

## **LWDB Program Operations and Performance (POP) Committee Meeting Minutes**

November 6, 2019

### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

Co-Chair Robyn Heinz welcomed Committee members and asked for self-introductions.

### **2. Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) Performance Reports**

WIOA Program Year 2018 (PY18) information is final and Program Year 2019 (PY19) performance is available for the first and second quarter.

Adult Program annual performance for LAIV met the goal on Entered Employment 2nd Quarter and Entered Employment 4th Quarter; exceeded the goal for Credential Rate and did not meet the sanction level for Median Earnings. Dislocated Worker Program annual performance met the goal for Entered Employment 4th Quarter and exceeded the goal for Entered Employment 2nd Quarter, Median Earnings, and Credential Rate. Youth Program annual performance exceeded the goal for Placement in Employment, Education, or Training 2nd Quarter and Placement in Employment, Education, or Training 4th Quarter and did not meet the sanction level for Credential Rate. LAIV has struggled with the sanction level for Credential Rate the past few years. LA IV exceeded the goal for all three Wagner Peyer measures in PY18. The State met or exceeded all measures for the Dislocated Worker and Youth programs, met the goal for Adult Entered Employment 2nd Quarter, exceeded the goal for Adult Entered Employment 4th Quarter and Credential Rate and did not meet the sanction level for Adult Median Earnings.

WIOA Program Year 2019 began on July 1, 2019 and first quarter performance was reported to the Committee. The numbers are preliminary, but indicate areas of focus for staff to address moving forward.

*Report was received and filed.*

### **3. WIOA Youth Program Operations**

With the adoption of WIOA in 2014, a number of performance measurements were changed as well as guidelines for the youth program. The most significant of these for the Workforce Alliance (WA) was a change to serve 75% of out of school youth as opposed to 70% in school youth, and adding a work experience requirement to operations. A number of changes were implemented; however, performance in the youth program is below expectations and the number of youth being served has decreased. A specific area of concern in performance is the youth credential rate, which has not met expected outcomes for the last two years.

A site visit to Local Area III (LA III) in the Kansas City area was conducted to examine their Youth Program operations. Similarities and differences were reviewed including the fact that LA III youth move through the program more quickly (8 to 10 months), services are bundled to accelerate credential attainment and there is a better use of suitability tools to assist in aligning goals of youth participants. Changes are being considered such as focusing on employment goals as opposed to education goals as this appears to be the intent of Congress in the changes under WIOA (work experience component), targeting older youth or so called Opportunity Youth in the 19 to 24 age range with barriers such as coming out of foster care, juvenile justice and lack of work experience. Steve Porter asked if youth apprenticeship is a way to expand employment goals of the program.

Lawing responded that it could and may be a way to combine employment and education goals.

Monica Stewart asked if focusing on employment goals would create other issues in regard to performance. Staff responded that education goals would continue to be addressed.

Peterson was appreciative of the visit to LA III and asked if there were other areas similar to Wichita that might be consulted/visited for information and ideas. Lawing responded that the

Workforce Alliance is a member of the Midwest Urban Consortium and that there are several peer communities

Most Committee members agreed that marketing of opportunity youth (ages 19-24) is important as many employers equate youth with children not young adults. They also agree with increasing contact opportunities with juvenile justice and suggested that county commissioners be included in this effort. Staff suggested the possibility of hosting a lunch and inviting judges, Chief Elected Official Board, commissioners and other juvenile justice contacts for networking and to raise awareness of programs and services. Another option being considered is leveraging the WIOA youth program participants with the Youth Employment Project (YEP) and Helping Youth Prepare for Employment (HYPE) programs to increase the options for employment outside of summer and to get more employers to hire WIOA youth.

These topics will also be addressed by the Youth Employment Task Force created by the WA Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB).

*The Committee provided input, oversight, suggestions and recommendations to staff to present to the Executive Committee.*

#### **4. Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS)**

The WA has operated a contract with Kansas Department of Children and Families (DCF), Vocational Rehabilitation for PRE-ETS, a program designed to provide early job exploration, counseling and other services to help young people with disabilities prepare for employment and self-reliance and making the transition from secondary to post-secondary education/training and competitive employment. The program is funded outside of WIOA Title I funds. Participants spend an average of 18 months in the program and the wages are fixed. Most of the referrals received are from the school districts. There has been problem with receiving referrals and it has been difficult to serve rural areas where many of the referrals are made. The program has a difficult time breaking even and the WA cannot fund the program with WIOA dollars. Peterson asked if there was a possibility that the Committee would be asked in the future to approve the continuance of this program and if so, a breakdown of participants by year would be helpful. Staff will provide this information to the Committee.

*Report was received and filed.*

#### **5. Workforce Alliance Task Forces**

At the October 23, 2019 WA LWDB meeting, two task forces were created.

The Youth Employment Task Force will review the results from the 2019 Helping Youth Prepare for Employment (HYPE) project, the WA's Youth Employment Project (YEP) strategies, WIOA youth operations and the partnership with DCF to implement Pre-ETS.

An RFI task force will review the responses to the RFI on employment services in Cowley and Sumner Counties. The WA has offices in Winfield and Wellington, however the number of employers and job seekers served is low due to the limited part-time staffing for these offices and high turnover of staff working from these locations. The purpose of the RFI is to seek options on how the WA can better serve these two counties. Two responses were received, one from Cowley Community College and one from the Sumner County Economic Development Council.

Both task forces will provide recommendations to the LWDB at its January 22, 2020 meeting. A list of the task forces' membership was provided to the Committee.

*Report was received and filed.*

#### **6. Consent Agenda and Committee Reports**

Meeting Minutes from January 3, 2019 and March 7, 2019, Meeting Notes from May 2, 2019 and September 26, 2019 as well as the Workforce Center Operations/One-Stop Operator report for



September and the Helping Youth Prepare for Employment (HYPE) were presented to the Committee for review.

*Kerri Falletti (Matt Peterson) moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion approved.*

**7. Announcements**

Registered Apprenticeship Week is the week of November 11<sup>th</sup>. The Wichita City Council will adopt a proclamation celebrating Registered Apprenticeship on November 12<sup>th</sup>, the WA will host a Registered Apprenticeship Information & Resource Fair on November 12th at the Wichita Workforce Center, and the Plumbers and Pipefitters and Sheet Metal Workers will host open houses.

**8. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45.

*Present Committee & Board Members*

Robyn Heinz, Co-Chair  
Justin Albert  
Andrew Chance  
Kerri Falletti  
Matt Peterson  
Erica Ramos

*Ex-Officio Members*

John Cressler  
Steve Porter  
Monica Stewart

*Staff/Guests*

Stacy Cotten  
Keith Lawing  
Shirley Lindhorst  
Chad Pettera  
Tisha Cannizzo, Eckerd Connects