



## EMPLOY MILWAUKEE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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### YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Via Zoom Technology

1:30 to 3:00 pm

### APPROVED MINUTES

(Committee Approval 5/11/22)

**Members Present:** Silvia Swan (Chair), Deshea Agee, Bevin Christie, Karen (Burns) Sotak, Jolene Cooley, La Toya Sykes, Chee Thao, Derick Cornelius

**Members Absent:** Dr. Keith Posley, Dionne Grayson, Karen Higgins, Jakeim Jackson- Bell, David Knutson, Sharlen Moore, Gerard Randall

**Employ Milwaukee Staff Present:** Vanesa Carmona-Lewis, Julie Cayo, Suzy Reinstein, Tawnee Graves-Oluwafemi

Sylvia Swan called meeting to order at 1:37 p.m.

**1. Agenda Item 1: Committee Business**

Welcome & Introductions

(Chair) Silvia Swan welcomed members to the meeting.

**2. Agenda Item 2: Approve Minutes**

Review & Approve Minutes from November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021

Chair Silvia Swan members review minutes from November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021. Karen Sotak: There needs to be a correction on Agenda Item 4. Vanesa Carmona- Lewis: we can make that edit and send it back out. We can approve with edits. After briefly discussing, minutes were approved with edits.

**3. Agenda Item 3: General Updates**

a. General Employ Milwaukee Updates Vanesa Carmona-Lewis:

- **Be Inspired** -we've renewed that contract for our Brighter Futures & WIOA in school youth populations.
- **Ready! Center**- is the newest Boys & Girls club Building off 4<sup>th</sup> and Brown was previously the adult learning center. The Boys & Girls Club has since taken over that building so, we will have space there.
- **Digital Literacy Initiative**- we recently started to outreach for this new initiative. It's to help individuals who have no digital literacy abilities. They will learn how to operate a device, explore the internet, learn how to use the email, Microsoft office apps, and more.! After the coarse learners will receive a FREE Computer. Here's a copy of the flyer, it's also on our social media page. Karen (Burns) Sotak: Will that be offered in Spanish? Vanesa Carmona-Lewis Yes, we are looking into the Spanish version, we've already reached out to everyone on who is the main provider and Microsoft. The sessions are already offered in Spanish in Texas. It's just matter of how we can get the cohorts in Spanish made available.

Karen (Burns) Sotak: How large are you anticipating for the cohorts? Vanesa Carmona-Lewis: we can have 10 to 15 adults in each cohort. Karen (Burns) Sotak: so, we're looking at 60 total for the year? Vanesa Carmona-Lewis: I don't know if we would do additional cohorts for Spanish speakers or if we would have 1 of the full cohorts would become Spanish. Karen Burns Sotak: So, without that it would be around 60? Vanesa Carmona-Lewis: Yes, if we could make it to 15, we can't go past the capacity due to the Covid. Chee Thao: Is there a credential or certificate attached to this? Vanesa Carmona-Lewis: I don't believe there is, just get a FREE Computer at the end. It's just to help with basic skills.

- **Satellites Offices** – Vanesa Carmona -Lewis: We will be in other locations not permanently. The first is City on a Hill, we have staff who go out 2 times a week for half the day. We are looking at another location that is on the south side. EMI will be in more than just our 27<sup>th</sup> & North location also in addition to the Ready Center we have staff there too. And we can send out those addresses.
- **Unite Us**-Vanesa Carmona-Lewis: It's a referral platform. We're asking some of our partners to join us which will help us to expand the network on how to refer our participants to those resources.
- **Earn & Learn Update**- Vanesa Carmona- Lewis: We are in the middle of getting are youth & worksite applications posted on our virtual platform. As soon as we have those available, we will start the recruitment for Earn & Learn on a Virtual Platform.

#### 4. **Agenda Item 3a: General Updates:**

##### **Workforce Innovation Grant SE Wisconsin Teen Occupational Engagements Partner**

Vanesa Carmona- Lewis: This is a new partnership with the Boys & Girls Club. This is for a workforce Innovation Grant. A partnership between MPS, Herzog, & EMI and the Boys & Girls Club as the lead organization. It's about how we can better prepare are young workers. We just started implementation meetings Chee Thao: How much long is this grant for? Vanesa Carmona-Lewis: 2 years Silvia Swan: Is there any other questions for Vanesa?

