



Benton-Franklin Workforce Development Council (BFWDC)

Adult & Employer Linkage (AEL) Committee

May 19, 2022, at 8:30 a.m.

Zoom

<u>Present</u>	<u>Excused</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>BFWDC Staff Present</u>
Adolfo de León-Chair		Lori Mattson	Tiffany Scott
Jennie Weber		Michael Lee	Jamilet Nerell
Jamie Rasmussen		Jim Smith	Cynthia Garcia
Todd Samuel		Karl Dye	Jessie Cardwell
			Diana Hamilton
			David Chavey-Renaud
			 <u>Presenters</u>
			Crystal Bright

Call to Order

Adolfo started the meeting by welcoming everyone and called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM. Jessie read through the roll call while everyone responded. She asked guests to put their names and organization in the chat and thanked everyone for joining the meeting.

Approval of Committee Minutes

The minutes from April 21, 2022, Adult & Employer Linkage Committee Meeting were provided for members to review.

Todd Samuel moved to approve April 21, 2022, Adult & Employer Linkage Committee Meeting Minutes as presented, seconded by Adolfo de León. Motion carried.

Economic Security for All (EcSA) - Jamilet

Jamilet shared that a third round of funding for EcSA will be coming out way soon; more information to come on how we will be utilizing that funding.

The midpoint report for the Social Policy Research Associates evaluation of EcSA is in draft form, and more information will be presented when finalized.

The EcSA local Annual Monitoring is complete, and Jamilet is impressed with the work done by our subrecipient. The annual monitoring reports will be presented once state monitoring has been completed.

State Monitoring Visit – Jessie

On May 2, the BFWDC received a list from the state monitoring team of the participant files they will be monitoring during their time here. There are ten adult files, ten dislocated worker files, five employment recovery files, five disaster recovery files, and ten youth files for a total of 40 participant files. All items requested in advance have been uploaded to their secure website, and their pre-monitoring questionnaire has been completed and submitted. So all of our pre-work is done. They did begin their virtual monitoring of our local area this week, and next week, they will be on-site at the BFWDC starting Monday, and they will be here through Thursday. All of the BFWDC staff will be 100% in-person next week to be present for monitoring to answer any questions they have in person. The following week, starting May 30th, they will be back to virtual monitoring. That week their focus is

going to be data element validation which is reviewing the accurate accuracy of the data that is entered into the MIS system.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) – Jamilet

Jamilet shared the Department of Commerce is still in the planning stages of developing a monitoring plan for CDBG. In preparation, local monitoring of CDBG will occur.

There is an option to extend contracts, the current contract ends January 31st, 2023, and they are looking at extending it until June 30, 2023. Locally we are doing our due diligence to see if we want to extend our contract. The state is looking at areas that need more funding and time to assist their communities with food distribution and will evaluate that with requests for extensions.

Disaster and Employment Recovery Spending – Diana

Diana reviewed the subrecipient spending status for the Disaster and Employment Recovery programs. Both of these contracts were extended from March 31st to June 30th. The Disaster Recovery our area received a total of \$589,613, and as of March 30, we spent \$505,402; a little over \$84,000 is left to extend this contract fully, and we still have three months remaining. In the Employment Recovery program, we received a total of \$596,781, and through the end of March, we have spent \$482,488, leaving a little over \$114,000 left to extend the contract fully. These national disaster grants started on July 1, 2020, to respond to the COVID crisis and have allowed us to provide the services our community needed to be successful. The ESD workforce initiative manager asked me to pass along kudos to our subrecipients for their excellent efforts to get these funds out to the community and provide disaster relief employment, training services, and wraparound sports to help aid in recovery efforts.

The state is working on PY22 allocations, and once they are finalized, we will develop our funding plan. Diana informed the board to look for an e-vote to approve the funding plan for our subrecipients.

Outreach to Historically Disadvantaged Communities (OHDC) Together We Rise– Isaac

OHDC is a grant from the Washington State Department of Commerce to fund efforts towards outreach and marketing to connect marginalized populations to employment, training, and state and federal services. We branded our project as Together We Rise. There are three phases; one is research to learn how to best communicate with these populations. The second phase is implementing a strategic, data-driven, and inclusive outreach plan. The third phase is to develop a sustainable outreach plan for our partners. Isaac then described the OHDC quarterly report.

Tri-Cities Futures Update – Diana

Diana encouraged members to read the TC Futures report and, if they had any questions, to reach out to Cynthia or Melanie.

Liaison Report – David

David shared details of the Liaison Report:

WorkSource Columbia Basin (WSCB)

- There was a drop in traffic this month due to a high turnout for the Hanford job fair that inflated numbers the previous month.
- Slightly up in a year-to-year comparison for staff-assisted services to job seekers.
- Served fewer job seekers but provided more services in a month-to-month comparison

TC Futures

- TC Futures traffic numbers are all customers who walk into TC Futures, not unique customers; some may be counted more than once.

- TC Futures' total youth enrolled is up by 97 from last month, OSY is up by 14, and total co-enrolled is up by 4.
- Five youth attained GEDs this month

WIOA Programs

- We are at 99% of the monthly total served participant target and 75% employed monthly exit target.

CDBG and EcSA

- EcSA has served 96 participants; the monthly to date goal was 87.
- CDBG served 18,263 of their program targeted 40,000 served, and they have 6 of 12 placements in food distribution support.

WorkSource Columbia Basin (WSCB) Update – Crystal

Crystal shared some of the highlights from WSCB:

- Highlighted the two 15-second commercials created by the Equity Committee shown on Telemundo/FOX, the run through July.
- Equal Opportunity (EO) Monitoring was completed at WSCB. Huge thank you to Cynthia and Mari
- RESEA, TAA, Wagner/Peyser monitoring is next, the week of May 30th.
- Crystal shared that although the preferred method for job fairs is in-person, WSCB still has 6 feet of social distancing rule; they are working with partners, such as TC Futures, for in-person events and exploring doing them outside.

Other Business - All

Tiffany announced Jamilet's resignation as she plans to move to the west side to support her husband in a career opportunity.

Israel announced that Wednesday, June 1st, they will be hosting a Grand Opening/Ribbon Cutting at their new offices from 3 PM-5 PM.

Next Meeting: The next Adult & Employer Linkage Committee meeting is Thursday, June 16th, 2022, at 8:30 AM via Zoom.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:28 AM.

DocuSigned by:
Adolfo de Leon 6/23/2022

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 Adolfo de León, Committee Chair Date

DocuSigned by:
Jessie Cardwell 6/23/2022

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 Jessie Cardwell, Programs Coordinator Date