



EMPLOY MILWAUKEE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, February 12, 2020

2342 North 27th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53210 - Room 116

1:30 to 3:00 pm

MINUTES

Members Present: (Chair), Keith Posley, Joelene Cooley, David Knutson, Maria Rodriguez, Chee Thao, Karen Burns Sotak

Members Excused: Derick Cornelius, Katrice Cotton, Dionne Grayson, Karen Higgins, Donta Holmes, Sharlen Moore, Gerard Randall, Curtis Shepard, La Toya Sykes, MacArthur Weddle

Employ Milwaukee Staff Present: Pete Coffaro, Toni White, Tim McMurtry, Eileen McMahon

Guests Present: Darrin Madison (Urban Underground), Wilfredo Vigil (MJCC), Tamahl Hazel (Urban Underground)

Chair Posley called meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

1. Introductions

Everyone present introduced themselves.

2. Review and Approve Minutes from November 6, 2019

Chair Posley requested members review minutes from November 6, 2019 and relay any changes or omissions needed. After briefly discussing, minutes were correct as circulated.

Maria Rodriguez motioned for approval of November 6, 2019 Youth Committee meeting minutes; Joelene Cooley seconded; November 6, 2019 meeting minutes approved unanimously.

3. Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Local Plan

a. Combined State Plan Update

Mr. Coffaro reported no policies to review at this time. State will send combined plan to Feds and get info back on deadlines; tentatively by May 31st, 2020 and formally in place by July 1, 2020.

Question was posed does EMI have to submit annually? Response was every 3-4 years, with updates in years in between, i.e. in 2017 and 2018 we had some service design changes.

4. Youth Program Reports

Packet information – EMI Important Program Dates

a. WIOA In School Youth

Initially administered by EMI staff and now Boys and Girls Club contracted since last November through the end of the school year. This partnership provides services at six schools (up from four) including Obama, N. Division, Bradley Tech and Bay View; Audubon and Washington High Schools have been added. The focus is on how we engage students to help them navigate career planning. Boys and Girls Club

provides activities during the day and then activities after school. ISY students are eligible for paid work experience and working with school to develop jobs in school ten hours a week. Partnership is going well.

Question was posed how many young people are served by this ISY program? Response was 100+ students. Need to have quality outcomes and ISY has strenuous eligibility including identifying low income with additional barrier as the criteria. The age requirement is 14-21 years and 2nd semester of sophomore year.

b. Brighter Futures

This program engages young people to provide workforce and career services both during the day and after school to assist them in navigating a career pathway. Program currently runs at same six high schools as ISY. Mr. Coffaro shared chart depicting enrollments at 162 with a goal of 200 and work experience at 102 with a goal of 150. Job readiness experience training is 137 with a goal of 40.

Question was posed to David Knutson, Boys and Girls Clubs, regarding demographics of Brighter Futures? Mr. Knutson responded over 50% African American students and vast majority of other 50% is Hispanic, currently enrolled in this ISY program. Many students struggling from an academic standpoint and not college-ready but ready for work experience.

c. WIOA Title 1B Out of School Youth

Focus is engaging youth who have graduated high school and directing into workforce or post-secondary options with a deadline of 6/30/20. Have to combine academic component with paid work experience. Out of School Youth have more barriers. Needed services include GED assistance, reading and math skills testing and placement with TASE.

Current goal is 200 and we are 60% through program. A lot of hands on training with this population. Mr. Knutson added OSY is more challenging. If an individual is in training, receive credential at later time making them below goal, however, with paid work experience only slightly below goal. Mr. Coffaro reported that 36 of 75 youth are YouthBuild co-enrolled. EMI has bi-weekly call on Friday with WIOA providers and review respective score cards focusing on trends and concerns. EMI has seen a lot of improvement including no corrective actions this year. Committee briefly discussed WIOA Youth Performance Graph.

d. YouthBuild

YouthBuild parameters are high school graduate or drop out with GED, 18-24 years old. Program runs ten months, 28 hours per week at \$10/hour. EMI closing out 2016 grant (2018 grant is follow up of initial grant). First cohort half-way through and recruiting for next cohort shortly. Flyer is currently being created for this paid training program. One positive is more female youth have been interested recently

Question was posed what type of construction does this program focus on?
Response was carpentry with exposure to other trades.

e. Motivated to Apprenticeship Pathways (MAP)

Packet – MAP flyer

MAP is an integrated cognitive behavioral change and employability program with a paid learning and training experience aimed at reducing recidivism and contact with the criminal justice system. Target population is 188 justice-involved young adults aged 18-24 residing in Milwaukee's high crime/high poverty neighborhoods. The program provides career counseling, training, supportive services and

placement services. This is a \$1.5 million grant from the US Department of Labor. The project runs from September 1, 2018 through September 30, 2021. Currently at 40% of goal with 75 enrolled. Mr. Coffaro asked for assistance in recruiting for this program as EMI needs 113 more individuals. Please review the flyer for more detailed information and members should contact Wylbur Holloway, Program Specialist at Employ Milwaukee at 414-270-1796. Orientations are held weekly on Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. at CFSS, 728 N. James Lovell Street, 2nd Floor, Milwaukee, WI.

f. TechHire

Beginning final cohort this week and the 8th MATC cohort just completed. Worked with St. Louis and Detroit on this grant and EMI has three great staff people assigned to TechHire. 194 participants served with goal of 200. 73 have completed training with goal of 174. 46 unemployed have obtained employment with median earnings of \$16.00. EMI will continue to drive this placement goal and confident will be close to reaching our goals. The program runs 16 weeks Monday thru Friday from 9:00 AM to Noon.

g. EARN & LEARN

Packet – EARN & LEARN key dates

Ms. White reported on some of the key dates ramping up for the EARN & LEARN program. Worksite (interested employers) application will be released on March 6, 2020. EARN & LEARN applications for youth will be released on March 16, 2020 and a Worksite Information Session is scheduled for March 18 and 19, 2020. Last year 1,137 youth received work experiences at 63 Worksites. EMI is working to identify sites on south side and a version of the application will be available in Spanish this year.

5. Overview of WIOA Procurement Timeline & Process

Mr. Coffaro updated members on EMI WIOA Title 1-B Procurement Timeline. Adult and Dislocated Worker RFP was released last week; In School and Out of School Youth RFP will be released in the next few days. EMI is partnering with Racine/Kenosha and WOW workforce boards on One Stop Operator RFP, which will be released later this Spring. By April 2020, EMI staff will be reviewing Adult and Dislocated Worker and ISY and OSY proposals. Per the timeline, after evaluation and scoring, Program Committee will vote on recommendations, followed by the Executive Committee for final approval. Contracts will begin July 1st, 2020.

Youth Committee Member Updates –

- Joelene Cooley, DWD, announced recruitment for Summer Youth program that was well-received last year. Same speaker will again be joining.
- Karen Sotak, DWFS, reported they are expanding their Youth program through Milwaukee County one day per week. WRTP/BIG STEP and other nonprofit organizations are also participating. Please refer anyone interested to DWFS.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:44 p.m. by Chair Dr. Posley

Next Youth Committee Meeting: Wednesday, May 13, 2020; 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. via Zoom

Next Board of Directors Meeting: Thursday, June 11, 2020; 8:30 -10:00 a. m. at Employ Milwaukee

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