



**Joint Essex County & Newark WDB
Disability Committee/ Workforce Investment Board**
50 South Clinton Street, 4th Floor
East Orange, NJ 07018

Minutes : June 12, 2018

Bundy, Melody	NJTIP/ Rutgers	Lane, Davetta	NWDB
Davis, James	EC Office of Disabled	McLilly, Elizabeth	DVRS
Fiore, Lisa	Goodwill	Sakhu, Qadriyyah	PHPIN
Garcia, Madeline	CBVI	Schaeffer, Janine	EC WDB
Gerson, Amanda	CBVI	Shulman, Rebecca	JVS
Katz, Elaine	Kessler Foundation	Weiss, Howard	ECWDB
LaCon, Lisa	BMI		

First part of meeting was a conference call with DJ Ralston from George Washington University on TCTAC.

There is a “Bridges out of Poverty” training that is scheduled for June 21st & 22nd. DJ commended Essex County on the number of people representing diverse programs which will be attending the event.

There was a discussion around what direction to go after the “Bridges out of Poverty.” Some of the options are bringing in some motivational interviewing training, looking at some of the behavioral economic pieces to the disabled population. Looking at intentional partnership to leveraging resources. DJ also asked about the timelines. Elaine stated that she thinks it would be beneficial to look at disability and poverty. So DJ responded that we should be looking at the intersection of disability and poverty training and at the specific behavioral issues. Elaine stated that specifically we should look at how it relates to employment. Rebecca agreed with Elaine that poverty training is not one of the areas that counselors are given. It is more in social service but not in vocational rehab programs.

DJ stated that behavioral economics is the examination of values as it relates to purchases that people make. The Bridges out of Poverty training does a good job of looking at the environment of scarcity relative to resources. The intersection of disability and poverty training takes it a step further and reviews the impact of living in that type of environment and the drama that is fosters and the decisions that impacts. She also stated that this training would still be relevant to others not specifically dealing with folks with disabilities. Many times you are dealing with people with disabilities and you don’t know it but also the larger examination of poverty related to disability on employment.

There is training already scheduled on September 20th and that is “TCTAC One Stop Academy.” Howard wanted this. Sept 26/27 will be for Disability & Poverty Training.

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Minutes from last meeting in April were approved.

WDB update

Davetta stated that they have finally received approvals to move the Newark One Stop and the new address will be 321 University Ave. The move “should” happen Sept/Oct. this year. Davetta also stated that the RFPs are out and due back July 20th for the Youth and Dislocated Workers. Newark is also in the middle of a comprehensive state and federal audit that they have been working on for the past couple of weeks.

Howard stated the Essex County Workforce Development Board meeting is coming up on Tuesday at Essex County College.

Announcements

Rebecca stated that JVS has completed a process (by Dept of Labor and Dept of Education) to stay on the GTLP list. JVS is now a private school and is starting a Microsoft Office training program which is 10 weeks and will lead to mouse certification for \$2800.

James Davis stated that the program that he runs, the Personal Assistance Services Program, still has some funds available to help individuals that are permanently disabled. It is a state program that is run through the county and available to permanently disabled adults 18-70 who are working, going to school, volunteering at least 20 hours per month. The individual needs to be self- directing. It is a supplemental program not an entitlement which means you access Medicaid services first. If they don't have Medicaid and they need services they can still participate.

Employer Recognition Event

The Employer Event is scheduled for October 18th at Mayfair Farms. Kessler Foundation offered \$2000. Both WDBs would contribute \$500. Rebecca asked everyone to confirm this.

There was a discussion that Melody is going to update the letter sent out to WDB last year and resend it to WDB. Elaine suggested that they do a specific letter to the past awardees and ask them for \$500 donation.

There is going to be a smaller committee to organize the Employer Recognition Event that will consist of Elizabeth, Davetta, Melody, Elaine, Janine & Howard.

The employer nomination form was discussed and Rebecca will send the draft out to everyone before the end of the week. The

Note: There will be a bridges out of poverty training offered June 21st & 22nd and is intended for One-Stop staff to attend.

There will be a subcommittee meeting on July 17th 2:00pm at East Orange JVS.

Also, there will be a TCTAC meeting prior to the scheduled meeting below at 1:30pm

Next Meeting is scheduled for August 21st, 2018 at 2:00pm at JVS

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