introductions-

Mark, Ram and Rob welcomed attendees to the meeting and indicated that WIOA Administration staff would begin attending monthly meetings as needed/required.

MINUTUES

Minutes from the January meeting were unavailable due to a CTDOL internal computer issue. The minutes from January and today's meeting will be sent out for approval prior to the next meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

Rob received an email from Coral LaBelle (Eastern CT Workforce Development Board) concerning the definition of Measurable Skills Gains as it pertains to Connecticut. Carol requested that the WIOA Administration Unit provide additional clarification based on TEGl 10-16 and provide a draft policy for discussion with the WDB's. It is expected that the policy upon agreement would be incorporated into the interim WIOA Policy manual.

OLD BUSINESS

STEP-UP

Ram reported that the January meeting of the Bond Commission was cancelled and STEP-UP was not on the agenda of the meeting for February at this time. Given no further funding opportunities the program is slated to begin wrapping up.

Approximately \$650,000.00 remains to be expended as the close outs of the current contract continue. The program will expire in June with continued follow-up and accounting past that date.

YOUTH SUMMIT

The original requested date of Friday October 27 was not available and so the backup date of Monday October 23, 2017 was selected. The summit will take place at the Sheraton Hartford South Hotel located at 100 Capital Blvd, in Rocky Hill CT. The summit will focus on Youth Barriers and Engagement and will include presentations from each of the five WDB's along with facilitated break-out session workshops for each of five identified barriers as described in WIOA eligibility legislation and based on collected state data. Since the event is limited to 250 attendees including the organizers and presenters each WDB has been asked to submit a list of staff that they feel best represent their region in addressing these concerns. Rob will be scheduling a planning meeting in March 2017 to continue the planning process. Staffs from each WDB are encouraged to attend.

ACTION ITEMS

Rob will sign and secure the contract with the Sheraton and schedule the next planning meeting in March.

RFI

Three responses from CTDOL's Request for Information have been submitted and are awaiting review. Mark is forming a committee to review and discuss each of the responses to see what opportunities exist to improve CT's Workforce Development System. The committee will break down and present this information to this group for discussion. It is hoped that going forward we will have a unified voice. Let Mark know if you are interested in serving on this committee.

ACTION ITEMS

Mark will enlist a committee and schedule a meeting to begin reviewing the RFI responses.

VOS-GREETER

Rob clarified where the VOS greeter can be found for review on the CTHires training site. Due to current nature of constant system changes in supporting WIOA and the amount of work facing staff it was decided not to pursue the VOS-GREETER module in

CTHires at this time. Rob will request Geographic Solutions remove the module from the training site.

ACTION ITEMS

Rob will direct Geographic Systems to turn off the VOS Greeter portion of the CTHires system on the training site.

DEMONSTRATION- PILOT GRANTS

Mark has received requests from Demonstration-Pilot Grants from two boards to date. Contracts for moving these requests are in the process of being reviewed and finalized.

Invited guest Laurie Colbourn of CTDOL's Performance Unit discussed new performance measures and activities which have been added to the CTHires system to align with the current PIRL. Since the PIRL now tracks cost per individual participant per activity/service Laurie indicated that the Individual Fund Tracking component which is not currently being utilized in CTHires may need to be turned on to address this. Members from the workforce development boards indicated that this would be a significant additional work burden given they must account for this information in their own systems which could mean double entry.

ACTION ITEMS

CTDOL will finalize contracts for the Demonstration Pilot Grants which have been submitted.

ETPL

Rob and Mark indicated that the interim ETPL policy was finalized and issued as discussed in previous meeting. A committee to review continued eligibility and performance still needs to be organized and scheduled to begin work in this area. Mark is in the process of developing a manual tool to be utilized for current providers however, Geographic Solutions has indicated it is working on a format to receive and upload data to the CTHires system. At the request of several boards CTDOL in conjunction with Alice Pritchard of the State Colleges and Universities is in the process of developing a referral form for programs that don't directly lead to an industry recognized credential or license. Mary discussed current providers entered into the system to date and the review of programs which was conducted internally to verify the status of active, eligible providers in the CTHires system.

NEW BUSINESS

SP-NEG

No-cost extensions are due 2/27/2017 and the unit is in the process of finalizing them.

ACTION ITEMS

Mark will send a copy to Nestor at his request.

MONITORING

WIOA monitoring is once again planned for the spring of 2017 with a goal of April for visits. The WIOA Administration team is in the process of designing a new tool with WIOA that utilizes new enacted laws, regulations and TEGE's. The federal DOL has yet to issue a monitoring tool. A team of monitors will be (at least 2) will be visiting each location. Monitoring will include programmatic issues identified in the federal consolidation review which was conducted last year.

ACTION ITEMS

Schedule monitoring dates, send out initial notices.

Develop and implement monitoring tool and team.

DISLOCATED WORKER CERTIFICATION AND THE WAGE FILE

Based on the consolidated review finding it was determined that WDB staff should be certifying Dislocated Workers in addition to DOL staff. Since UI verification is only required in specific situations and can be accessed by clients who are currently collecting, this is usually not an issue. However, in the rare cases where the client has not yet filed for benefits WDB staff will need access to the clients wage file to determine if eligibility would exist if the client filed. Ram, Mark and Daryl Dudzinski are working on a plan to grant access to this DOL screen for WDB staff in this one instance. MOU'S between the WDB's and CTDOL will need to be amended and training will be required.

NEXT MEETING

Scheduled for Thursday April 6th 2017 at 1:00pm

ADJOURNMENT 2:20PM

In attendance:

Ram Aberastruia, Mark Polzella, Rob Bongiolatti, Denise Collins, Monique Lambert, Sandra Kerlew, Laurie Colburn, DOL-Performance; Susan Fracasso, DOL-RR; Kim Andy, CTDOL; Linda Ladas, Dol-ES Operations; Michael Hayden, NRWIB; Virginia Sampietro, Carol LaBelle, EWIB; SCWDB; John Broncato, - SWDB; Nestor Leon_, NCWDB; Julie Watson