

IOWA PLAINS COMMITTEE

Date: 5/10/2024

Time: 8:30 AM

Facilitator: Holly Espenhover-Chair

IN ATTENDANCE

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
Holly Espenhover-UnityPoint Health
Andrew Sheffield-CJ Bio America
Chelsie Dobney-UnityPoint Health
Kristin Russell-American Athletic Inc (Fruit of the Loom Inc)
Kent Heronimus-Interstates
Danielle Michalski-Abstract Associates of Iowa
Jennifer Stanwick-Klimek-Thompson Solutions Group
Renea Anderson-
Tammy Denman-Penn Entertainment

AGENDA

- RFP Discussion
- Strategic Vision for LWDB
 - Put on your strategy caps!! 😊
 - Below is a quick outline to get you thinking about Strategic Vision and what you might offer up as suggestions for the 2 goals outlined.
 - Our IWD experts will present on the strategic vision which will help kick off the discussion.

Strategic Vision

- The LWDB’s strategic vision to support the economic growth and economic self- sufficiency of the local area, including:
 - Goals for preparing an educated and skilled workforce, including youth and individuals with barriers to employment.
 - Goals relating to performance accountability measures based on the performance indicators.
- The LWDB’s strategic vision to align local resources, required partners, and entities that carry out core programs to achieve the strategic vision and goals.

NOTE: The local area’s strategic vision and goals must align with the State of Iowa’s vision, goals, and strategies. The local area’s strategic vision and goals should demonstrate how the local area will align resources with the core and required programs to ensure an educated and skilled workforce is available to meet employer demand.

DISCUSSION

Linda (AJC Division Administrator for IWD) discussed the RFP (Request for Proposal) for the One Stop Operator (OSO). To meet federal requirements, an OSO must be established. The OSO for Iowa Plains will be a part time position and allows \$50,000.00 annually to fund this position. The primary goal of this position is to ensure all partners, core partners, and required partners are meeting on a regular basis and that they understand all of the resources and services that IWD offers, and it is done in an integrated manner. OSO needs to ensure that everyone is working together to increase the effectiveness within Iowa Plains. The Core Partners are Title I, Title II-Adult Education, Title III-Wagner Peyser, and Title IV-Vocational Rehabilitation. This specific RFP does have a request for somebody to be the Employer of Record for IWD's Work Experience (WEP) participants. Part of the responsibilities will be to offer the workman's compensation, federal and state taxes, and any other tax forms that are required.

Holly will be meeting on 5/15 with the State Workforce Development Board to provide them an overview of the RFP.

The types of entities that are allowed under federal law to be a One Stop Operator are: public or private profit or nonprofit organization, institution of higher education, nontraditional public school system, schools, night schools, Adult Ed schools, career and technical education and employment service, state agency established under the Wagner Peyser Act, a government agency, a Workforce Development Board, local chambers, business organizations, labor organizations, or Indian Tribes.

If an employer wants to apply to the RFP, they will have to do all the functions of the OSO to include spending. There is a statement in the RFP that the OSO must spend a certain number of hours in each office per week since they need to have an understanding of what IWD does.

Stephanie (Title I Program Coordinator with IWD) discussed Iowa Plains' Local Plan, the State Vision, Goals, and Strategies.

The State of Iowa's Vision is:

An aligned, flexible, and streamlined workforce delivery system that meets the needs of employers and all Iowans for a skilled and diverse workforce.

State Goals and Strategies:

Goal I: Increase the engagement and awareness of Iowa's current, potential, and future workforce to the continuum of high-quality education, training, and career opportunities in Iowa.

State Strategy 1.1: Align and implement an accessible, integrated service delivery model incorporating all workforce system partners.

State Strategy 1.2: Ensure all Iowa students have opportunities for meaningful work-based learning experiences.

Goal II: Increase employer engagement and awareness of the Iowa *WORKS* system as the premier provider of business services for a skilled and diverse workforce.

State Strategy 2.1: Support local workforce boards in the development and enhancement of sector partnerships.

State Strategy 2.2: Create and implement a unified and collaborative business engagement model.

State Strategy 2.3: Increase the awareness and engagement by employers in work-based learning opportunities.

4. Vision - Include a description of:

a. The LWDB's strategic vision to support the economic growth and economic self-sufficiency of the local area, including:

i. Goals for preparing an educated and skilled workforce, including youth and individuals with barriers to employment.

ii. Goals relating to performance accountability measures based on the performance indicators.

b. The LWDB's strategic vision to align local resources, required partners, and entities that carry out core programs to achieve the strategic vision and goals.

The local area's strategic vision and goals must align with the State of Iowa's Vision, Goals, and Strategies. The local area's strategic vision and goals should demonstrate how the local area will align resources with the core and required programs to ensure an educated and skilled workforce is available to meet employer demand.

What are the specific goals of the Iowa Plains Executive Committee? What do you want from Iowa Plains? What does the Committee envision for Iowa Plains?

Kent believes the State's vision and goals do line up with Iowa Plains. The only piece that may be missing is part of the communication piece. Since Iowa Plains is so big, this could be a challenge because it is diverse. How is the committee able to communicate back to other regions of the area? What is going on in other areas to increase engagement?

Linda suggested maybe looking at KPIs' (Key Performance Indicators) on how they can do this. Social media and creating a newsletter could be an idea. Holly mentioned the newsletter could include celebrations of things that are really going well with Employers

ACTION PLAN

Linda will get numbers for the Committee that include number of individuals coming into the centers, how many employers utilize the services of IWD, number of pre-apprenticeships and what metrics are currently being measured today. These could be aligned with the KPI's that will be developed and next meeting specific goals can be discussed. The goal to have the Local Plan completed is June 30, 2024.

Holly wants members to begin thinking about Iowa Plains vision, goals, and strategies, these will be discussed at the next meeting.

Stephanie will send the Local Plan Draft to everyone to review.