

WISCONSIN WORKS COMMUNITY STEERING COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 20th, 2011

Members Present: Barb Wien, Steve Kinkade, Amber Culver, Donna Wold, Shirl Morris-Davies, Shannon Moe

Members Absent:

Others Present: Connie Mageland, ES W2 Supervisor, and Merry Evans, AA Rock County Human Services.

1. Call to Order

Temp Chair Steve Kincaid called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

2. Welcome of Guests and Members.

Members were welcomed.

3. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the agenda.

4. Approval of April minutes

A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the minutes.

5. Old business

a. W-2 Performance Standards

i. Current Standards

- January – March performance standards distributed.
- Job rates are low
- Customer Satisfaction shows a large drop; however the measuring scale has changed, so there is not an actual drop.
- Education Attainment (GED) is still low. Amber asked if this relates to WIA funds being depleted. Connie says no. Donna asked how long clients are in that category and Connie stated until they reach a certain grade level.

b. Community Outreach

- Monthly meetings are held for ES workers. In attendance, we've had Child Care personnel, Nancy Brooks came from the Exchange Center and Second Harvest is due to speak on May 4th. Since October 2010, we've attended the Janesville State of the City Event and spoke at Hospice on March 15th. We also attended Community Resources for Latino's.
- The W2 program and DVR are meeting to talk about coordinating programs. Connie and Cindy met with them on April 6th and gave an overview of the W2 program to DVR staff.
- Amber questioned the outcome of the Quality Assurance pilot program audit that occurred last year. Connie said we did really well. She will bring the report to our next meeting.
- Donna would be willing to come speak to workers about childcare. Connie and Donna will discuss a future meeting.

c. First Call – Barb Wien

- Year-end reports distributed. Calls are down from previous years, but the website hits are high. Handouts include reports from the first quarter 2010 for comparison. Rent and transportation are still the top needs. No one is offering gas vouchers at this time. Rent assistance has not been available for some time. ES only offers rent assistance once every 12 months in an emergency situation and only if you have children in the house.
- New demographics indicate more females and more whites call First Call. More people call on Monday.
- First Call is working hand in hand with Dane Co 211.
- Hope to be on Refernet by the end of this quarter.
- Love Inc is starting a transportation ministry. Central Christian dropped their transportation several years ago due to liability issues.

6. New Business

a. Committee Responsibilities

- W2 SC handout distributed. This was compiled many years ago and needs to be revised. Discussion as to what the committee's actual purpose is. Shannon states that many employers in the community are involved in similar committees. Asks how we as a community stand out, how can we be different, what else could we offer that is not duplicated elsewhere. Steve responded that the W2 Steering committee is a compliance issue by contract; however beyond that, what could we focus on. All agreeing that more employers needed on this committee. Donna says we need to know what our mission and goals are. Connie will do research into the contract and get that information to the members next week.

b. New Committee Member Recommendations

- Steve tried to engage several businesses and City Hall, but there is not a lot of interest. They're all busy with their own budget. W2SC is far off the priority list. McCleary's still employees 2 of the 3 W2 clients they hired.

c. ES Caseload Numbers

- Report distributed. W2 continues to increase. Childcare increased which is good. It is an indication more people are employed.
- W2 payments from 2010 distributed. Monthly benefits increased.
- QSR info distributed. Looking at process, not policy. Described weeklong review that included 6 focus groups.

d. Future Funding of W-2

- The state advised they found \$630,000 for the W-2 program to be operated until the end of 2012. \$704,000 is the actual cost. Connie stated HSD put in a bid for more than the offer, hoping to increase our allocation.

e. Continuing Roll of the W-2 Steering Committee

- Discussion continued from 6a.
- Connie read information on W2SC's job duties from Cindy. All agreed that the purpose of the W2SC is to get W2 people employed.

- Amber wondered if a brochure could be compiled that could be a short informational bullet-type sheet, which could be given to employers as possible committee members.
- Steve suggests this be a new beginning for the committee. Connie will redraft the responsibilities and email info to members next week. Bullet-point type brochure will be developed. Donna suggest we not wait 6 months to meet again. Members agreed to meet in a month with all new information. Merry will check meeting room schedule and advise available dates via email.
- Suggested businesses for recruitment are Beloit health Systems, fast food establishments, cleaning services, hotels/motels and staffing/temp agencies. Temp agencies such as Kelly and Manpower have entry-level positions that would benefit W2 clients.

7. Comments

a. Committee Members

- No discussion

b. Community Members

- None present

8. Next Meeting

May, 2011, date pending

Rock County Job Center

1900 Center Avenue, Janesville, WI

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

9. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm

Prepared and Submitted by:

Merry Evans

RCHSD Administrative Assistant