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Tom Barrett, Mayor, City of Milwaukee
Chief Elected Official

Donald W. Layden, Jr.
Chair

EMPLOY MILWAUKEE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Program Committee Meeting

Thursday, May 19, 2022

9:00a.m.- 10:30p.m.

Via Zoom Technology

APPROVED MINUTES

Members: Laura Bray, Bevin Christie, Chytania Brown, Randy Crump, Carla Cross, Eduardo Garza, Parker Rios, Joni Theobald, Lupe Martinez, Beth Norris, Eduardo Diaz, Brian Levins

Absent Members: Michael Daily, Pam Fendt, Mark Kessenich, Tracy Luber, John Theobald, Wallace White, Jennifer Fogarty

Guests: Emily Kenny, Kyle Ashley

Employ Milwaukee Staff: Chytania Brown, Jose Galvan, Brenda King, Beth Norris

Chair Carla Cross called meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

1. Committee Business

Chytania Brown motioned for approval of minutes from February 17, 2022; Brian Levins seconded; approved unanimously.

2. Unite Us Presentation

Presented a Demo that will help connect the Public & Private Sectors health services on a single platform that they call a community information exchange. This platform will allow the communication to be concise and consistent for all that will use the platform to make sure those that need services get the services. Once on the platform it gives a bigger picture on making sure clients need are being met on all levels. Impact's role is to facilitate and Unite Us builds the network and supply the software, the 211 resource is being included in the platform. This software will track all the way to the outcome. Chytania added that is important for Employ so we can make/receive accurate referrals from other community partners. The dashboard reports will give you the accurate information needed for proper services to be given. This platform will step up the communication and take things to another level.

If you need this printed material interpreted to a language you understand or in a different format, or if you require other accommodations, please contact Carrie Hersh (carrie.hersh@employmilwaukee.org or 414-270-1726).

Deaf or hearing or speech impaired callers may reach us by the Wisconsin Relay number 711.

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3. **Contracts & Compliances:**

Reginal One Stop Operator Renewal

Chytania Brown informed that the other directors have agreed that the Beth has done a good job being the reginal OSO provider, she does not represent any certain provider she engages the 3 workforce board staff together. Chytania Brown recommends that we approve the contract for another year for the Regional One Stop Operator. Approval Randy Crump: Laura Bray Seconded; approved unanimously.

WIOA Service Provider Renewal

Chytania informed this is the last year for this renewal, we will be submitting a RFP for new service providers for the next year. Performance report in packet for Maximus, Equus, Dynamic Workforce Solutions, United Neighborhood Centers, and Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee. With the pandemic we see an up tick in the numbers, EMI feels comfortable renewing these service providers for 1 more year. Question from Laura Bray about the numbers for out of school youth has there been a pivot around addressing those that are just not going to school, do we have outreach for that group. Chytania Brown stated we work very closely with Milwaukee Public Schools and Charter Schools to get the individuals in the program. Community recourse have played a role is providing information regarding this group. Approval Randy Crump: Brian Levins Seconded; approved unanimously.

PY20 DWD WIOA Monitoring

4. **Updates**

Earn and Learn Goal is 1300 you, as of the meeting we have 2500 youth have registered and more than 160 worksites. We are working through all the applications and vetting the worksites for making sure they are proper worksites for the youth. It is very exciting about the numbers we are seeing. We may be launching a program for the youth under the age of 14. Working with MPS and the City of Milwaukee to get them into a Earn and Learn experience. This group with earn a stipend every week, we will be leaning on schools that have students that they have deemed as at risk, we will piolet this at 200 youth, we are in the process of confirming funding and will share more information once that is completed.

Mentor MKE, we will continue our partnership with them to train the worksites. Chytania Brown just returned from New York for receiving an amplified award for the work we completed during the pandemic. We want to expand the partnership with MKE.

Digital Literacy Lab we had 28 individuals served that received laptops, 6 participants attended the Spanish—speaking cohort. Excited about the interest in the program, the age range is 29-65, when asked why you chose this program and they stated they wanted to learn how to maneuver on their own and not having to depend on children or grandchildren for help.

New Grants received \$2,000,000 from the US Department of Labor VIA Senator Baldwins Congressionally Directed Spending Request ETA over 2 years. Partnering with the Milwaukee Water Works to provide a youth pipeline, occupational skill training, transitional jobs and hiring events focused on municipal careers. Kohl's has adapted us another year, will receive \$250,000 to help digital equity initiative, continue basic IT skill training, connect individuals to reduce or provide free reliable internet, and provide refurbished and new devices to community members. Kohl's partnership is very much appreciated the grant money they

provide helps EMI when we are short. Looking forward to continuing the relationship.

4a. Labor Market Information

Unemployment states for Milwaukee County down 2.0%, Wisconsin down 0.1% and the US down 2.4%.

Displaced workers we have 56 from Briggs and 181 workers from Gannett (Journal/Sentinel). Will provide the group with more updated number these are the number through March. Top job openings and top employers hiring for the county are the same as last quarter.

5. **Regional One Stop Operator Report** Beth Norris provided the Regional One Stop Operator report. Ms. Norris noted that the physical traffic remains at approximately 25% of pre-pandemic level. Staff presence at centers is increasing, but many staff are serving virtually. Job demand remains high and technology strategies for service delivery continue to expand, such as Unite Us for referral.

6. **Program Reports:**

EMI has a grant from the Wisconsin Partnership Program, in April we hosted a reentry simulation in partnership with JustDane. The simulation allowed attendees to undergo the real-life experience of the justice involved process. Randy Crump shared as being a participant it should that these individuals have so many hurdles they have to jump to get back on their feet. Chytania shared that this was eye opening for all involved and will be hosting another event. EMI would like to have some Legislators come to review these old policies and get some dialogue going for changes.

7. **Employer Engagement Updates**

Skillful Transitions we have WAI currently has on OJT, but we are seeking more. We have created and released our RFI on March 14th. We have sent this out to 15 different agencies who will focus on workforce preparation, OJT, and financial literacy series. 64 individuals are currently funded in training programs focusing on IT, Finance & Hospitality. 18 individuals are currently receiving wages at work experience sites in Healthcare and Social service Sectors. Current partners are Havenwoods, MATC, Convergence Resource Center, Milwaukee OATS, and Marquette University. Healthy Homes Construction Careers was created to train City of Milwaukee residents to enter jobs remediating lead paint hazards in homes targeted by MHD/DHS and to assist city contractors in obtaining contracts to do the remediation work. SDC graduated 20 individuals and they have also opened a southside location to enroll more students.

Milwaukee Healthcare Workforce Initiative is the grant from the Medical College this a new cohort for different positions that is on the flyer they currently have openings in pharmacy technicians, radiologic technicians, and certified nursing assistants. Once the training is completed these individuals are guaranteed employment. We are still seeking individuals to fill this cohort.

Employer Engagement activities completed 28 events with 653 attendees and 167 employers. March EMI did a Milwaukee construction job fair and had 77 job seekers and 24 employers. We are going to focus on multiple employer events and shy away from the 1 employer events. Upcoming events have Talgo, Milwaukee Public Schools, Boys and Girls Club, hospitality job fair and a nonprofit & government job fair.

Wages have increased across the board and our placements show YTD 650 with a trend up.

9. **Other Business**

None

Adjourned 10:00 a.m.

The Next Program Committee meeting is scheduled for August 18th, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.-10: 30a.m

