



**Joint Essex County & Newark WDB
Disability Committee/ Workforce Investment Board**

50 South Clinton Street, 4th Floor
East Orange, NJ 07018

Minutes : June 20, 2019

Beckford, Jasmyne	NWDB	McLilly, Elizabeth	DVRS
Bell-Taylor, Kelli	NWDB	Person, Brenda	NWDB
Bleckman, Sandra	LHIP	Schaeffer, Janine	ECWDB
Campbell, Towanna	Newark Works	Schweitzer, Marc	DVRS
Gallanter, Rebecca	Opportunity Project	Shea, Tom	Opportunity Project
Garcia, Madeline	CBVI	Shulman, Rebecca	JVS
Gerson, Amanda	CBVI	Walsh, John	Project E3
Katz, Elaine	Kessler Fnd.	Weiss, Howard	ECWDB
McGuire-Kuletz, Maureen	GWU		

Introductions were made and minutes from last meeting in April were approved.

TCTAC Update

There was discussion around the “Community Academy” training event. Marc stated that it is a really good way for people to get to know one another. One person per organization will get up and give an “elevator speech” about their agency and there will be a directory compiled with the information. Maureen (on phone) relayed a recent event in Virginia which was very successful with over forty (40) agencies in attendance. This event has been postponed due to problems with Maureen and the County’s schedules. There is a hope to reschedule it in the Spring.

Next, September 16 & 17th are the dates for the follow up to the “Bridges out of Poverty” training from last year. Maureen will email the list of last year’s attendees for the Bridges training. Staff will then choose one (1) day to attend.

Announcements

Sandra Bleckman announced that the Industry Partnerships are all going back to the NJ Department of Labor Workforce Development effective June 30th. She stated that she will not be at LWD and does not know who will be facilitating them there.

Howard stated that they have had a meeting and it is now a new project called “Next Gen.” Howard stated that they are supposed to identify the ancillary partners (government and social service agencies) that will work with and assist these corporate entities that will control and operate these new cooperatives amongst the industries. Sandra stated that the intent is to not have a lot of ancillary partners in the room as it will be run almost entirely by business with the expectation to have fifteen (15) to twenty (20) businesses per meeting. Howard questioned whether there are businesses willing to put forth the money and resources in order to make this successful. Rebecca

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thanked her for her service to the committee and stated that wherever she lands is more than welcome to continue with the committee.

Jasmyne wanted to announce that Newark is having a graduation ceremony for clients who have made it through the training program on June 24th at NJIT to highlight the work that is being done. July 8th is the Summer Youth kickoff at Essex County College for the three thousand (3000) kids in the program that is a paid internship. She also added that the state is using this program as a model but it is privately funded.

Howard added that the County is running a much smaller program with the state for eighty (80) youth.

Employer Recognition Event

Howard stated that he reached out to the Lieutenant Governor's Office and the event is on her schedule but it is too early to confirm her attendance. He also reached out to Kathy Krepcio at the Heldridge Center and she is willing to talk about a recently completed study.

Howard also relayed that the County is willing to chip in \$1000. for the event. Jasmyne could not confirm that the City of Newark is willing to contribute and stated that they are looking for someone to honor.

Howard confirmed the date of the event at Mayfair Farms is October 22nd.

Rebecca updated the nomination form and is going to email that out to everyone. Also discussed was sending out a save the date email.

The standing sub-committee for the recognition event is Janine, Howard, Rebecca, Melody and Sandra.

John Walsh stated that they are able to have a training for diversity that focuses on disability. John is going to put something together in writing about this proposal perhaps to have in the Spring.

Next Meeting is scheduled for August 20, 2019 at 2:00pm at JVS, East Orange

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