

**System and Trends Committee
Workforce Investment Board of Will County**

Location: Workforce Center of Will County, 2400 Glenwood Avenue, Joliet
March 11, 2020

Minutes

Committee Members:					
Name	Present	Absent	Name	Present	Absent
Susan Flessner	X		Damien McDonald	X	
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Beth Gonzalez	X		Suzanne Sallay	X	
Rita Herrick	X		Anitarice Schmidt		X
Carlos Interrial	X		Michele Smith		X
Kraig Kistingner	X		Jim Tromp	X	
Others present:					
Susan Davinger	Mary Gajcak		Caroline Portlock		
Cleopatra Cook	Deborah Wright				

Welcome

Interrial welcomed Deborah Wright and Cleo Cook of Employment and Employer Services.

Minutes

Minutes of the January 8, 2020 meeting were approved on a motion by Sallay, seconded by Flessner.

Workforce Center - Flessner

- Upcoming Job Fairs -
 - April 2, 2020 – 4:30-6:00 pm – Romeoville
 - May 21, 2020 – 1:00-4:00 pm – Joliet Regional; Joliet Junior College/Main Campus
 - June 4, 2020 – In-person Business Services Webinar streamed on Facebook Live from WCWC; Topic: Protesting Unemployment Claims
 - Dates to be determined for a job fair in cooperation with the DuPage County Workforce Board, Eastern Will County job fair in University Park, and an evening job fair in Wilmington.
- Precautionary measures are in place at the WCWC as well as at all job fairs to offset the risk of transmission of the Corona Virus.
- Ten Opioid Recovery Coach Trainees will begin to work in their placements around Will County this week.

Service Utilization Report-Portlock

Unemployment numbers have fallen to a 50-year low, which has impacted both the number of visitors and services received at WCWC in PY19, and also the type of services sought. In spite of this, Workforce Services' Career Advisors have increased the number of customers served. On-site workshop numbers reported have fallen by 100 under last year, due to the availability of these workshops on-line. These participants are not counted, as they do not check in to the G*Stars system. Joliet Junior College's Adult Educations department served an increased 134 customers. IDHS Voc Rehab has increased number of customers served by 25. Portlock noted that customers using the resource room for keyboarding skills remains strong, showing that this remains a viable offering of WSD.

Business Services

On-the-Job Training Report

Deborah Wright presented the OJT report, and answered several questions about the program offered by Employment and Employer Services. The reduction of unemployed customers seeking On the Job training has impacted E&ES outcomes in PY19. Therefore, E&ES is looking at ways to educate employers about taking on people with disabilities or 'backgrounds' (ex-offenders, people with bad credit/work history, etc).

Cleo Cook reported that after introducing clients to Fidelity Bonding, two companies considered and hired people from this group. In February, 82 clients attended OJT sessions, of which 25 submitted WIOA intakes. Two completed TABE tests. There was one direct-hire.

Regional/Training and Performance Management of People with Disabilities

Portlock announced a one-day training for TDL and Manufacturing employers throughout the Metro Chicago Region designed to address and improve outcomes for people with disabilities. The first of three locations will be the Workforce Center on March 24th from 9:30-4:00. Lunch will be provided. Portlock asked the Committee to spread the word.

Incumbent Worker/Training Grants Program:

Gajcak presented ECOLAB-Joliet for approval to train six employees in basic instrumentation and troubleshooting. The total WIB contribution is \$9300. Ecolab will contribute 50% match. Kistingner motioned to approve the training; Gonzalez seconded. Motion carried.

New Program Certification

Portlock presented the following Governors State University Programs for recertification due to a raise in tuition: Advanced Paralegal (+\$300), and Paralegal Certificate Course (+\$200). Motion to approve by Sallay, seconded by Kistingner carried.

George E. Booth Co submitted two new programs for certification: Process Analytical Technologies & Systems, and Valves 201. Flessner requested that the Committee take these Certificate programs under review. Decision was tabled for further review and discussion on a motion by Tromp, seconded by Gonzalez.

Meeting adjourned.

The next meeting of the System and Trends Committee is May 13, 2020 at the Workforce Center.