



SIWDB Spotlight

A P R I L 2 0 1 6



Hello Workforce Leaders,

Thank you for your patience as we continue to work on important transition milestones for implementation of the new Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Kathy, her team and our great partners are working feverishly behind the scenes to comply with the federal and state guidelines. The **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** is in the works and we have the guidance of national consultant Melanie Arthur assisting us. The **One Stop Certification** process is a parallel effort to be sure

that the services we provide job seekers and employers through our Resource Rooms is world class. Marion has been identified as the Comprehensive Center and the group is also committed to continuing partner coordinated services in Mt. Vernon. The **Regional Plan** for workforce development across the southernmost 19 counties of our state is also moving at rapid pace. That process is engaging employers, public sector, economic development, K-12, post-secondary, and regional planning commission leaders. Thanks to the employers from our board who have participated.

Since we did not have our SIWDB meeting last week, I have enclosed the Director's Report that will give you much more information about the important work occurring. Thank you if you have participated in the committee meetings and please expect more. Please also take the time to answer the short survey sent out by our secretary Tammy Kirk so that we will know which day of the week and time of the day you will most likely be able to attend board meetings in person. We have much to discuss and I look forward to seeing you soon. Thank you for your time and effort as we craft a workforce system to serve our region.

Sincerely,

Mary M. Roe

SIWDB Chairperson

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Southern Illinois Workforce Development Board — Director's Report

Kathy Lively, C.E.O., Man-Tra-Con Corporation

March 30, 2016

SIWDB Certification — The Southern Illinois Workforce Development Board received certification from the Governor's office on December 21, 2015. The process was labor intensive with restrictions on NAICS codes allowed for each board member. The SIWDB executive committee approved the by laws and they were submitted to DCEO. The board certification process is concluded.

Incentive Award – Even though we received a policy letter stating we would not be receiving any incentive funds for meeting and exceeding performance benchmarks, we unexpectedly did receive an award last week of \$19,036. These funds may be spent in any way to support our work and in keeping with the OMB Circular.

DCEO Fiscal and Program Monitoring — DCEO monitoring occurred January 4 - 7, 2016. DCEO believes we may be monitored by the Department of Labor in 2016 so worked on our files and fiscal reports for weeks prior to the onsite visit and are still examining files offsite. The DCEO team had a couple of findings that were not related to any disallowed costs. **Please see Attachment A** (Click on text link, or download PDF file attached to email).

Lease — After months of meetings in person and by phone and numerous meetings with architects, the mall rescinded its offer of moving us into the core of the mall due to the expense of rehabbing the area. I signed a 3-year extension of our existing lease with the same square foot and utility costs and the addition of approximately 5,000 square footage known as 800B2 added in for no additional cost. This B2 space will take care of our adult ed needs and give Greater Egypt more office space, which they desperately need. We will be responsible for any "build out" costs so we are maximizing some space within our core area and moving some IT storage to a hallway directly behind the IT area. Once the architect is finished with the rough drawings, we have to get all build out costs approved by DCEO. We are, hopefully, still on target for a July 1, 2016, move in date.

Melanie Arthur Training — On September 15, renowned consultant Melanie Arthur provided Board Orientation to the SIWDB members in the morning and One-Stop System building training to our partners in the afternoon. Fourteen members from LWA 26 joined our group. Melanie has continued

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to provide training to the SIWDB board with webinars on December 2 addressing Work-Based Learning and December 11 discussing Sector Strategy Development. On January 15, Melanie met with us at Man-Tra-Con in person to conduct a webinar titled Board Building: Committees, Standing Committees, Business Input; followed by One Stop MOU session. All of Melanie's training sessions are recorded and archived at <http://www.siwdb.org/news.htm>.

MOU and Comprehensive One Stop Center Certification — We met as a workforce area on January 15 with Melanie Arthur in person to begin serious MOU negotiations as a group. We have participated in numerous webinars and already spoken at length about WIOA implications for our One Stop services and system. Marion was chosen as the one Comprehensive Center and Mt. Vernon will be an affiliate. The Board must choose a One Stop Certification team to utilize a check list of criteria to document our comprehensive center meets all the requirements. The Governor's Policy on MOU Negotiations is very clear about process and less clear on exactly what counts as shared costs. Debbie Kee will be trying to show actual costs for both infrastructure - utilities, lease costs, etc. and system costs - shared assessments, board staffing costs, etc. I will be the lead in representing board interests and Melanie Arthur has been chosen as the third party neutral person overseeing the negotiations and process review. Both the processes must be complete and sent to DCEO by June 30, 2016. Per the board's former approval, we will continue to contract with Melanie until submission. **Please see Attachment B for timeline** (*Click on text link, or download PDF file attached to email*).

