

**MassHire Central Region Workforce Board
Youth Council
April 14, 2022**

2:30 pm

Conducted by WebEx:

<https://cow.webex.com/j.php?MTID=m693215317c954b866cb5a0a9c18c8fe0>

Meeting number (access code): 172 319 7694; Meeting password: kiBvyPs78a3

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Members Present: Dawn Buddington, Doug Daigle, Roberto Diaz, Robin Hooper, Robert McGlory, Isidore Nosike, Amy Partelow, Kelly Penrod, Howard Lucas, David Trendi.

Guest Present: Ahn Dao, Arianna Drummy

Staff Present: Ed Gagne

Meeting Minutes

Welcome & Introductions: The meeting was called to order at 2:34 p.m.

Approval of the February 10, 2022 Minutes: The meeting minutes were unanimously approved by a motion from Howard Lucas.

Presentation

ACLS ABE/ESOL Outstationed Coordinator – Terry Wales discussed his position as the adult education (AE) staff person at MassHire Central Career Center. He acts as a liaison between AE programs in the local area and MassHire Career Center. The primary role of the outstationed coordinator is to provide current and potential AE students access to services by assisting MassHire Career Center staff with intake, assessments, and referrals to local AE programs. In addition, the outstationed coordinator is also responsible for connecting eligible AE students looking for employment and/or training opportunities with other career centers.

Presentation

MCRWB – Arianna Drummy, Director of the Worcester Jobs Fund, discussed how the program recruits local residents for anticipated job opportunities; especially talented individuals with previous obstacles to employment. The program develops new job training programs for in-demand positions when training is currently not available to local residents. Outreach occurs to companies to recruit as project partners and direct career placement. For additional information contact: Arianna at (508)373-7651 | DrummyA@masshirecentral.com

The City of Worcester does not discriminate on the basis of disability, The MCRWB will provide auxiliary aids and service, written materials in alternative formats, and reasonable modifications in policies and procedures to persons with disabilities upon advance request. Please contact MCRWB at 508-799-1590 or the ADA Coordinator at disabilities@worcesterna.gov.

Program Updates (E. Gagne)

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)

E. Gagne thanked the WIOA youth review team (Judy Freedman, Amy Partelow, and Kelly Penrod) for their participation in the FY23 proposal review process. An overview of WIOA and FY23 program highlights, youth elements, performance indicators, and proposal content occurred. Youth funding recommendations were presented that prioritize an integrated delivery system that supports qualitative academic and career pathway certificate training programs with attainment of a state recognized credential and outcomes to the following entities: The Fieldstone School, Worcester Community Action Council, and Youth Opportunities Upheld.

Vote: Excluding abstentions from R. Diaz and I. Nosike, upon a motion by Dave Trendi, the group unanimously voted to approve the recommendations from the FY23 Youth Proposal Review Team.

YouthWorks Year Round

The MCRWB received state funds through the Commonwealth Corporation to provide services to youth 14-25 in subsidized work for 125 hours this spring. Expanding to 160 youth. Students are employed by WCAC and placed in one of the sixty employer worksites.

YouthWorks (YW) Summer

The region will receive more than \$1.3 million to serve more than 400 youth this summer. We are partnering with WCAC, the Center of Hope (Southbridge), and the Milford Youth Center. The MCRWB will also partner with the City of Worcester, United Way, Regional Chamber of Commerce, and WCAC to support the Worcester Green Corps (WGC). WGC provides neighborhood beautification in an around the city. We will also align this summer with the Worcester Youth Leadership Institute (WYLI) to offer youth the opportunity to meet, weekly, with local civic and business leaders to learn more about how our community operates.

Connecting Activities

MCRWB is helping Bartlett High School (Webster Public Schools) create an Innovation Pathways career technical education program in Manufacturing and Healthcare. We are also advancing discussions with Wachusett Regional High School to identify ways to boost career readiness and career education in engineering/fabrication for their students, and we are supporting 12 area high schools in their efforts to offer subsidized internships in the education and teaching professions to approximately 150 students.

Council Announcements

R. Diaz – YouthWorks year-round program increased employment to 160 youth and currently works with 60 employers. A significant increase from prior years.

Isidore Nosike – The Fieldstone School is not a CNA test site.

R. Hooper – Plumley Village has approximately 1,300 people of which 50% are under 18 years of age. You can drop-off or email flyers to Robin. Flyers will be posted at the Jobs Center.

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D. Buddington – On June 10th – 12th, Worcester plans to have celebrations to commemorate the Tercentennial Anniversary. [Worcester Tercentennial - Discover Central Massachusetts](#). QCC has a NEW Associates in Science/Manufacturing Technology – Quality Control Option. For additional information go to [Manufacturing Technology - Quality Control Option | Quinsigamond Community College \(QCC\)](#).

D. Trendi – Job Corps are stationed at career centers around MA. Dave will not be the Grafton Job Corp representative at MassHire Worcester Career Center.

Next Meeting

June 9, 2022, conducted by WebEx. Information provided on page 1.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned upon a motion, seconded, and approved unanimously at 3:30 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by,
Ed Gagne*