



Joint Newark and Essex County

Literacy Committee/ Workforce Investment Board

January 23, 2017

<i>Barcelos, Cristhian</i>	NCC, NJALL, LVA	<i>Mirda, Betty</i>	DEDTE
<i>Beckford, Jasmyne</i>	NWDB	<i>Schaeffer, Janine</i>	Essex WDB
<i>Celestin, Judy</i>	ECC	<i>Sternstein, Lynn</i>	JVS
<i>Chavarria, Ana</i>	FOCUS	<i>Weiss, Howard</i>	ECWDB
<i>Lane, Davetta</i>	NWDB	<i>Wright, Tanya (phone)</i>	ECC

Welcome

Lynn Sternstein opened the meeting with introductions.

Minutes from the November meeting were approved with corrections.

WIOA Update

Howard stated that the State will be moving forward on co-enrollment, which has a major impact on performance as well as the welfare to work program. Christian stated that the NGO has not come out yet and when it does it will be for July. The Dept of Labor has tried, with the Library program to get them to enroll everyone at the One Stops. He said it has to do with volume that they can't take care of thirty or forty students at one time. Howard added that for the other agencies they are expecting them to do the enrollment.

There is a big push for Career Connections. Christian stated that the website is not horrible but it has a lot going on and it is difficult to navigate. LVA Newark is a better site and has the information / resource page where things are broken down and resources are listed. He suggested that the National Literacy Directory which is located on LVA Newark web-site.

Lynn stated that they have not had training for Career Connections.

Consortium update

Judy stated that the deadline was January and MOU is completed. She had a professional development class which was successful. And if we determine it's of value to have a Career Connections training, she can provide that. She stated that ACE will be focusing on it and as an agency you can determine what you will want to target.

The funding the consortium now goes through June 30th. Howard stated that there needs to be a process so that there can be an award in July. There is a question about involvement of the WDBs.

Two weeks ago there was a state directors meeting so the focus is going to be on train the trainer. They have to develop a model that they want to implement in one lead agency. Part of it will be using her English lab or Google Apps. Google Apps Professional Development will either be 20th or 24th of February and she will send out information. The lead agency will focus on the ASE.

Every time there is an open competition they have a meeting. There are technical issues because the application is done through the SAGE website.

The group agreed to table the meet & greet until August. It will be better to wait until Newark has moved & One Stop Operators have been selected. There was also discussion about possibly combining the literacy training with the Disability training for the One Stops.

HSE update

Betty Mirda stated that the new contracts are three (3) years and they just got the signed copy last week. TASC has had a massive change.

There was a discussion about the High School Equivalency test and how the science portion is very difficult.

NJALL Update

Christian stated that the State is no longer involved with the refugees. They are working on a campaign to have NJ be proactive in literacy in a more meaningful way. WIOA covers less than 20,000 people out of the 1.5 million that need assistance in the State of New Jersey.

Newark has a pipe fitting opportunity for an apprenticeship- Jasmyne is looking into more of those types of opportunity. Davetta is adding a few board members including Danny Denise Gonzales.

Announcements

JVS is moving to the lower level, at 7 Glenwood Ave., East Orange. The executive offices, career counseling, home health aid and corporate training have already moved to a new office on Eisenhower Parkway in Livingston.

The meeting dates for 2017 are: Jan 23rd, Mar 13th, May 15th, July 10th, Sept 11th, Nov. 13th.

Adjournment

There being no further business the Literacy meeting was adjourned at 12:00

Respectfully submitted by

Janine Schaeffer

Next Meeting Date March 13th 2017