

Minneapolis Workforce Council

November 19, 2013

Meeting Minutes

Present: Carolyn Roby, Laura Beeth, Christopher Ferguson, Darla Figoli, (Sara Sinderbrand – alternate to Doug Flateau), Steve Gilbertson, Anthony Goze, Todd Klingel, Ken Lundquist, John Mbali, Daniel McConnell, Tyler Olson, Wendie Palazzo, Carlye Peterson, Jim Roth, Terrell Towers, Dr. Tara Watson

Staff: Deb Bahr-Helgen, Felisha Burns, Catherine Christian, Teresa Harrold, Doug Suker

Guests: Cynthia Bauerly – DEED, Shym Cook – DEED

Excused: Elizabeth Campbell, Anahita Cameron

****Carolyn Roby called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.**

Welcome and Chair's Report

Carolyn Roby welcomed the Minneapolis Workforce Council members (MWC). Carolyn thanked Todd Klingel for hosting Mayor Rybak's farewell luncheon that took place on: November 15, 2013. Carolyn also informed the MWC that a check in the amount of \$4,500 was presented to STEP-UP at the luncheon.

Announcements: Deb Bahr-Helgen welcomed Cynthia Bauerly, Deputy Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED). Deb stated Cynthia has been actively participating in the Minnesota Workforce Council Association (MWCA) Operations Committee meetings. Deb also informed the MWC that they will be seeing more monthly communication/newsletters from the Greater Metropolitan Workforce Council which is a collaboration of all the metro boards. Deb also thanked Terrell Towers and his staff for their hard work with Platform 2 Employment.

Approval of Minutes

The September 17, 2013 minutes of the Minneapolis Workforce Council Meeting were moved and approved.

Introduction of Cynthia Bauerly – Deputy Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED): Carolyn introduced Cynthia, informing the MWC that Cynthia brings a wonderful perspective to DEED and she recently moved back to Minnesota from the Washington, D.C. area.

Cynthia Bauerly – Deputy Commissioner, Workforce Development Minnesota of Employment and Economic Development (DEED): Cynthia informed the MWC that she is a Minnesota native. She grew up in St. Cloud, MN and she spent the last 12 years in Washington, D.C. after which she decided to return back to MN. Cynthia stated she enjoys working with the State of MN - DEED assisting individuals with getting back into the workforce and transitioning good careers to support families. Cynthia thanked all MWC members, for volunteering their time to better all communities. Cynthia stated MN regions are strong and has very different economies and the metro is diverse in growing industries and people.

Cynthia informed the MWC that the government shutdown had significant impact on DEED's budget. Cynthia stated with all of the challenges, DEED and MWCA will begin strategic planning sessions about the future of the workforce delivery system in MN – called the Strategic Service Delivery Project. DEED's goal is to assist individuals into the workforce in a meaningful way given the demographic changes and the aging of the workforce; simply there will not be enough people to make MN competitive. Cynthia stated DEED will engage in a process to understand where the need is for employers, how to place customers into good paying jobs, how to grow more jobs and think about what services should be delivered in workforce centers and online. Cynthia stated that the Strategic Service Delivery Project will be an interesting and challenging statewide project. In the future, there will be regional conversations to guide the planning. Cynthia also stated that the Strategic Service Delivery Project timeline will be approximately four to six months.

Cynthia also informed the MWC that the Strategic Service Delivery Project will fit in with the Regional Economic Growth Initiative Project. Cynthia stated this project will be launched around the beginning of the 2014 to understand what's happening regionally and to request feedback on what the State of MN can do to support regional work that's currently going on. Cynthia also informed the MWC about the "Save the Date" for the DEED

Economic Competitive Summit that will take place on January 22, 2014. Cynthia stated invitations along with the full program itinerary will be available online the week of November 25, 2013. Cynthia stated that the DEED Economic Competitive Summit will be a full day event in St. Paul. Cynthia stated this event will look at bringing together both economic development and workforce development panels together to discuss what tools the State of MN has to offer businesses in terms of training workers and growing businesses.

