

Interagency Collaborative Team (ICT)

June 27, 2024

10:00 a.m.

GOOGLE MEETS

**ATTENDEES:** Sandra Adkins, Alyce Almond, Charla Austin, Melissa Bias, Gary Blankenship, Pisnu Bua-lam, Amanda Cranfield, Michael Crown, Barb Dawes, Jeff Green, Trenton Hilbert, Erin Kittle, Chad Ketchum, Tara Martinez, Criss McCauley, Bill Monterosso, Nick Nunnery, Amanda O'Brien, Rachel Patterson, Maureen Persons, Andy Richardson, Jason Roberts, Beth Shoemaker, Lorrie Smith, Annie Sumpter, Lori Turner, Amanda Dawson, Bridgit Arnold, Mike Ferrari, TJ VanMeter

- Michael Crown opened the meeting at 10:00am. He informed everyone that the meeting was being recorded and transcribed.
  - The WIOA State Plan has been submitted and approved by DOL.
  - All Local Plan final drafts have been submitted and are expected to have approval by the first of July.
  - Partner updates -
    - **JVSG** - David Dyer was not available
      - Criss McCauley - David has things going well, we are trying to build relationships with as many partners as possible.
      - **JVSG - Jobs for Veterans State Grant** for those that didn't know.
      - MACC changes coming with new enhancements.
      - Two types of Vet Reps. LVER - Local Veteran Employment Representative who works with employers trying to promote the hiring of veterans and DVOPS - Disabled Veterans Outreach Program Specialist who is more of a case manager.
      - There is a referral process for a Veteran to meet with the DVOPS because of funding streams. A veteran can not just walk in and meet with the DVOPS.
    - **Economic Development** - David Rogers was unavailable due to working on an ARC grant. Nick Nunnery provided an update.
      - Right now we are wrapping up the end of the fiscal year and writing a new ARC grant. We've been approved for another 2 year grant that will take us through the 2025 fiscal year. We are utilizing the new grant for teachers apprenticeship. We will supply teaching apprenticeships throughout the state. We are pushing some Youth in high school to a two-year program where they can start receiving college credit and on-the-job training to become teachers and finish off their four year degree at WVU. Approximately 200 people are signed up for this right now.
    - **Business Services** - Maureen Persons
      - I am always trying to promote the virtual job fair, reminding everybody that our goal has always been and will continue to be to employ people as quickly as possible. The virtual job fair is always the first Wednesday of each month. In June we saw 1,145 job seekers plus hundreds of employers. There have been 672 jobs posted on the virtual job fair platform and 507 resumes were uploaded during that week. With the new changes in UI effective July 1 the virtual job fair platform will be an ideal place for people to meet the job search criteria for that week.

---

1900 Kanawha Blvd. East \* Building 3 Suite 300 \* Charleston, WV 25305

An agency of the Department of Commerce

*An equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.*

[www.workforcewv.org](http://www.workforcewv.org)

A proud partner of the  American Job Center® network

- Recently Tammy Lowers promoted a job fair for Sheetz. She also talked to some partner agencies. This past week, June 26 and 27 we had 144 applicants show up to the office. There were 27 job offers. Please promote the virtual job fairs!
- Tanya Castle has resigned, so Region 1 needs a Business Service Development Specialist
- **Region 7 – TJ VanMeter**
  - Our motto is Talk less and listen more. When we talk to our business partners we can't just lay a slide show and pamphlets on them and expect partnerships.
  - We had an old fashion job fair sponsored by DRS this year in Berkeley County. We had over 80 employers with nearly 300 attendees.
  - We are doing a lot more with pre-apprenticeship with Youth.
  - Build Up Berkeley is a program brought by Berkeley County EDA. It is a year-long program where entrepreneurs are recruited, signed up and then develop a business plan. They're assigned mentors and then it becomes a contest of sorts. Winners are awarded up to \$10,000 to help grow their business.
- **Region 4 - Bill Monterosso**
  - Apprenticeship week - addressing incoming and outgoing Seniors with all the Trades
  - We've applied for several grants to leverage more funding dollars
- **Michael Crown**
  - WIOA reauthorization. The total dollars used for training will be increased. More flexibility for the States. There's possibly going to be significant changes coming.
    - Amanda will send the full bill to ICT members.
  - Sector Strategies Initiative. We're partnering with DOL vendor Safal to identify and create some sector strategies with West Virginia. In the preliminary phase we met with Kelly Workman with the Broadband Council, she did a presentation to SAFAL. There is going to be an injection of 1.2 billion dollars to expand broadband infrastructure and to help develop the skills for individuals to perform those jobs.
    - Amanda will add Tara Martinez to the Sector Strategies meeting.
- There was concern voiced about funding cuts and training expectations increasing. Regions may not be able to reach the new expectations. WorkForce West Virginia will keep all Executive Directors "in the loop" about the numbers as they are issued.
- Maureen Persons suggested an interagency newsletter or something similar where partners can find out about opportunities or collaboration possibilities. Micahel Crown suggested a section on the State Workforce Development Board site. Lorrie Smith is looking into creating that.
- Michael Crown closed the meeting at 10:50am.

**THE NEXT ICT MEETING IS JULY 25, 2024 AT 10:00AM VIA GOOGLE MEETS.**