#### 5. **Agenda Item 4a: Compete Milwaukee** **Compete Milwaukee Program Outcomes**

Silvia Swan: Goal: 25 youths co-enrolled in WIOA-OSY Program Out of School (High School, 18-24)  
21 constructions, 2 in office/clerical started 7 still active- transitioned to Sanitation Dept. Certified Training (OSHA 10, Lead Supervisor, Asbestos Supervisor, CDL Prep)

#### 6. **Agenda Item 4a: Compete Milwaukee Success Story:**

Silvia Swan: During the project Danny Stewart was a referral our WIOA OSY Contractor United Neighborhood Centers of Milwaukee (UNCOM). He was a high school graduate & began his experience with the Construction Crews eventually transitioned into several different departments. We are pleased to report that he is currently attending CDL license & has several offers from Amazon to a landscaping company. And is now considering applying to be a General Laborer with the City.

#### 7. **Agenda Item 4b: Youth Build 2021 Grant Class Update**

Silvia Swan: Cohort 1 construction (Update)Youth are working at their worksites doing hands-on learning/ work Cohort 1: Healthcare will begin Mental Toughness Training February 21, 2022, consisting of 10 individuals.

#### 8. **Agenda Item 4c: Brighter Futures**

Suzy Reinstein: This is a grant we receive from the department of children & families Contract Year January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021- December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021, at the end of 21 we just finished a 3-year cycle with DCF. We're showing the last of the 3-year slides to show the outcome. There has been an increase with the Brighter Future

Program is WIOA OSY. PY 21 Contract Enrollments -PY21 Contract Goal 200 YTD 98, ACP Grade Level Completions- PY 21 Contract Goal 180 YTD 80, Work Experience (Sub.& Unsub) – PY 21 Contract Goal 150 YTD 55, Job Readiness Training PY 21 Contract 160 YTD 49, SEL Completion PY 21 Contract 100 YTD 27 at least do 27 sessions. The Boys& Girls club couldn't be in the schools.

**9. Agenda Item 4c: Brighter Futures Success Story**

Suzy Reinstein: Saketh & Krishna enrolled into Brighter Future after learning about the dual enrollment, IT certification program (CompTIA A+) through a partnership between MATC & Boys & Girls Club. Both students emigrated from India. Both students would receive high school elective credit for passing the IT stackable credits and classes. Saketh & Krishna completed each required service training as well as pass the CompTIA lab class & earned both high school & college credits going on to become the first 2 students to successfully pass the two-part exams at the age of 16 years old.

**10. Agenda Item 4d: WIOA Title 1 B-ISY Service**

Suzy Reinstein: ISY runs on a different service. This is the outcome they are currently low. They hired a New Program Manager. Contract Year July 1, 2021- June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022 New Enrollments PY21 Contract Goal 120 Current Goal 69 Actual 42, Education Completions PY21 Contract Goals 25 PY Current Goal 14 Actual 0, Measurables Skills Gains Contract Goals PY21 80 Current Goal 46 Actual 0, Post-Secondary Education Enrollments PY21 Contract Goals Current Goal 46 Actual 4, Enrolled Occupational Skills Training PY2 Contract 20 Current Goal 11 Actual 2, Occupational Completions PY21 Current Goals 14 Current Goals 8 Actual 1, Placements - \$10.00 Contract Goals 60 Current 35 Actual 6, Paid Work Experience Contract Goals 84 Current 48 Actual 11 Suzy Reinstein: we will see improvement in the next year. Vanesa Carmona- Lewis: The staff turnover that the Boys & girls club has had in the last 8 months has really impacted these numbers. WIOA can be a complicated system to use. Pandemic has done all their outreach in the schools. They weren't allowed to be in the schools, and we had a staff turnover. Silvia Swan: I think have to say I think in this Covid environment you're doing a good job. La Toya Sykes: I second that we should acknowledge that part of success. Vanesa Carmona-Lewis We're in a much better position now.

