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Cavalier Johnson, Mayor, City Milwaukee
Chief Elected Official

Carla Cross, **Chair**

EMPLOY MILWAUKEE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, November 15, 2023 – 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

2342 North 27th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53210 – Via Zoom Technology

APPROVED MINUTES

Members Present Virtually: Bevin Christie, Randy Crump, Mark Kessenich (Chair), Parker Rios, Beth Norris, Joni Theobald, Jennifer Fogerty, Ugo Nwagbaraocha

Guests: None

Employ Milwaukee Staff Present: Romell Greer, Carrie Hersh, Cindy Anderson, Wylbur Holloway, Suzanne Reinstein, Jeff McAlister, Julie Cayo, Brenda King

Chair Mark Kessenich called meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

1. Committee Business

- i. Bevin Christie motioned for approval of the May 17, 2023; meeting minutes as circulated; Parker Rios seconded; approved unanimously.

2. Contracts and Compliance

Policy Approval

- On-the-job Training Policy – To provide a limit to the OJT, this will allow the ability to limit the reimbursement amounts per participant this would be \$10,000 per participant. There is an exception that could be reviewed by the CEO. Motion to approve Parker Rios, Bevin Christie 2nd, motion passed unanimously.

Contracts that need Approval:

- Quest Dislocated Worker grant Equus - \$100,000
- Quest Dislocated Worker grate DWFS - \$100,000
- Digital Literacy Lab Everyone On, Inc – Funded By Kohls - \$111,000
- Windows to Work Department of Labor - \$1,518,249
- MATC Department of Labor - \$357,750
- Tech Hub Coalition Department of Labor - \$100,00

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Parker Rios motioned for approval, Joni Thobald 2nd, motioned passed.
Committee voted unanimously on all the policy updates.

3. New Grants and Funding

Employ Milwaukee received a US DOL Pathways to Infrastructure Grant that we have named it Skills to Build. This grant will provide training programs and train historically underserved job seekers in advanced manufacturing, IT, and professional, scientific, and technical service occupations that support the growth sectors of renewable energy, transportation, and broadband infrastructure. This will cover incumbent, unemployed and underemployed workers in the M&E, the age is 17 years or older and not currently enrolled in secondary school. The grant is \$4,989,684 over 5 years. The partners are Workforce Development Board, MATC, WCTC, Moraine Park, Tech Hub coalition, city of Milwaukee, Husco, Waukesha County Business Alliance, and Bre City HDI. The second grant is Quality Jobs for Hospitality Workers, this grant will serve MKE and offer skills training and advancement opportunities for workers to obtain a livable wage with assistance from Serve MKE. Received 2,662,661 for over years and a total of 400 participants. Partners Employ Milwaukee Hospitality Industry Advisory Board members (Marcus, Radisson, Potawatomi, Levy and Bartolotta Restaurants) UFCW Local #1473, AFL-CIO Workers, United 122, Milwaukee Area Labor Council, MATC, DWD-approved training providers. Year 1 will be a planning year and then Year 2 and 3 will be when we will provide services.

4. Labor Market Information

We are now seeing more layoffs after a few months of none, right now we have Yellow Corporation, National Express, Regal Rexnord Corp, Superior Die Set Corp, BMO Bank Strauss Brands. Employ Milwaukee Business Solutions has been setting up services for these 818 individuals that have been affected by these layoffs. The labor force, employment and unemployment have all decreased.

5. Regional One-Stop Operator Report

Beth Norris shared with the group what the One Stop Operator offers.

- Convening Partners
- Measuring Customer Satisfaction
- Leveraging Creating Learning Opportunities
- Reporting American Job Center Network activity
- Reporting to WDBS
- Facilitating Operational Improvements
- Business Service Coordination.

The learning activities that they have been doing are the Cultural Competence Series

Business Services - TDConn, implemented the Huddle approach for meetings with partners.

Referral, Co-enrollment Sequential Enrollment and they use the WIOA Summer School to help reengage and educate partners.

Operational Improvement Opportunities

Concentrate on the front end of the system, they currently are using a sign in system.

Other highlights other WDA's have reached out for TA on the OSO approach used in WDA 123

State has involved OSO in 2 statewide projects – A UI data analysis project and a national program evaluation cohort through Workforce GPS.