In closing, Cynthia also informed the MWC that DEED currently has a RFP out for space for a new North Minneapolis WorkForce Center and is in negotiation with a developer. Cynthia stated that DEED continues the discussion prior to the new North Minneapolis WorkForce Center building completion on how to continue and grow services that are being delivered across Minneapolis. Cynthia also informed the MWC that a team of DEED staff members focus on youth programming and this team is responsible for providing funding and offer technical assistance for the Youth Program. Cynthia informed the MWC that a discussion regarding youth will also take place on January 22, 2014 at the DEED Economic Competitive Summit.

Questions and discussion took place with Cynthia, MWC members and guests.

Platform 2 Employment: Terrell Towers informed the MWC members and guests that Platform 2 Employment is a pilot program that began in Connecticut and Minneapolis was the sixth city to participate in this program. Terrell stated Platform 2 Employment is designed to assist long term unemployed individuals and those who have exhausted their unemployment benefits. Terrell stated that the Platform 2 Employment began with a goal of 24 chosen participants in which 20 individuals needed to be 50 or older and the other four needed to be veterans. Unfortunately, Minneapolis was unable to attract four veterans under thirty years old. Terrell informed MWC members and guests about the Platform 2 Employment kick off that took place at the UROC on September, 23, 2013. Terrell stated that a few chosen participants left the program due to personal reasons. Terrell informed the MWC members and guests that participants graduated from the Platform 2 Employment on October 24, 2013 and Terrell and his staff continue to work with participants to place them into internships/employment. Terrell stated the Platform 2 Employment was a five week program that consisted of job search techniques, mental health and financial planning support. Terrell informed the MWC that that his colleague, who is a Business Service Representative, conducted one-on-one sessions with each participant that graduated from Platform 2 Employment to assist them with determining their employment focus and creating a resume. Terrell informed the MWC that overall, Platform 2 Employment was a great service however many of the participants are still seeking employment.

Current Economic Landscape & Program Outcomes – Mark Brinda, Manager presented the MWC with Current Economic Landscape & Program Outcomes. Please see link:

<http://www.minneapolismn.gov/www/groups/public/@cped/documents/webcontent/wcms1p-119168.pdf>

Committee Reports

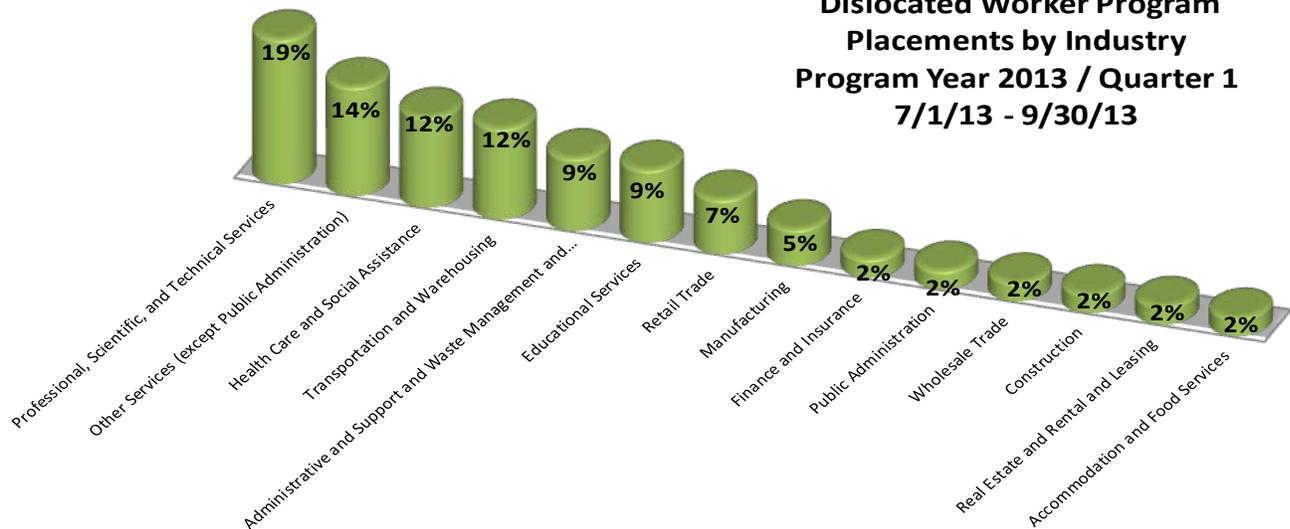
Adult Committee: Carlye Peterson submitted the Adult Committee. Please see link:

