

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD, INC.
OF
MAHONING AND COLUMBIANA COUNTIES**

One-Stop Committee Meeting
March 9, 2023
8:00 am

Best Western Plus – Dutch Haus Inn & Suites

Attendees: Tom Andrews, Shirley Bowald, Cyndy Bresnahan, Ty-Juan Bright, Ishmael Brown, Barbara Bush, Jennifer Campbell, Kathleen Clarke, Megan Cowden, Kelly Darney, John Dilling, Lynn Esposito, James Ford, Bryan Higgins, Lindsay Hildreth, Jack Hile, David Janofa, Jim Jarvis, Mary Ann Kochalko, Susie Kooser, Joyce Loychik, Jeremy Miller, Dawn Monteiro, Marilyn Montes, Lori Murphy, Mark Nicastro, Ann Phillips, Carol Ramsay-Loomis, Robert Ritchey, JoAnn Schuler, Aaron Schultz, Sharlene Senediak, Jennifer Strank, Tammy Wolfe, and Kristen Womeldorff.

Call to Order/Introductions

Kelly Darney, One-Stop Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:00am, and introductions took place.

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

Motion: To approve the consent agenda items as presented.
Motion made by: Lori Murphy
Seconded by: James Ford
Discussion: None
Motion approved.

Old Business

Budget to Actual Report

The PY22 income statements for Area 17 OhioMeansJobs centers were provided. Currently, Mahoning County has approximately \$54,000 left to spend, which will be used for soundproofing the center and additional security for the main entrance. Columbiana County has \$19,000 left to spend, and funds will be used to replace half (7) of the computers in the computer lab. The PY23 budget, which begins July 1, 2023, was also provided for both centers.

New Business

MOU Update

The updated MOU and attachments were emailed to partners yesterday. The MOU will be for two years, beginning July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2025. Cost shares for partners in each county were prepared and provided for review. Overall, the budgets increased slightly due to inflation. More than half of the costs charged to partners goes towards rent of the centers. Costs charged to equal access partners only go toward resource room cost pools. Partner signatures are needed no later than Friday, April 28th.

Motion: To recommend the PY23/PY24 Area 17 OMJ Partner MOU to the Executive Committee for approval as presented.
Motion made by: Ishmael Brown
Seconded by: John Dilling
Discussion: None
Motion approved.

RETAIN Grant Update

At the end of the month, Carol Ramsay-Loomis will be attending a RETAIN meeting in Cincinnati with the Department of Labor (DOL). Other states participating in RETAIN will also be in attendance to share success stories and other information requested by DOL. If Mercy Health is unable to assist individuals with their current

employment, individuals are referred to the OMJ center for job search assistance or potential funding assistance for training. Since last March, there have been approximately 30 RETAIN referrals. Referrals to the OMJ center for RETAIN are being tracked, and follow-up is conducted after the initial contact. Mercy Health is also following up with the referred individuals, encouraging them to remain in contact with the OMJ center.

OMJ Center Updates

Traffic at the OMJ centers continues to increase. Many of the individuals visiting have unemployment questions, and more are coming in to complete RESEA activities. Of the individuals selected for RESEA, 50% completed their initial appointment, and 80% completed their follow-up activities. One staff member conducts the assessment, and two other staff members provide the support services.

CFIS reporting is still trying to be resolved. A large discrepancy in data remains between CFIS and OneFlow; CFIS shows a significantly lower number in customer visits. The discrepancy is currently being addressed with the State. Although more customers are coming in at the Oak Hill satellite, CFIS also cannot separate Oak Hill customer traffic from the traffic at the Boardman OMJ center.

Jack Hile has been going to The Way Station in East Palestine twice a week to share information about available services and resources to those impacted by the train derailment. The East Palestine library director has been contacted to discuss the option of offering an OMJ orientation at the library.

Individuals will eventually need to be registered with the OH ID system, which is a single, sign-on system to access all State services. OhioMeansJobs will eventually be under the OH ID system.

Due to Ohio no longer participating in the federal public health emergency program, many individuals have lost their SNAP and Medicaid benefits. This may be another reason for the increase in traffic at the OMJ centers. After benefits are reviewed in April, even more individuals will be losing benefits starting in May, which may contribute to a higher increase in customer traffic.

The Connection

JoAnn Schuler encouraged more partners to share news about their agencies. Anyone who is not receiving The Connection, but would like to, can contact JoAnn.

WDB Update

Public Interest Audit Report

In response to Ohio employers' struggle to find well-qualified workers fill open positions after the pandemic, the Auditor of State conducted a public interest audit of the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services – Office of Workforce Development programs to identify areas for improved efficiency, effectiveness, and transparency. The report identifies six key observations which resulted in nine recommendations to increase the accessibility of workforce development programs to individuals seeking services in Ohio. The key observations and recommendations made in the report were highlighted. A link to the report will be emailed to partners.

Two-Year Review of Regional and Local Plans

The two-year review of the regional and local plans is scheduled to be completed. Area 17, along with Area 6 (Stark and Tuscarawas Counties) and Area 18 (Trumbull County) comprise the East region in Ohio, and a meeting was recently held to discuss the plans. The draft modification will be posted on www.wdbinc.org for public comment next week. Partners will be notified when the modification is available for review.

Meeting Evaluation

Partners were asked to complete the meeting evaluation form provided.

Partner Updates

Compass Family and Community Services

In January, Compass underwent a CARF review, and it was successful in maintaining its CARF accreditation.

Mahoning-Youngstown Community Action Partnership

MYCAP has food vouchers available for distribution. Contracts are in place with various local organizations where the vouchers can be redeemed. Individuals can be referred to MYCAP for the vouchers.

Eastern Gateway Community College

The Aspire program will be offering free, two ten-week courses in Adult Education at MCCTC. Courses will address website content and graphic design.

Columbiana County Board of Developmental Disabilities

The CCBDD employment appreciation dinner will be held next Thursday, March 16th.

CCBDD worked jointly with Columbiana County ESC and YSU's Excellence Training Center to receive a transition grant for students and recent graduates with disabilities to obtain industry-recognized credentials.

The Counseling Center of Columbiana County

A customer recently completed the 22+ Program. The customer never thought she would get her high school diploma, but she was able to earn her diploma in only four months.

Columbiana County Port Authority

CCPA is partnering with Valley Partners to host a lunch and learn on March 31st, 11am-1pm at the CCPA office for businesses to discuss financing options for workforce training, building expansion, and/or equipment needs. CCPA is also partnering with YSU to build a global innovation hub. It is a \$650,000 investment, and it will be an incubator space to bring international companies to the Valley to show them the assets the area has available. The opening date is expected to be in August.

Meeting Location

A comment to consider relocating the meeting to the Dutch Haus Restaurant was mentioned on a recent meeting evaluation. The option is being researched to determine if the space can accommodate our needs.

CAA of Columbiana County

Individuals can use the EZfare app when scheduling rides with CARTS. Micro-transits will begin in Columbiana and Salem at the end of April.

Due to the train derailment, the health mobile unit has gone to East Palestine to assist the health department with completing clinical assessments. Since the mobile unit is a federally qualified health center, CAA can help individuals who may not have a primary care provider or insurance. The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) also provided \$250,000 to provide assistance in East Palestine. One of the reasons for the mobile unit was to provide onsite patient care to communities where a physical health care location did not exist; East Palestine is one of those communities.

Next Meeting

The next One-Stop Committee meeting is scheduled for June 8, 2023.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:45am.