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WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

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WIOA Advisory Group Meeting Minutes September 18, 2020

Attendees: Tim Leigh, Kristyn Carr, Dan Carbrera, Sarah Nash, Laurel McMahan, Gail Richardson, Molly Valceschini, Matt Markve, Andrew Grey, Sarah Buenrostro, Mike Walsh, Teresa Pitt

Staff: Wendi Secrist, Paige Nielebeck, Caty Solace, Matthew Thomsen, Amanda Ames

Welcome

WDQI Coordination

We do not want to create extra meetings for people when we have infrastructure in place in to handle WDQI. Ms. Secrist and Ms. Richardson wants to have a discussion on how to ensure there is distinction between the WDQI group, WIOA Advisory Group, and One-Stop Committee. The WIOA Advisory Group is tasked with looking at the data and determining how it can be used for programs. When it comes to analysis of the data that would be a WIOA Advisory Group and One-stop Committee function.

In the co-enrollment data, we were looking at co-enrollment statewide. Recently we have been looking at co-enrollment by zip code. We need to refine the process to get more accurate numbers. This is still a testing process. We are starting to see statewide co-enrollment and by region, the partners in the WDQI group will bring that back to the WIOA Advisory Group and One-Stop Committee for analysis.

There have been some strides made in determining the frequency of data collection and realizing that everyone has different needs and what the frequency is to accommodate everyone's needs. It is nice to have a distinct set of guidelines telling what data needs to be collected.

The WDQI Group are the core partners who are working to do this data sharing. We have other partners who we ultimately want to be able to see how the co-enrollment looks between them (e.g. re-entry centers, TANIF, etc.). It will be a nice distinction to have a group working on the data infrastructure and the groups analyzing the data.

Does Corrections have an agreement with IDOL or how do you look at performance?

- Right now, they do not have any mechanism at looking at wage information and they have no means of knowing if people are employed.
- With WDQI we are looking at the federal required reporting of core partners. As we look at how we are exchanging data, one of the things we are looking at is how might this be designed so that as a one-stop partner you have options to participate. We can build those opportunities in while that infrastructure is being designed.
- There may be ways to differentiate that the individual came from the re-entry center.

Peer Learning Cohort Update

We found out that Idaho has been awarded the evaluation Peer Learning Cohort. It is an interactive technical assistance tool to evaluate our programs and do a better job with them. They will be able to work with different states on this. The other states are New Hampshire, Mass, Penn, New Mexico, and ND. There are a couple of things we need to get back to them on how to evaluate our programs. We will work with a coach to help on the evaluation process. More information will come as we move forward. This gives the opportunity to look at WIOA programs and how we can do a better job evaluating them. This will look at the different types of inputs we are doing within the service delivery model.

Mr. Cabrera will send out an e-mail with the details of the project to the WIOA Advisory Group and will be reaching out to partners on assignments that need to be done.

Co-Enrollment Data Updates

We asked Ms. Richardson to put together co-enrollment data by region. Ms. Secrist will send out the data she provided to the group. We will be able to look at some more of the data in a few months. This data is done quarterly. Next quarter Ms. Richardson should have the zip code issues resolved. We will also have the total participant counts by then as well.

We need to think about what the intent of WIOA is. Is the intent to collect co-enrollments or is it having a warm hand-off when an individual walks into a center. The intent of WIOA will determine the annual training content. The Group needs to think about this.

How do we layer the services and funding when available? There are different ways that we can conduct this.

Ms. Secrist and Ms. Brady have been working on mapping out where individuals are losing services. We want to make sure those individuals are not falling off completely and just receiving the next level of service or training. We are interested in seeing how we could start doing that matching to see where we can help them move into more programs as they are being served or how if they are co-enrolled.

DHW has much lower income limits when it comes to an individual losing benefits.

It is important to look how corrections can be included in the data sharing.

Adult Ed

Their programs have been collecting SSA's and some students do not know their number or do not want to share. This makes co-enrollments difficult to report. The data being transferred is not being matched since we do not have SSA's. There is the same thing with Title III programs. They work with a lot of language learners who do not understand why they need to provide their SSA.

Their efforts to connect Title I and Title II was stunted due to COVID-19. Ms. Valceschini is working to get other agencies connected to the Adult Education providers. She has asked Mr. Cabrera and Mr. Thomsen to come speak at one of their provider meetings. There is more work to be done.

