

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD, INC.
OF
MAHONING AND COLUMBIANA COUNTIES
One-Stop Committee Meeting
September 12, 2024
8:30 am
OhioMeansJobs – Mahoning County

Attendees: Ralph Blanco, Shirley Bowald, Cyndy Bresnahan, Ishmael Brown, Barbara Bush, Jennifer Campbell, Kelly Darney, John Dilling, Dennis Dunham, Lynn Esposito, James Ford, Bryan Higgins, Lindsay Hildreth, Jack Hile, David Janofa, Mary Ann Kochalko, Mary Mihalopoulos, Jeremy Miller, William Moore, Lori Murphy, Shelley Murray, Carol Ramsay-Loomis, Jackie Ruller, Sharlene Senediak, Jodi Snyder, Puella Stoddard, Brianna Sullivan, Susie Wickline, and Tammy Wolfe.

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 PY24 income statements for Area 17 OhioMeansJobs centers were provided for review.

Mahoning County has approximately \$39,435 left to spend until June 30, 2025, with \$13,719 left to spend until September 30, 2024. Funds will be used to replace chairs for customers, replace entryway carpet, and purchase supplies.

Columbiana County has \$30,224 left to spend until June 30, 2025, with \$6,445 left to spend until September 30, 2024. Funds will be used to replace approximately 27 chairs for customers.

New Business

Partner Presentation - YSU

Jackie Ruller is the Director of the Workforce, Education, and Innovation (WEI) Department at YSU. The department is comprised of The Excellence Training Center (ETC), the IT Workforce Accelerator, and the Skills Accelerator. A list of current courses, which includes newly added courses under WEI, was provided for reference. The ETC offers hands-on advanced manufacturing training and partners with the Mahoning Valley Manufacturers Coalition to host the WorkAdvance program.

A pre-apprenticeship with the State of Ohio for advanced manufacturing is also available and is worth 12 points towards high school graduation. Although it is geared towards high school students, it is available for everybody. Jackie can be contacted at jruller@ysu.edu for additional information.

Silvestri Hall, which houses the IT courses, was recently opened, and new courses have been added under the IT Workforce Accelerator.

Many of the changes have aligned the department with the STEM college, making the WEI department in line with both academia and workforce goals.

Operators Report

MCDJFS contracted with MCTA to conduct the TANF Youth Summer Program in Mahoning County. The program ran from June 10th to August 16th. Approximately 360 youth participated in the program, and they worked an average of 30 hours per week. The summer program aides were housed at the Oakhill satellite office, which enhanced the coordination efforts between MCTA and MCDJFS.

On October 3rd, MCTA will be attending an active shooter training that is being hosted by CCDJFS in their building.

Efforts are being made to collect information about virtual services partners offer to customers. Partners were asked to provide their information to Jack or Carol by the middle of November.

The State has developed unemployment videos to assist customers in the OMJ resource rooms. The purpose of the videos is to enhance support and provide immediate help to customers as they navigate Ohio's unemployment system. The videos will be made available on every resource room computer. The videos will be in addition to the ODJFS adjudicator that comes into the Mahoning County OMJ center one day a week. An inquiry will be made to the State to determine if the videos can also be added to the local OMJ website and YouTube channel.

On July 1st, MCTA received \$450,000 for a New Start – Justice Involved Individuals (JII) Grant, which can serve 55 youth or adults who have been involved in some way with the court system. Efforts are being made to place individuals in work experience, classroom training, or on-the-job opportunities; business services will assist those who complete classroom training and do not have a job lined up, and they will also collect employment information for performance measures. Since July, 2 participants have enrolled in training, 1 received supportive services, and 5 are in progress to receive services. Updated information will be available in December.

The Area 17 PY25-PY26 OMJ Partner MOU will begin July 1, 2025. If information is received from the State in time, a draft MOU will be provided for review at the December meeting. Changes will be made as needed, and a final draft should be ready for signature at the March meeting. If any changes in services or signatories are known, please contact Jack or Carol to update the information.

The December meeting will be held in Columbiana County at the OMJ center. Refreshments will continue to be provided.

OMJ Center Updates

Mahoning County

The unemployment videos have been installed on the resource room computers, and they will also be installed on the computers at the Oak Hill satellite.

The OUIO program is still going well. An ODJFS adjudicator continues to be on site one day a week; 30-minute appointments are scheduled, and most people attend their appointments.

Columbiana County

The unemployment videos are currently being installed on the resource room computers. They will be useful not only in the resource room, but also virtually when talking to customers over the phone.

Deep cleaning at the center has been completed, and efforts will be made to do it more frequently when appropriate. With flu season starting, staff will be reminded to sanitize surfaces throughout the center to minimize the spread of germs.

OMJ K-12 training will be provided to the guidance and career counselors at CCESC on September 26th.

Partners were reminded that cross-trainings can be held for any new programs they may have. Jack or Carol can be contacted to schedule cross-trainings for partners.

WDB Update

Phase 3 OMJ Certification

As directed under WIOA, Phase 3 of the OMJ certification process must be completed every three years. Phase 1 focuses on meeting basic location standards; Phase 2 involves a quality assurance review, that sets a standard of excellence for services being offered; Phase 3 will focus on continuous improvement based on what

was identified in Phase 2. Phase 3 must be completed by June 30th, and the State is expected to provide guidance after the first of the year.

Area 17 One-Stop Operator RFP

The Area 17 One-Stop Operator RFP will be issued in December. Competitive procurement will be completed for the contract starting on July 1, 2025. It will be a one-year contract with the opportunity for three annual renewals.

The State is making changes to the OMJ Partner MOU. A training session will be held in October to review the template. Partners were asked to inform the signatory that a draft will be available for review.

WIOA Reauthorization

WIOA is an unauthorized appropriation and will remain a continuing resolution. Action will most likely be taken after the first part of the year when the new administration is in place.

Meeting Evaluation

Partners were asked to complete the meeting evaluation form provided.

Partner Updates

Jobs for Veterans Grant

The State received new guidance from the Department of Labor for its Jobs for Veterans Grant. Once State policies have been updated, information will be shared with the local areas, and training will be provided at the OMJ centers. It has been 10 years since major changes have been made, and most of the changes involve consolidation and definition changes. Training is expected to be held in November around Veteran's Day.

CCEESC

A "Manufacturing Your Future" event for high school sophomores will be held in early October. An invitation was extended to Jackie Ruller and David Janofa to share information about the advanced manufacturing pre-apprenticeship offered through YSU's WEI Department. The event is being sponsored by the Columbiana County Business Advisory Council and Congressman Michael Rulli. 10 sophomores from each participating high school are expected to attend.

Goodwill Industries of Youngstown

Appreciation was extended to everyone who participated in the community needs assessment that Goodwill did in partnership with the Regional Chamber. The results will be available in mid-October.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:05am.