

Interagency Collaborative Team (ICT)
October 24, 2024
10:00 a.m.
GOOGLE MEETS

ATTENDEES: Sandra Adkins, Charla Austin, Melissa Bias, Gary Blankenship, Danika Brown, Jonathon Compton, Amanda Cranfield, Amy Crook, Michael Crown, Barb Dawes, Amanda Dawson, Kristen Deem, Kaylee Dickenson, David Dyer, Tina Faber, Emily Hays-Miller, Brenda Huffman, Rosemary Guida, Chad Ketchum, Lisa Lilly, Tara Martinez, Criss McCauley, Bill Monterosso, Adam Mouse, Nick Nunnery, Rachel Patterson, Maureen Persons, Angela Petry-Muslin, Andy Richardson, Jason Roberts, David Rogers, Carrie Sizemore, Lorrie Smith, Phil Stephens, Lori Turner, TJ VanMeter, Tiffany Williams, Beth Shoemaker, Bridgit Arnold, Cheryl Stiles, Cydney Eades, Maria Larry, Dr. Rikki McCormick

Michael Crown opened the meeting and reminded all that the meeting was being recorded and transcribed. Michael then asked for updates from

- Barb Dawes/Bridgit Arnold - The free workshops are going great, very engaging. We are hoping for a great turnout for the Financial Literacy workshop on November 12.
- Michael stated the DoHS Supervisors conference went well and thanked Ashley for inviting WFWV. He then turned the meeting over to Kaylee Dickenson who attended in place of Stephanie Bond.
- Kaylee Dickenson - State Drug Court Coordinator for the Division of Probation Services, overseeing all of the treatment courts in West Virginia.
 - There are requirements for working with probation supervision and treatment courts with probation supervision. Typically the sentencing Judge will order them to gain employment within so many days, normally 30 days. It must be lawful employment, if it is self-employment they have to have a 1095, there is no exception. Treatment courts don't generally require employment until the participants reach Phase 3 which is typically around 6 months in the program.
 - There are many barriers that probationers and treatment court participants face. Many times the only employment they are able to obtain is fast food due to these barriers. A lot of them have felony convictions, and very few have transportation. There are lots of terms and conditions that involve monthly visits to the Probation Officer, sometimes weekly court hearings for treatment court, weekly treatment sessions, and drug screenings throughout the week as well. We want to be able to assist these individuals with gaining employment that will lead to a career, but that is difficult with all their barriers.
 - We would like some type of partnership with you all and local businesses. We immediately refer our participants to Jobs & Hope. Some of our probationers don't meet the Jobs & Hope qualifications though. We would like to be able to give them a resource beyond Jobs & Hope to local workforce offices.
 - Criss McCauley - WorkForce West Virginia sponsors a Federal Bonding Program. It is an incentive to employers to hire second chance individuals. That's something you can remind your participants of. The bond basically acts as insurance for the employer in case the employee steals or damages property. Kathy Mullins and Lisa Lilly will be the contacts for that program.
 - Bill Monterosso - Region 4 has had success with placing second chance individuals with the building and skills trades.

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- Michael Crown - We can get you in touch with Maureen Persons and her staff of Business Service Reps, and we will also send you resources that we currently have on hand. The best thing would be to develop a relationship with each individual Workforce Development Area.
 - Lisa Lilly - WorkForce West Virginia hires convicted felons. The applicant must be honest on the application and in the interview. Currently we have 20-25 individuals that are second chance employees working at our Connect Centers in Kanawha City and Morgantown.
 - Adam Mouse - The building trades, whether union or not, are normally very open to hiring individuals that are justice involved.
 - Contact info: kaylee.dickenson@courtswv.gov or stephanie.bond@courtswv.gov
- Dr. Rikki McCormick, WV SAA (WVHEPC) - We operate as the State Approving agency for West Virginia. We are the place that certifies or approves any type of facility, school or technical center, and on the job training and apprenticeships for veterans to utilize their GI Bill benefits. We have more recent veterans that need post-secondary options or transition from military life to civilian life. We know that less than half the veterans returning to the State are seeking college or university training. We know they are here, and we know they are doing something, so we are trying to get the message out to as many places as possible that their GI Bill benefits can be used for OJTs and/or Apprenticeships. If a Veteran is in a WIOA training program, they can still get a stipend to help with daily living costs. They can receive a monthly stipend of around \$1500 for typically 36 months. This helps make ends meet and prevents them from trying to work a secondary job while going through training. Amanda will share our PowerPoint with you that explains all the regulatory requirements and things like that as well as our contact information.
- Michael Crown - The new Priority of Service Policy is up for review and comment on the State Workforce Development Board site. <https://workforcedb.wv.gov/Pages/default.aspx>. He asked about the most recent virtual job fair
 - Maureen Persons - It was excellent. We are on track with the statistics as far as how many have registered. We had 1010 job seekers, 119 employers, 247 job postings and 959 resumes were submitted. One success story from this - we had an employer that had been hired through the Virtual Platform at the Virtual Job Fair looking to recruit more employees.
- National Apprenticeship Week is November 17-23, 2024. There will be a virtual job fair for apprenticeships that week. Please promote that to partners, CTE's and schools when possible. Nick Nunnery stated that there are about six events happening that week throughout the State. You can check that out on the US DOL's website. <https://www.apprenticeship.gov/national-apprenticeship-week>
- Michael closed the meeting at 10:52am.

The next ICT meeting will be held via Google Meets at 10:00 am November 21, 2024