

Monthly WDBs/DOL Meeting
Friday, October 6, 2017
1:00 PM
Department of Labor
200 Folly Brook Blvd.
Wethersfield, CT
Conference Room A&B 2nd Floor

MINUTES

PRESENT: R. Aberasturia, L. Sementilli, M. Ziomek, K. Marioni, N. Leon, Julie Watson, Jill Watson, M. Hayden, C. LaBelle, F. Stankiewicz, Jimmy Guevara, L. Lawrence, D. Collins, B. Amin, J. Criscuolo, W. Montes, S. Fracasso, T. Berch, P. Tallarita, M. Arsenault, T. Knight, K. Andy, D. Dudzinski, M. Costello, R. Bongiolatti

- **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS.** Ram Aberasturia called the meeting to order.
- **APPROVAL OF MINUTES.**
- **CORRESPONDENCE.** None.
- **OLD BUSINESS**
 - **Step Up** – Ram announced that \$800,000 in subsidy funds remain to write an additional 80 new contracts. Each Board will have the ability to write 20 additional contracts. There are no administration dollars attached to these contracts.

Ram made a request to hold off on Old Business and move to New Business in order to let Jennifer Gorman from the State Department on Aging speak. There were no objections

- **NEW BUSINESS**
 - As administrator of the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) which is federally funded under Title V of the Older Americans Act and required partner in the American Job Center, Jennifer gave an overview of the State Department on Aging's role. SCSEP serves adults age 55 and older who are looking to enter or return to the workforce. Participants must meet eligibility requirements such as low income, or those most in need such as veterans and people with disabilities. Participants are placed in on-the-job training for 20 hours a week. Jennifer explained that some of the services they provide overlap with American Job Center services such as resume writing and support services referrals. Funding comes from USDOL to Aging and The WorkPlace. Aging covers the areas of Litchfield, New Haven and Stamford. Other areas are covered by The WorkPlace, Inc.
 - **IFA Progress Updates** – The availability of an MOU tool kit through Rochelle Daniels was mentioned. Julie Watson commented that costs should be shared by partners who have a physical presence or make

telephone referrals. Julie also expressed concern about the administrative burden of billing for immaterial amounts of money. She also questioned who would be accountable for breaking out DOL costs, such as Trade and Vets. It was agreed that bringing people together in the negotiating process was a good thing. The Boards were in agreement that they would like to see a set template for the budget and an agreement template. A space analysis template was shared by Facilities.

- **VOZ Greeter/Scan Cards** – Rob Bongiolatti asked the Boards about their interest in the agency pursuing that functionality. The Boards were more interested in funding for a more robust business model or clearing up ETPL issues. The consensus was it was not a priority at this time. Rob asked how the Boards planned on addressing increased traffic. How will lines out the doors be addressed? The Boards responded that triage through the system would be conducted with human help and hardware. Kathy Marioni discussed a dislocated worker technology grant they had received that allowed them to explore different technical opportunities. GEO has new product add ons and I-pads were purchased for Rapid Response. Also, the DMV process has been looked at. Other ideas from the Board were welcomed. Common passwords were discussed. The DOL website will be more mobile friendly. CTHires does have a mobile application that Rob will pursue for more information. Some Boards are using Messenger and Texting.

- **Common Intake** –

- **OLD BUSINESS**

- **ETPL** – There was a discussion regarding the draft policy on credit and non-credit college/community college programs that do not lead to certification. Nestor offered to draft language and forwarded to Rob. Converted ETPL data in CTHires is working for some offices and not others. There was concern by the Boards about having to re-enter data from scratch. At this time Rob is approving Apprenticeship programs as they are sent to him.
- **Youth Summit Update** – Rob thanked staff for working on plenaries. He also stated the summit is completely booked. If you are not attending please let us know as there is a waiting list. Carol LaBelle expressed concern regarding Kelvin Young and kids being asked questions by a stranger. It is hard to get them to open up even to staff they know. She requested that a copy of the questions be forwarded to her before the summit. The other Boards were in agreement. Lyn Lawrence agreed to forward a copy of the questions before the summit.

- **NEW BUSINESS**

- ◆ Kathy Marioni announced that Joanne Ryan from the Northwest Chamber of Commerce is the new State Board Chairperson.

◆ Preparing for Puerto Rico – Ram informed Board staff that the Labor Commissioner sent communication out to their Directors. Regarding eligibility issues, Puerto Rico residents will be served under the WIOA adult program. There was concern by the Boards regarding a lack of identification. USDOL’s position is that in order to get here, residents had to have a form of identification. There are no NEGs available at this time. Daryle explained the Puerto Rico Department of Labor website is not operational and residents are not yet eligible for UI. He noted there are daily updates on the DOL website.

- **NEXT MEETING DATE AND FUTURE TOPICS, IF ANY**
- **ADJOURNMENT.**

DRAFT