ICBVI

There are two issues. The barriers and the accuracy of the reporting of co-enrollment from field staff. They discovered that some programs were over reporting, and it was inherent in errors with client self-report. The staff also needs more understanding of WIOA reporting and what co-enrollment is. The client self-report is not an accurate way to collect the data. There are some barriers of the understanding of definitions (e.g. Wagner-Peyser, DOL Adult program, etc.).

Mr. Walsh asked what was preventing their clients from being co-enrolled in IDOL. Education the staff on what the IDOL programs are, educating the clients on what is available on IDOL programs. Education is a big barrier across the state.

Transportation to the IDOL offices is problematic in some regions. Technology is not a big issue but there is still some issue with accessibility, etc. In a couple regions they reported that if an individual who is blind or visually impaired that come into IDOL, they are immediately referred to ICBVI rather than being co-enrolled. There should be some education for IDOL from ICBVI.

Some clients don't want to enroll in another program. It brings on more responsibilities and obligations. They only want to be served by one program.

A common theme was difficulty being served due to the pandemic.

VR

Matt and Andrew attended the lead center training where they did the title I and Title II toting, the data provided a different point of view of somewhat related co-enrollment data. This is something that the group could look at in the future. Idaho Title I and Title III programs were doing a much better job of coding disabilities. It was the lead center and then they provided some data visualization information. Mr. Markve will send Ms. Nielebeck a link to the center.

Out of School Youth Research Project

The Council recaptured about \$455,000 from the Out of School Youth Program. We are looking at how to deploy those funds. We have until June 30 to spend the funds and if we do not spend them, they will go back to IDOL. We have been working on identifying some special projects to work on. We are working on building a better relationship with IDOL and the re-entry centers. Out of School Youth for the Title I programs are 16-24. With corrections it will be the 18-24 population. Since June corrections has had 140 youth that have been discharged from the prisons statewide. They are coming out and either staying in the Treasure Valley or going back to their communities.

The other project is Youth in Need which has targeted additional resources for migrant and seasonal farm workers.

We still have about \$180,000 or so to allocate. One of the projects we are looking at is research to better identify Out of School Youth, how to market to them, and understand better ways to serve them. We have a concept of doing a project where Boise State will design a research project that will look at this population. It would be designed by a statewide entity but then distributed on a local level to the community colleges. There will be statewide coordination but local implementation and delivery. This should provide rich information about the population and what we might need to do with service delivery strategies.

If anyone has thoughts or ideas about things that would be important to their entity in the research, please send them to Ms. Secrist. The proposal will go to the Executive Committee in October so the program can be launched in the December, January timeframe.

Another population of youth that we have a time connecting with is the youth aging out of foster care. This would be a good population to include in the proposal.

Regional Training

We need to get back to doing the annual regional trainings.

Each region had a date scheduled for their training prior to COVID. 2 were able to complete but the other 4 had to cancel. We waited over the summer to see what the pandemic will look like. We are probably going to be in this pandemic for a lot longer than we thought. A few regions have dates back on the calendar or are working to find a date.

Does the group have any thoughts, ideas, or concerns about conducting it in a more virtual setting?

- Testing of virtual tools. Make sure that within the areas the virtual tools will be successful.
- Captioning. We need to accommodate all individuals. Make the meetings accessible.
 - TEAMS
 - Adobe Connect
 - PowerPoint has accessibility tools
- VR In-services are at the end of October (27-28)

- ICBVI in-service is September 29-30.
- We need to get corrections staff connected with the meetings. They are working on new facilities in Twin Falls and Coeur d'Alene. They just awarded a contract to create community intervention stations. They are starting to have more of a one-stop presence in the state.
- Maximus has a physical center here, Pocatello, Twin Falls, and Coeur d'Alene. Everything else is done virtually. Through January the offices are closed through the public, so all services are being provided mostly virtually. Some of the Maximus staff needs to be connected to the training. Job Developers would be the ones coming to the trainings. The people at the call centers only work with the individual up to a certain point. It makes more sense for the Job Developers to go to the trainings. In the future, if processes or how the program is administered changes then different people may join the trainings. Ms. Buenrostro also plans to have her staff attend the trainings.

If anyone would like Sarah to attend in-services or other events to have a One-Stop presence, please let her know.

Adjourned at 10:32 AM