



Benton-Franklin Workforce Development Council (BFWDC)
Adult & Employer Linkage (AEL) Committee
March 16th, 2023, 4:00 PM – Zoom.

<u>Present</u>	<u>Excused</u>	<u>BFWDC Staff</u>		<u>Guests</u>
Adolfo de Leon	Kate McAteer	Tiffany Alviso	Crystal Bright	Juan Ortiz
Todd Samuel		David Chavey-Reynaud	Heather Woodruff	Kelly Harnish
Jennie Weber	<u>Absent</u>	Jessie Cardwell	Scott Koopman	Sarah Goedhart
Michael Lee	Karl Dye	Becky Tuno	Kayci Loftus	
		Isaac Estrada	Selma Velagic	
		Cyndelle Howell	Sonja Young	
		Carya Bair	Lisandra Valencia	

Call to Order

Adolfo de Leon started the meeting by welcoming everyone and called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

Cyndelle Wood read the roll call while everyone responded. The meeting quorum was met. She asked guests and system partners to put their names and organization in the chat and thanked everyone for joining the meeting.

Motion to approve AEL Committee Meeting Minutes

The February 16th Adult & Employer Linkage Committee meeting minutes were provided for members to review.

Todd Samuel motioned to approve the February 16th, 2023, AEL Committee Minutes as presented, seconded by Michael Lee; the motion was carried unanimously to approval.

Motion to award the EcSA Round 3 Subrecipient Contractor, Career Path Services, an additional \$25,000, bringing the total contract amount to \$396,204, Effective April 1, 2023.

Todd Samuel motioned to approve the EcSA Round 3 Subrecipient Contractor, Career Path Services, an additional \$25,000, bringing the total contract amount to \$396,204, Effective April 1, 2023, as presented, seconded by Michael Lee; the motion was carried unanimously to approval.

Board Member Jennie Weber recused from the motion.

Motion to award RFP #2023-01 WIOA Title IB Dislocated Worker/Adult/Youth Services Contracts to Career Path Services, Effective July 1, 2023, to June 30th, 2024

Michael Lee motioned to approve the RFP #2023-01 WIOA Title IB Dislocated Worker/Adult/Youth Services Contracts to Career Path Services, Effective July 1, 2023, to June 30th, 2024, as presented; seconded by Todd Samuel; the motion was carried unanimously to approval.

Board Member Jennie Weber recused from the motion.

Guest Speaker, Sarah Goedhart, Head Wine Maker, Hedges Winery - Carya & Sarah

Carya introduced Sarah to the meeting attendees. Sarah described her background and then reviewed the different types of positions they hire for and the qualifications needed. She described that they are a quality employer offering a 401k and vacation and sick time to vineyard workers, which is very rare. She demonstrated their variety

of work and the benefit of working at Hedges Winery. Challenges they face are still with logistics and shipping. They don't always get their supplies on time, which halts some operations.

Dr. Michael Lee directed her to their intern website to post the positions they have for interns; he also put the link in the chat.

WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker Update - Jessie

Jessie Cardwell provided an overview of the Adult and the Dislocated Worker programs. Jessie provided information on strategic partnerships to keep performance outcomes on track, including recruitment and outreach, covering program expenditures and targets, follow-up, and placement rates. She encouraged all to read the Program Performance Summary for the Adult and Dislocated Worker Program, included in the meeting materials.

Jennie Weber provided data on the number of customers RESEA is seeing quarterly.

Community Development Block Grant - Becky

Becky provided an overview of the cumulative program performance summary, including outreach and program efforts. Becky shared the to-date community members impacted, which is over two times the original program target of 40,000. This number is updated every quarter, with the next update occurring during June's reporting period. Becky discussed that the program is in closedown mode as it ends June 30th,

Board Chair Todd Samuel asked a clarifying question about spending and cost per outcome.

Becky explained that the cost of the program was to support the eight placements at the worksites that helped serve the community, which is not a lot of money that is spent. But those eight placements helped serve 85,000 people, which is a good use of those dollars.

Together We Rise – Outreach to Historically Disadvantaged Communities – Isaac

Isaac provided an overview of February's OHDC cumulative program summary included with the meeting materials, sharing that they anticipate exceeding the goal of 750 referrals by March 2023. Isaac shared the progress of the research piece of the grant, together with the research goals and community survey. To support the findings from the focus groups, a community survey with questions regarding key findings was released in the week of January 16 to validate and form conclusions based on preliminary data from our focus groups. Deliverables are being collected, and more information will be shared at our next meeting.

QUEST Update – Jessie & Carya

Jessie discussed that the outcomes for QUEST are slow, which is strategic. They plan to take off with serving participants on July 1, 2023, with the new program year. The QUEST fund will help to mitigate the quarter-one cap in funding that the Adult and Dislocated Worker programs experience.

Carya shared that she is busy meeting with community partners and developing sector partnerships. Once more participants are enrolled, she can connect with appropriate businesses for quality job opportunities. She is also creating a directory of those tasked with workforce development duties at community-based organizations to create a master list. This list will be a great resource for anyone who needs it.

Economic Security for All - Becky

Becky shared the State and Federal cumulative EcSA program performance summary in the meeting packet covering program highlights and total employed exits for February 2023. Federal EcSA is 51% spent, and State EcSA is 81% spent; both are on track. Becky provided program challenges as well as outreach and partnership efforts.

Jessie shared that the State is pleased with the variety of training they see from our local area in all programs.

WorkSource Columbia Basin (WSCB) Update – Crystal

Crystal Bright shared the WorkSource operator report details, which were included in the meeting materials. She highlighted February WorkSource site operations and customer feedback. Crystal summarized service delivery, discussing career and business services and community connections, highlighting that February has been the busiest month post -COVID. She shared that WSCB is at the beginning of the monitoring season, and it will go through the end of May. She shouted out to the entire WSCB team for all of the great work they were doing. Crystal also thanked all the partners in attendance for their work executing a new non-IFA partner MOU and highlighted a new MOU partner Assurance Wireless.

Todd shared that he took a tour of WSCB and is so pleased with the space and the professionalism of the building and staff. He encouraged others to take a tour if they had not been there in a while.

Round Table/Agency Updates

Board Retreat Summary – Todd Samuel

Todd shared that he enjoys hearing about our programs, not just WIOA Title IB. It shows the diversity in funding impacting our communities’ citizens, which was a board goal from the last retreat.

Todd shared that at the Board Retreat on February 23rd, 2023, the BFWDC staff gave a series of presentations, and they were able to learn about the staff and the work they do. He shared that we had fun and played some games. Then focused on what was going well and what was not working and created some strategic goals for the next year. One goal is to raise awareness of the BFWDC, WSCB, and TC Futures in the community. The other is to raise unrestricted funds to provide flexibility in the services we can provide that aren’t always available with our current funds.

TC Futures Graduation - Cynthia

Cynthia provided a reminder and invitation to the TC Futures GED graduation at 6 PM on March 16th (same day as this meeting). All were invited and encouraged to attend.

Next Meeting

- Adult & Employer Linkage Committee – Thursday, April 20th, at 4:00 PM, on Zoom.
- Executive Committee - Tuesday, March 21st, at 4:00 PM on Zoom.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

DocuSigned by:
Adolfo de Leon 5/30/2023
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 Adolfo de León, Committee Chair Date

DocuSigned by:
Jessie Cardwell 5/30/2023
 A2BC3CE58B2744C...
 Jessie Cardwell, Workforce Program Manager Date