<http://www.minneapolismn.gov/www/groups/public/@cped/documents/webcontent/wcms1p-119167.pdf>

Dislocated Worker Committee: Jim Roth submitted the Dislocated Worker Report

[WIA & State Dislocated Worker Program - Placements by Industry:](#)

**WIA & State
Dislocated Worker Program
Placements by Industry
Program Year 2013 / Quarter 1
7/1/13 - 9/30/13**



Funding and the Partial Federal Government Shutdown

The partial federal government shutdown that began on October 1, 2013 created some challenges for METP's Dislocated Worker program.

WIA funds are currently released in two allocations. METP's total WIA budget for Program Year 2013 is \$727,731, but only the "base" funding of \$44,142 was available on July 1, 2013. This meant that we were already starting out the program year with a very limited amount of WIA funding available. We were not able to enroll any new WIA DW clients because resources had to be reserved for clients who were still in the program, from the previous year, who needed to complete training plans already in progress.

We expected to begin enrolling in WIA DW again when we received the second allocation of "advance" funds of \$683,589 which are typically released on October 1 at the start of the new federal fiscal year. Due to the shutdown, the funds were not available on that date. So on October 1, we were not able to provide any further training to our existing WIA clients and only very limited support services funds. During the shutdown, Cynthia Bauerly from DEED held frequent conference calls with Workforce Service Area staff to answer questions and provide guidance. On October 8, DEED staff was also able to release some unspent Rapid Response funds (from the previous year) to local areas: METP received \$27,447 in funding which was dedicated to training to keep WIA clients moving forward. On October 16, the shutdown ended and full funding was restored back to an October 1, 2013 start date.

Fortunately, the State DW program had full funding available on July 1, 2013 so all new enrollments were concentrated in this program until October 16 and services were never interrupted for these State DW clients.

New Dislocated Worker Committee members:

The Minneapolis Workforce Council's Dislocated Worker committee is welcoming two new members. Chris Ferguson and Doug Flateau are joining this group. This next meeting of this committee will take place on January 23, 2014.

Youth Committee: Tyler Olson submitted the Youth Committee Report

STEP-UP Summer Class RFP

Minneapolis Employment and Training is seeking a provider for the STEP-UP summer class. A request for proposal was released in October and two proposals were submitted by the deadline. Readers have scored the proposals and the award will be announced on December 5.

State Year-round Youth Competitive Funding

Minneapolis Employment and Training submitted a proposal to DEED for funding to support a range of activities for Minneapolis youth including more capacity to offer work readiness training, year-round internships, and intensive support and training services for the most disconnected youth. Unfortunately, the proposal was not funded and the Employment Training team will continue to look for other ways to fund and implement those services.

STEP-UP 2014

Recruitment for STEP-UP youth and employers is underway. This year, more focus will be given to providing information to middle school youth about opportunities with STEP-UP. In addition, recruitment will continue at high schools and community service organizations. The application period for youth will be December 16, 2013 through February 21, 2014.

New for 2014

Employers that want to offer internships at their business will be able to submit their jobs online through the new STEP-UP Database.

A motion was made from the Youth Committee to propose that the MWC direct staff to provide leadership and technical support through a consortium model to local workforce councils/local workforce investment boards and partners wishing to replicate the STEP-UP model.The motion was passed by unanimous vote****

Minneapolis Workforce Council Meeting Adjourned at 9:30am.

Next Minneapolis Workforce Council Meeting:

TBD

Tuesday, January 21, 2013

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

TTY (612) 673-2157

Minneapolis Employment and Training Program (612) 673-5298