

Workforce Development Board Meeting Minutes
August 3, 2022
Bradford County Public Safety Center
29 VanKuren Drive
Towanda, Pa. 18848

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 am by Melissa Fleming and introductions were made.

Those in attendance: Krystle Bristol, Aubrey Carrington, Jonah Howe, Bruce Jones, Heather Nelson, James Nobles, Brad Reid, Breanna Repard, Christopher Roenning, Darlene Wampole, Penne Watkins

Those in attendance via Zoom: Mike Narcavage, Brad Georgetti, Kristin Hamilton, Rachel Hauser, Ron Vogel, Melanie Erb.

NTRPDC Staff in attendance: Melissa Fleming, Frank Thompson, Jody McCarty, Bonnie Warner, Patty Sturzen, Rachel Selleck.

New WDB Member James Nobles welcomed by all.

Citizens Comments: None.

May 11, 2022 Meeting Minutes: Due to the shortage of NT WDB Members, approval of the May 11, 2022 Meeting Minutes will be tabled until the next WDB meeting that is being held November 2, 2022.

Old Business

Chair/Vice Chair-Melissa Fleming:

- ♦ Due to the retirements of NT WDB's Craig Harting and Amy Gilbert, who served as Chair and Vice Chair, NT WDB has actively been looking for persons interested in filling those positions.
- ♦ Mike Narcavage from Southwest Energy has agreed to fill the position of NT WDB Chair and Brad Reid, from Lackawanna College has agreed to fill the position of NT WDB Vice Chair.
- ♦ Official approval of NT WDB Chair and Vice Chair positions will take place at the November 2, 2022 WDB Meeting.

PA CareerLink Highlights

Tioga County-Penne Watkins

- ♦ Review of Tioga County PA CareerLink June 2021-July 2022 Annual Activity Report that is included in meeting packet.
- ♦ Tioga County Job Fair being held 10.18.22. Information flyer included in Meeting Packet.
- ♦ UC Representative is available 2 days a week at the Tioga CL. To schedule time with the UC Representative, persons should contact Tioga CL ahead of time. Positive responses seen with the representation of UC at Tioga CL.
- ♦ Rapid Response meeting with Tyoga Container employees affected by recent layoffs. Approx. 19 people affected. Approx. 10 of those 19 people have met with a UC Representative.

Bradford, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Wyoming Counties-Darlene Wampole:

- ♦ Review of the Bradford/Sullivan Counties PA CareerLink June 2021-July 2022 Activity Report that is included in meeting packet.
- ♦ PennDot Hiring Event being held 8.4.22. Informational flyer included in Meeting Packet.
- ♦ Susquehanna Pop-Up Job Fair being held 8.17.2022 Informational flyer included in Meeting Packet.
- ♦ UC Representative is available 2 days a week at Bradford County CL location. Persons request to be put on the list to meet with the UC Representative to discuss any UC problems or questions and address their needs. State receiving positive feedback. PACL's across the State hope more Grant monies will become available to continue this service.

Youth Committee Update-Jody McCarty:

Launch! Your Success:

- ♦ Review of the June 2022 Launch! Your Success Report.
- ♦ New Enrollments for PY21 is 19. Recruitment goal for PY21 was 36.
- ♦ NTWDA at 100% of goal for the WIOA 20% Youth Work Experience Expenditure Requirement for PY 2021.
- ♦ NTWDA has met the WIOA 75% Out of School Youth Expenditure Requirement for PY 2021.
- ♦ As of 6.30.22 there are 18 Active Youth Participants and 31 Youth are Exiting/In Follow Up. Follow up will take place for a year.
- ♦ Taskforce continues to meet and share ideas to increase OSY recruitment.
- ♦ Taskforce rebranded Youth Program to Launch! Your Success, and created the Launch! Your Success Website.
- ♦ Website referrals went from 0 to 25 in the last several months.

- ♦ BCA and Trehab holding a number of Outreach Events this summer for their Summer Youth Participants.
- ♦ Scavenger Hunt held in Susquehanna County to help are Youths make connections with area businesses. TV newsclip of event shared with all.
- ♦ Northern Tier County Youth Profiles highlights school enrollments, unemployment and occupations for persons 15-24 yrs. old. For those interested in reviewing this report, contact Jody McCarty.
- ♦ Fall Newsletter to be released sometime in September 2022.