6. Program Reports

Camp Rise recapping the program completion, 34 camp counselors hired, majority from MPS (Milwaukee Public Schools), they completed soft skills training during their time at camp. Field trips included Discovery World, Havenswood State Forest, Brewers Game, Incrediroll, and Jones Island. 239 youth completed camp this summer.

Earn and Learn completed another summer with 3971 Registrations, 1043 participants enrolled to the 117 worksites that were available for them. This year 250 participants had the opportunity to complete Enrichment Wednesday's during this time they learned about careers in the automotive, financial, construction, culinary, healthcare and welding sectors.

Skillful Transitions enrolled 1,127, 932 enrolled in training, 266 received paid work experience and 264 received support services. The program has ended but Skillful Transitions had a very successful season, waiting to see what the future will look like.

WIOA Adult Worker enrolled 263 new enrollments, 192 receiving training/education enrollments, 69 earned credentials and 44 received job placement.

WIOA Dislocated worker enrolled 60, 29 received training/education, 4 earned credentials and 10 have job placement.

Reentry Windows to Work is a pre and post release program, the goal is to work with 70-82 individuals this year. In July we have a new partner with Ross Innovative that will be handling the case management. The reentry welding program with the House of Corrections. The goal is to train 75 individuals by June 2024, MATC is currently providing instruction for the welding programs. Employ Milwaukee will be providing job readiness, digital literacy and cognitive behavioral training during the pre and post release phases. Looking down the road forklift and OSHA trainings are currently being reviewed for Spring 2024. Our last program is the Wisconsin Partnership Program that has a research partner that is focusing on the reentry individual maintaining housing and employment. We have requested for another year extension with the University of WI-Madison. Dr. Pate will be able to report out and document the reentry eco system.

BankWork\$ They have 4 Cohorts scheduled for the year, 1/17, 4/11, 7/11 & 10/10, the August Cohort had 7 complete and 60% of the class received placement with a partner bank. Current class has 14 students enrolled.

Fresh Coast Tech UP (FCTU) In partnership with MATC, Digital Bridge, and employers provide a 12 credit bootcamp style IT Help Desk Certified pre-apprenticeship training. Previous cohort had 14 graduates, next cohort of 24 starts Spring 2023 currently recruiting. Will be add the Fresh Coast Next that will be for the individuals that have completed the bootcamp training, have not started recruiting for that yet.

Healthy Homes Construction Career Project period goes through 12/31/24, we have served 450 with 350 being enrolled. Graduates will receive lead abatement certifications and Asbestos Abatement, First Aid, OSHA30, and a Wisconsin Pre-Apprenticeship Certificate.

Milwaukee Healthcare Workforce Initiative This is the grant from The Medical College of Wisconsin to expand community-based organizations. This grant will serve 200 people that will receive job readiness, and occupation skill training for career in healthcare industry, once completed they will receive an interview with Advocate Aurora.

Milwaukee Water Works Gran – Employ Milwaukee has partnered with the to help them the openings that they currently have.

Number served in employment and training services - 500.

Number expected to receive specified service – 150.

Number expected to graduate or receive credential -68

Number of enrolled to obtain employment – 40.

First group of participants will start November 11th.

MMSD – currently needs to increase the people of color in the water sector through career discovery, and work-based learning for young adults.

Number to learn about Water Sector Careers – 270

Number to receive Career Navigator services – 135.

Number to participate in Work Based Learning - 64

Number to receive career placement services – 48.

Mend this is our nursing grant that will upskill underrepresented population in nursing career pathways.

Number served 420.

Number who began education/job training activities – 378.

Number completed training and received a credential – 284.

Number who entered employment – 289

Number of incumbent workers who advanced – 35.

7. Employer Engagement Updates

Rapid Response Services provided to:

Yellow - USF Holland, August 25th, 25 Employees.

Master Lock, September 13th, 110 employees.

Superior Die Set – In Progress.

August 3, 2023, Construction Job Fair, 30 plus job seekers attended.

September 7, 2023, onsite hiring event with Healthcare Industry, 35 plus job seekers attended.

September 26th, 2023, FlexRide Job Fair that had 70 job seekers attended.

September 27, 2023, First Source Construction partnering with SDC, 116 job seekers that attended.

Upcoming event December 12th for construction.

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 am

Next Program Committee Meeting February 21, 2024

Next Board of Directors Meeting March 14, 2024