

# IOWA PLAINS COMMITTEE

**Date:** 2/9/2024

**Time:** 8:30 AM

**Facilitator:** Holly Espenhover-Chair

## IN ATTENDANCE

Holly Espenhover-UnityPoint Health  
Chelsie Dobney-UnityPoint Health  
Kristin Russell-American Athletic Inc (Fruit of the Loom Inc)  
Joli Gehring- Siouxland Human Investment  
Nadia Blazeovich-Owen Industries  
Kent Heronimus-Interstates  
Andrew Sheffield-CJ Bio America  
Linda Rouse-Iowa Workforce Development  
Elizabeth Waigand – Iowa Workforce Development  
Teresa Larson-White-Iowa Workforce Development  
Stephanie Camden-Iowa Workforce Development  
Nicolas "Omar" Valentine-Iowa Workforce Development

## AGENDA

Introduction of Committee Members  
Roles & Responsibilities  
Identify Top Priorities for 2024

## DISCUSSION

Recap of Title I and the services that are provided. Title I is one of the four programs under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Works with adults over the age of 18, low-income adults, Veteran's, homeless, and adults with additional barriers, Dislocated Workers, and In School Youth (14-21 years of age) and Out of School Youth (16-24 years of age). Title I can

provide intensive case management, job development, Work Based Learning (On the job training, Work Experience, Pre-apprenticeships, supportive services (for example: transportation, books & fees, clothing, and childcare) and training (certificates up to associate degrees)

Different ways of getting individuals in contact with Iowa Plains and Employers can be through job boards, job shadowing, tours, providing LMI services showing hot jobs in the area, long term growth.

How many Employers do tours or job shadows? Siouxland Human Investments have an umbrella of non-profits, one, Beyond the Bell does have volunteer opportunities. They also have two federal programs, BOOST GO and BOOST Re-entry, which is a second chance re-entry program. Interstates work with local high schools and provides tours. CJ BIO America has an outreach program. Owen Industries would like to begin a work hardening program, a lot of the recent graduates that begin working are not used to working full time hours with a set schedule.

Focus areas will be on how to get more employers part of the Iowa Plains Committee and what events employers can participate to collaborate with Iowa Plains. Would like to include different sectors including education, non-profit groups, IT, and agriculture. Open to any in particular.

## **ACTION PLAN**

Provide one or two different employers that could be interested in the Iowa Plains Committee. Send names to Holly (holly.espenhover@unitypoint.org) and Linda (linda.rouse@iwd.iowa.gov).

Meetings will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month at this time. Next meeting will take place on 3/8/2024 at 8:30 am.

Link to the Iowa Plains Local Workforce Development Area website:

<https://www.iowawdb.gov/iowa-plains/home>