Summer Youth Update-BCA and Trehab:

BCA-Penne Watkins:

- ♦ Binders with pictures highlighting the youth's activities passed around for all to see.

Trehab-Breanna Repard:

- ♦ Slideshow highlighting the youth's activities shown to all.

Northern Tier Reports:

BEP (Career Coaches)-Jody McCarty:

- ♦ Review of the June 2022 BEP Report.
- ♦ Total number of students impacted/career projects completed through the BEP is 10,322.
- ♦ 211 Employers connected with students through the BEP.
- ♦ Number of elementary students (K-6) career education projects completed-1,687.
- ♦ Parents involved in career activities-345
- ♦ STEM/STEAM activities completed-17.
- ♦ Past events included Mock Interviews and Panels brought into the schools representing different occupations and industries which allowed students and employers to connect personally.
- ♦ Planning continues for upcoming school year.
- ♦ 1 Career Coach has taken a full- time position at Troy School District and 1 Career Coach has retired so NTRPDC working on filling those 2 Career Coach positions.
- ♦ Area schools seeing the value in the BEP Program and how the Career Advisors can help maximize career education to their students.

Skill-Up PA-Rachel Selleck

- ♦ Skill-Up PA flyer included in meeting packet.
- ♦ New initiative created by the State to try and get workforce better qualified for employment.
- ♦ Local portal created where persons registered with PAEL take part in individual based training and have access to more than 6000 courses free of charge and over 130 Industry Recognized Credentials.
- ♦ Credentials for courses are available for a fee which varies depending on course. Potential exists for fees charged for Credentials to be covered by WIOA funds.
- ♦ Skill-Up/Metrix will work with businesses to customize career paths with specific industry clusters.
- ♦ All BWPO staff will now be required to take Professional Development Course Work through Skill-Up/Metrix.
- ♦ BWPO staff will also be promoting Skill-Up/Metrix as a great tool for employers to retain employees and for those seeking more qualified employees.
- ♦ NTRPDC to partner with local businesses who can relay input on what courses/skills are needed in the NT Region.
- ♦ Local schools interested in using Skill-Up/Metrix as a tool so students can meet Act158 requirements they now need to graduate.
- ♦ Virtual meeting for potential partners to take place 8.25.22 at 10:30 am. Invitations to be sent out soon.

WIOA/EARN Updates-Melissa Fleming, Patty Sturzen:

WIOA-Melissa Fleming:

- ♦ Review of PY21-22 June 30, 2022 WIOA Participation Report. Enrollments are comparable to numbers from last PY.
- ♦ Those served numbers are for people who are unemployed or under employed and do not include all who came into the CareerLink System.
- ♦ PY21-22 saw a slight increase in Adult workers and decrease in DW workers
- ♦ Adult/DW Committee created to look at different ways to enhance the program, increase outreach and enrollments.

EARN-Patty Sturzen:

- ♦ Review of the EARN Snapshot Report July 1 2021-June 30, 2022.
- ♦ For PY21 there were 98 referrals, 52 new enrollments-53% enrollment rate.
- ♦ Goal is to see more referrals to EARN program from the CAO's for PY22.

Path To Careers-Melissa Fleming:

- ♦ Path to Careers website allows student to connect to employers to discover work experiences as well as useful information about jobs and training.
- ♦ Outreach to local schools taking place. Website will be available to all students at all local school at no cost.
- ♦ NTRPDC Career Coach approaching businesses about participating in Path To Careers website that is being developed.

- ♦ Formal presentation on Path To Careers will be shown at the next NT WDB Meeting.

Industry Partnerships-Melissa Fleming:

- ♦ Series of Round Table discussions recently held with local manufacturers.
- ♦ NTRPDC working with Oom's Institute to conduct Round Tables, complete surveys and update NTRPDC's CEDS Plan.
- ♦ Report to be presented at NTRPDC's Annual Meeting in October 2022.
- ♦ Healthcare Industry Partnership meeting recently held with. Partnerships consists of NT, Pocono, Luzerne/Schuykill and Lackawanna Regions. Facilitator to be hired to hold discussion and conduct surveys.
- ♦ More information will be shared at the next NT WDB Meeting.

