Data Labs: Roadmap to Recovery

Project Application

State: Idaho

Briefly describe your state's interest in participating in the Data Labs: Roadmap to Recovery program.

Idaho's One-Stop System, under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, has struggled since publishing our first WIOA State Plan in 2016 to implement a universal (or common) intake process for participants across the partners in the workforce ecosystem. The entities in the ecosystem do not share a common case management system and have been concerned about data privacy/sharing. We have made good progress in getting data sharing agreements in place to support performance reporting and identifying the extent of co-enrollment among the partners (we have 3 entities in the final stages of completing data sharing agreements, 4-5 are complete) over the past two years. Initial co-enrollment data shows great opportunity to improve service to Idahoans.

Idaho is interested in learning how Mississippi overcame some of the issues we are facing and receiving technical assistance to implement a similar solution.

Why is the issue area important?

As a very large state geographically, with a small population, Idaho receives limited federal funding to support its workforce system. The cost of delivering services is high due to the rurality (better framed as remoteness) of the individuals who need the most support. Our agencies have a desire to collaborate and improve co-enrollment to maximize success of the participants, but do not have any connectivity between data systems. We can move forward with "paper" forms, but it will not be a good customer experience for Idahoans. We've recognized the need to invest in a universal intake system, but don't have the technical expertise to get it across the finish line.

Please provide a description of the idea or project you have in mind. You do NOT need to have a fully formed project at this point. Please share as much context about the project as you can.

As mentioned previously, Idaho would like to learn from the Mississippi Common Intake Form + The Hub project that Data Labs previously supported (and any other similar efforts). We would like to use this as the basis to design the pilot project.

What would you like to learn from other states?

Idaho would like to learn about the projects being implemented by other state teams in the Workforce Support area. While those projects may not be aligned to universal (common) intake and service delivery, we have many initiatives in the state that we can learn from others, and perhaps share our own best practices. These include apprenticeship, talent pipeline management, workforce board governance and collaboration among all workforce partners, etc.

Supporting documentation that demonstrates the significance and relevance of this issue(s) to your state (recent legislation, press release, executive order from governor's office, etc.)

- Excerpt from 2016 WIOA State Plan
- Excerpt from 2020 WIOA State Plan
- Letter of support from the governor/Workforce Development Council