Regional Plan Team — I am the regional contact for the newly formed Illinois EDR 8 Regional Planning Team. DCEO has provided a Maher & Maher consultant, Kathy Sweeney, to help Economic Development Region 8 through the planning process and final "Regional Plan." Pam Barbee, Executive Director of the Southern 14 Workforce Board, has agreed to assist. The team drove to Effingham on December 19, 2015, for a day-long training session on understanding data about our region. Members of the team who were able to attend in addition to me are: Jonathon Hallberg, JCDC Executive Director; Kay Fleming, Dean of Workforce Education and Community Education at JALC; Michelle Cerutti, Director MTC; Pam Barbee, Executive Director Southern 14 Workforce Board; Kim Jacobs, Southern 14 Fiscal Planner; Dennis White; Karen Weiss, Dean Southeastern Illinois Community College; Kim Watson, DCEO Regional Economic Development; Vickie Mayfield and Joan Jablonski-Baxter both of Vocational Rehabilitation DHS; Christina Hutcheson, Adult Education RLC; Karla Tabing Adult Education JALC; James Darden, Adult Ed Shawnee Community College; John Otey, Penny Valentine, Jillian Van Zandt, Dennis Hoffman all of IDES; Denna Williams, Shawnee Development Council; Patricia Sawyer from Illinois Migrant Council, and LaDonna Henson, Director of EDC at SIUC. Our group was very practical and participatory. Members of the team participated in a WIOA Regional Planning Summit on February 23 – 24 at the Wyndham Hotel in Springfield. Every region in the state participated in work throughout the two days including break outs for the various core partners. A huge thank you to members who took two days

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from their busy schedules to participate. This work continues with phone conversations and webinars. We had an in person meeting on January 14 to begin to look at the data and next steps toward a regional plan. The Regional Plan Leadership Team (RPLT8) met on March 23 at 1:00 pm and made assignments so that a draft can be completed. Our next meeting is in Harrisburg at the Southeastern Illinois College Small Business Development Center located in the Old National bank in Harrisburg on April 5 at 1:30 pm.

Workforce Education and Economic Development State Leadership Team — I continue to serve on this team of state directors, community college presidents and the director of the Illinois Board of Higher Education. The statewide team of directors and deputy directors of our partner agencies meets monthly to advise the Department of Commerce and Economic Development and the Interagency Team on WIOA transition issues, currently the regional planning element of the new workforce legislation.

WIOA National Convening —The Departments of Labor, Education and Health and Human Services requested each state governor to send a team of state and local leaders to attend the National WIOA Convening in Washington, DC on January 26-28, 2016 entitled, *“One Team, One Vision, One Conversation.”* Due to severe weather conditions, we were unable to fly to DC on the appointed day. Many Illinois members were able to fly out the following day and the work continues by frequent conference call meetings.

Grants

Talent Pipeline Incumbent Worker Grant — Management, Training, and Consulting Corporation received a Talent Pipeline Grant to partner with Southern Illinois Healthcare and John A. Logan College to create a pipeline training opportunity for incumbent workers and was awarded the grant in the amount of \$100,000. The newly established SIH Patient Care Tech (PCT) position requires a CNA. Over seventy current employees will be affected by the change in the CNA education requirement. The grant funds will allow incumbent workers to keep full time employment while enhancing skill sets and obtaining a CNA in a newly developed part-time offering. SIH retains employees, the community college increases its CNA instructional capacity and the region benefits. Update: The first part time class ended in December. Three BSNs have completed the CNA Instructor Certification and are teaching the additional CNA classes for John A. Logan College. Thanks to John A. Logan College for bringing the entrance assessments to Herrin Hospital, Carbondale Memorial Hospital, and St. Joseph’s Memorial Hospital. Rhonda Neuhaus, SIH, is the lead for the SIH and Debra Keelin is entering all the required data for the mandatory reports. Deb Kee and I submitted a budget modification and extension of the original end date of June 30, 2016. The grant will serve approximately 35 rather than the earlier anticipated 70 employees. Many of the affected employees chose to resign rather than achieve the CNA certification and three of the group already held a CNA or LPN so did not need the services of the grant. Thanks to Deb Keelin for coordinating the reporting mechanisms in Illinois workNet. **NEW GRANTS FROM DCEO ARE AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME.**

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Disability Employment Initiative — The Department of Labor recently completed a monitoring of the State of Illinois and the two DEI grants currently operating in the state. Our exit interview was September 4, 2015, and was excellent. The final DOL Monitoring Report was released in January and there were no findings for our part of their visit. Workforce Area 25 has been selected as one of two workforce areas assisting the state in creating innovative employment opportunities, utilizing and expanding relationships that will integrate into the workforce development system, creating a seamless service delivery model that can ultimately become the standard for the state. Chris Pell is the Disability Resource Coordinator (DRC) and Employment Network (Ticket to Work) Administrator. We are officially named an Employment Network with the ability to issue Ticket to Work to individuals with a disability. We currently have three participants who will begin to receive Ticket to Work funds and at that point MTC will benefit financially. **Please see Attachment C** (Click on text link, or download PDF file attached to email).

SNAP JTED/ EPIC Grant — We have been awarded the grant. We will be working to “fill in the blanks” or improve deficit areas which are identified as a result of the NOCTI assessment given to participants prior to being placed in the grant. We are also working with Dennis White on a Manufacturing Bootcamp to include assembly practice with Legos, Safety Certification, and Fork Lift driving and Certification. Work based learning is a very important part of the project so we will be working with local manufacturers for both placement with Work Experience and On the Job Training. We will be working with our adult education partners for placement in their existing Bridge and ICAPS programs. We also have reached out to several trucking companies to find out their hiring parameters. DHS is greatly expanding the original number of 98 which we believed we would be serving. The grant activities are expected to begin on April 1. We expect to have the grant agreement prior to April 1. Tena Studer will be offering grant support activities within Illinois workNet. Tena and I will be attending a mandatory EPIC training in Chicago on April 18. We are considering another in-house person to help implement the grant. The admin with this grant is only 5%. We negotiated the first month costs for the program and after that point the grant funds will be released on a performance outcome basis. ■