Northern Tier Update-Frank Thompson:

- ♦ NTRPDC working ARC applications.
- ♦ Applications likely to be funded include: Lackawanna College-Tunkhannock School of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Susquehanna Interfaith.
- ♦ Applications still to be submitted include: Laurel Health, Susquehanna County Recreation Center and Tri-County.
- ♦ Digital Literacy continues to be a barrier in the NT Region and NTRPDC working to provide services to help ease this issue.

Communications/Monitoring-Bonnie Warner:

Monitoring Updates/Reports:

- ♦ Final PY21 EO/ADA Monitoring at PACL Comprehensive Sites and affiliate Service Provider sites has been completed. Contact Bonnie Warner if interested in reviewing monitoring report.
- ♦ Review of Oversight Timeline for PY22 local monitoring activities.

Good of the Order:

Labor Market Information:

- ♦ May 2022 Labor Market Reports included in Meeting Packet.

Jim Nobles-Laurel Health:

- ♦ Laurel Health is a Federally Qualified Health System and is a subset of DHS.
- ♦ Laurel Health takes all patients regardless of their ability to pay, accepts all insurance, accepts Medicaid and CHIP and any other government payors.
- ♦ Laurel Health receives Federal Subsidies and offers Sliding-Fee Discount for healthcare.
- ♦ Patients are evaluated based on the Federal Poverty Level to determine how much they would pay for their care. This ensures that all patients have access to high-quality, low-cost healthcare.
- ♦ New Laurel Health Dental office being opened on York Ave. in Towanda on 8.15.22.
- ♦ Laurel Health has signed a 20-year lease with Trehab and will be opening a new Health Center in downtown Towanda, Pa. within the next year. Health Center will offer Behavioral and Primary Care services. Looking to offset funding through ARC and EDA Grants.
- ♦ Laurel Health Center already open in Troy, Pa.
- ♦ Laurel Health offers school-based Behavioral and Primary Care services in Northern Tioga.
- ♦ After MOU is completed, Behavioral Health Services will be available in Southern Tioga School District in the fall.
- ♦ Laurel Health would like to expand program to other school districts in Bradford County and also would like to add Oral Health Services in the future.

Bruce Jones-BWPO:

- ♦ Effort to standardize intake of PACL customers through Digital Intake is currently being piloted in McKean County.
- ♦ Meeting to take place 8.12.22 between State, Title I Staff and PACL Operators from Bradford County. Meeting will allow local representatives to give their perspective/ideas regarding the PACL Digital Intake process.
- ♦ In an effort to increase engagement and show support, very important for local WDB members to visit events that are organized by their local CareerLinks.
- ♦ List of upcoming events being held by Bradford and Tioga CareerLinks to be sent to NT WDB members.

Aubrey Carrington-Bradford/Wyoming Literacy Program:

- ♦ Bradford/Wyoming Literacy Program offers one on one tutoring for anyone needing assistance in increasing their skill levels.

Chris Roenning-Sullivan County:

- ♦ Outcreek Escape purchased the former site of the Little League Camp in Hills Grove Pa in June 2022. Plans for the site is to offer Cabin and RV sites.

Mike Narcavage-Southwest Energy:

- ♦ Looking forward to taking on the position as Chair for the NT WDB and working with everyone.

Ron Vogel-PSSU Local 668:

- ♦ Rapid Response staff across the State has started trainings for PACL staff using a new portal that has been build into the CWD system to ease the hand off of participants that have participated in Rapid Response services.
- ♦ Training to begin next week with Title I at PACL in Mon Valley.
- ♦ Training dates have not been set in Eastern Pa but are being planned.

Next Meeting Date/Adjournment:

The next WDB Meeting date: November 2, 2022 and will be held at the Bradford Count Public Safety Center.

The meeting adjourned at 12:14pm

Respectfully submitted,
Patty Sturzen