

<b>Location:</b>	WebEx		
<b>Time:</b>	October 27,2021 2:00 -3:00 PM		
<b>Participants:</b>	X	D. Baillargeon (MHWCC)	C. McNally (QCC)
	X	K. Akindele	
		J. Brunnell (WPS)	X M. McCaffrey (RCAP Solutions)
		M. Campbell (Comm for the Blind)	A. Partelow-Mass Rehab
		J. Clemence (DTA)	Dr. J. Riordon (Worc State)
		G. Cortes (retired)	
	X	D. Feraco (MCRWB)	W. Savary (DUA)
		R. Foley (Cunningham & Assoc)	R. Seward (Night Life)
		S. Foley (Rapid Response)	X J. Turgeon (MCRWB)
	X	J. Froimson (AbbVie)	J. Weekes (MCCC)
		P. Gilbody, Milford Savings	
		S. McClure (Tasks for Transit)	<b>Guest Speaker:</b> Mike O'Reilly of Alison
		H. Gonzalez (WHA)	
<b>Notes by:</b>	D. Feraco		
<b>Meeting Title:</b>	Career Center /Adult Career Pathways Committee Meeting		

**Abbreviations:**

DTA - Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance  
DUA - Massachusetts Department of Unemployment Insurance  
ITA - Individual Training Account  
MCCC - MassHire Central Career Center (both offices)  
MCRWB - MassHire Central Region Workforce Board  
MHWCC - MassHire Worcester Career Center  
QCC - Quinsigamond Community College  
SMOC - South Middlesex Opportunity Council  
WPS - Worcester Public Schools

**Agenda:** Attached to WebEx Invite sent by D. Feraco

**Welcome**

- 2:06PM: Meeting called to order. Unable to establish quorum due to the low number of committee members present. Minutes of July 2021 were not approved.
- J. Froimson welcomed new committee members Kolawole Akindele and Maegen McCaffrey.

**Guest Speaker**

Mr. Michael O'Reilly from Alison, joined us from his home in Ireland to introduce the Alison Training Platform. Alison offers free training courses which anyone can take free of charge. Wide variety of courses available. Upon completion of a course the participant can obtain a diploma for approximately \$30. J. Turgeon is looking into

bringing Alison courses to both MassHire's Career Center and Board's websites. J. Turgeon will reach out to members of the healthcare, manufacturing and transportation and logistics consortium groups in Central MA to discuss courses they feel will interest their clients.

### **Career Center Updates**

- MassHire's Career Center is open to the public as of 10/4/2021. Services are being done as a hybrid model. Security guards have been hired at both the Worcester and Southbridge sites, but the foot traffic is slower than expected.
- Worcester office currently has 8 staff positions open and Southbridge currently has one position open.
- The Career Center DVOP Bill Ryan received the MassHire Collaborative Award. Two other staff members were finalist in other categories.
- Worcester office will be moving to 554 Main St. in Worcester, date TBD. Southbridge office lease up for renewal in February 2022, the RFP is in progress.

### **Events Update**

- A CORI friendly in-person Job Fair was held in October in Worcester: 40-50 attendees and 15 employers.
- Upcoming job fairs: November 2 in Southbridge office for Veterans; November 3 in Worcester Office.

### **MCRWB Projects**

The MCRWB continues to be active in our regional blue print industries. The Manufacturing ReMake 4.0 is offering and online training program, the MassBridge project continues to be developed introducing high school students to the field of manufacturing.

The Healthcare Hub Project began on July 1, 2021 (\$375K funding to support 5 separate regional HC projects). Projects are currently running in fields of CNA training, CNA1 to CNA11, CNA acute care training, certified medical assistant program with Worcester Night Life, and a multi-employer substance use/mental health/human services support career pipeline joint training lead by OpenSky.

The Transportation and Logistic program is currently running the Donnelly program for CDL-B training, and recently began a grant for Re-Entry CDL-B training (178K award).

We continue to be involved in the STEM career pathways with the TechQuest Project, a new federal Brownfields remediation project, and a Bio-Manufacturing consortium with the MA biomedical Initiatives center (MBI).

The Work/Xprize Challenge is a national project lead through MIT, Jobs for the Future and New Profit. The MCRWB is paired with two training projects; ChargerHelp – industry electric vehicle charging training program and HireMee – An online learning platform for medical office/admin (which is in process with more than 200 trainees).

Chair J. Froimson initiated a discussion on the restaurant worker shortage, after learning about the issues at the Executive Board meeting. He suggested that Career Center staff look into offering a restaurant worker job fair as well as working with the MA Restaurant Association to help develop a skills training program.

**Announcements:** No announcements. Next meeting: Virtual on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 at 2PM.

2:53PM: Meeting adjourned.