**11. Agenda Item 4d: WIOA Title 1B OSY**

Suzy Reinstein: Contract Year: July 1, 2021-January 25, 2022, New Enrollments PY21 Contract Goal 240 PY21 138 PY21 Actual 189, Training /Education Enrollments PY21 Contract Goal 120 PY21 Current Goal 68 PY21 Actual 107, Credentials Earned PY21 Contract 82 PY21 Current Goal 46 PY21 Actual 64, those numbers are higher at this time. Placements – \$11.11 PY21 Contract Goal 192 PY21 Current Goal 110 PY21 Actual 78 it below but not significantly low., Paid Experience PY21 Contract Goal 192 PY21 Current 110 PY21 Actual 86 thats why the goal is set so high, we're trying to spend the rest of the money.

**12. Agenda Item 4d: WIOA Youth Quarter 1 Performance**

Suzy Reinstein: Unsubsidized or Education Q2 Post Exit PY20 Goal 76% PY21 Qtr.1 73.3% This is looked at as WIOA by the state, this is last Quarter 1. Unsubsidized Employment or Education Q4 Post-Exit PY20 Goal 72% PY21 Qtr. 66.4% we're below the measure, Median Earnings Q2 Post-Exit PY20 \$3,0000 PY21 Qtr1 \$3,014, Credential Attainment Rate PY20 56% PY21 45.5%, Measurable Skill Gain PY20 Goal 30% PY21 Qtr1 46.2% The second quarter was a little low, hopefully we'll see those increases

**13. Agenda 4d: BFI & WIOA Youth Performance efforts**

Vanessa Carmona- Lewis: Records Trainings- We talked about earlier some of the efforts that we have been making to improve our performance. We started to record some of the technical assistant trainings. so, they can be available for not only the staff crew, but those who are new. Holding topic specific training applicable to our youth providers- The staffing issue was a concern impacted us here we met with other Executive leadership team the staffing is under control which has helped us. Revisiting process & refining successful case management- what is successful case management? We added a little more guidance & analyst to our processes. Continuing to document our TA efforts- Making sure we're documenting all our TA documents and learning our lessons before we put out our RFPs Vanessa Carmona-Lewis: any questions

#### **14. Agenda Item 5: Youth Committee member Updates**

Silvia Swan: All Around the table to share and highlight upcoming events, etc. up community organizations would anyone like to share? Karen (Burns) Sotak: With our OSY youths we're trying to get some really work experience sites. This is different from the Earn & Learn it's a year-round work program for the youth throughout the year. Our goal is to start them at a higher wage to hire fulltime at entry level wage for that employer. La Toya Sykes: Our Next Generation is feeling the challenges that everybody else is as far as staff, students everything that that Covid has brought about. Its good to feel like you're not alone. Suzy Reinstein: I just had a conversation Memmas is looking for older youth to year-round for some to come assist. I'm going to send her information out. Vanessa Carmona-Lewis: If there's anything anyone wants to share with the rest of the committee we can follow up after the meeting Jakeim Jackson-Bell has a couple of Bucks open positions. If you have any updates or flyers, I can send an email.

#### **15. Agenda Item 6: Other Business**

Vanessa Carmona-Lewis: Youth Committee Requests? Our Next Meeting will be May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022. We will send you calendar invites for that (May)meeting, August 2022, & November 2022 meetings. Sharron Briggs our longest employed Employ Milwaukee Executive Assistant has retired end of January. She normally sent out all the invites. Apologies for sending out short notice.

Silvia Swan: a motion to adjourn La Toya Sykes 1st motion Jolene Colley 2<sup>nd</sup> motion All Approved  
Chair Silvia Swan adjourned meeting at 2:18 p.m.

**Next Youth Committee Meeting:** May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at 1:30 p.m.-3:00p.m. via Zoom

**Next Board of Directors Meeting:** March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at 8:30a.m. -10:00 a. m. via Zoom