

## **Worcester Jobs Fund Oversight Committee**

February 14, 2018

10:00am

IBEW, 242 Mill Street, Worcester, MA 01602

### **Meeting Minutes**

WJF Oversight Committee Attendance: David Minasian, Karen Pelletier, John McGovern, Frank Kartheiser, Karen King, Maritza Cruz, & Lauren Morano (proxy).

WJF Program Director: Kelsey Lamoureux

- The meeting was called to order after a quorum was established.

#### Welcome and Introductions

- All attendees introduced themselves, their positions and their organizations.

#### Approval of January 10, 2018 Meeting Minutes:

- The meeting minutes from January 10, 2018 at 242 Mill Street were reviewed and unanimously accepted via a motion by F. Kartheiser and a second by L. Morano.

#### WJF Financial Update:

- K. Lamoureux presented financial updates on the Worcester Jobs Fund and Washington Square funding as well as updates on the overall FY 18 budget.

#### WJF Director Report & Program Updates:

- K. Lamoureux highlighted that one CDL B participant and one EKG & Phlebotomy participant have found employment this month. K. Lamoureux noted that a presentation was made to the Community Development Block Grant Committee on February 1, 2018 regarding the application for FY19 funds. K. Lamoureux provided updates on current participants in CDL, EKG & Phlebotomy, and Worcester Building Pathways training as well as updates on recruitment activities for the Contact Center Training. K. Lamoureux provided details on the first two Bounce classes facilitated as well as updates on SNAP Outreach and Employment & Training activities.
- M. Cruz requested a racial and gender breakdown for all trainings for the next meeting. T. Maloney suggested that USPS be utilized as an employer partner. K. Lamoureux stated that participant demographics will be provided at the next monthly meeting and establishing a partnership with USPS would be explored.

#### Discussion of Future Projects:

- L. Morano explained that the CMWIB has received a planning grant from the Commonwealth Corporation for the Learn to Earn project. This grant will cover the planning costs necessary with developing a local pre-apprenticeship training program for pharmacy technicians. The training curriculum will be developed through a partnership between CVS's Registered Apprenticeship

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Program and Quinsigamond Community College's Pharmacy Technician Program. Eligible participants for the program must be receiving some public benefits and following placement, changes to their public benefits will be tracked. K. Pelletier inquired about the starting wages for the industry and K. King requested more information about the 2 year apprenticeship program at CVS. K. King asked if the implementation grant is competitive and L. Morano stated that there are implementation grants available to all organizations who successfully complete the planning phase. F. Kartheiser made a motion for the Worcester Jobs Fund to support the work readiness aspect of the Learn to Earn project. The motion was seconded by K. Pelletier and unanimously approved.

- K. Lamoureux explained that Worcester Community Action Council, Inc. has reached out to the Jobs Fund to be a sub-recipient partner for their application to Eastern Bank's Advancing Women Grant. K. Lamoureux stated that the grant may be a strong opportunity to continue developing pipelines for women interested in pursuing a career in the building trades. K. Pelletier suggested increasing the scope of the presentation to include other apprenticeship programs such as diesel technician. K. Lamoureux noted that the grant application is due March 2, 2018 and offered to provide the committee with a description of the proposal at the next monthly meeting.

Adjournment:

- A motion to adjourn was made by K. King, was seconded by D. Minasian, and was unanimously approved.

The next monthly meeting will be held Wednesday March 14, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

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