

IOWA PLAINS COMMITTEE

Date: 9/13/2024

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
Chelsie Dobney-UnityPoint Health
Kristin Russell-American Athletic Inc (Fruit of the Loom Inc)
Kent Heronimus-Interstates
Faith Miller – Iowa Workforce Development
Randall McQueeney - Iowa Workforce Development
Kathy Leggett - Iowa Workforce Development
Craig Levine – International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union
Cassy Bennett – Lunchtime Solutions
Jennifer Pellant – Western Iowa Labor Federations
Wayne Pantini – Southwestern Community College
Nadia Blazeovich – Owen Industries
Melissa Haukap – Iowa Lakes Community College
Brittany Gutzmann – Vocational Rehabilitation
Jason Anderson – Northwest Iowa Community College

AGENDA

Local Plan Updates
Iowa Plains Policies

DISCUSSION

The Request for Proposal for OSO/Employer on Record was on the agenda for the State Workforce Development Board agenda on 9/11/2024. Holly gave an overview of Life Connections, and they vote to approve them as the OSO. Linda has reached out to Life Connections and congratulated them, and now IWD attorneys are working on developing the contract and hoping this will go into place on October 1, 2024.

The policies have been shared with all members of the Committee. Members will review the first 10 policies (Stephanie will send out a list of importance) before the next meeting in October. Once the first 10 are reviewed, the next 9 will be reviewed before the November meeting. Goal is to have them all

approved before the next State Board meeting on December 5, 2024. If there are any questions, updates, or concerns, please reach out to Linda, Elizabeth, Stephanie, Teresa, and Omar.

The Local Plan is currently being updated with the recommendations from WFS. Core Partners are meeting to discuss changes, then Faith and Stephanie are meeting to update the plan. Our goal is to be completed by 9/30/2024 and then it will go up for public comment for 20 days.

The October meeting has been extended to 9:30 to allow more time to discuss the policies and the local plan.

Brittany mentioned the Disability Access Committee (DAC) and the status of one in Iowa Plains. Due to Iowa Plains being so large, it has been recommended that each area do it locally. This does not have to be done after the Local Plan, Brittany will bring this up with in the Core Partner meeting next month. If anybody has any recommendations on community members or employers that would be good partners for the DAC, please let us know. Holly mentioned UnityPoint is working with Project Search and is working with someone from IWD, she will share her point of contact.

Kathy Leggett was in Sioux City yesterday with Thompson Solutions and did their on-the-job training checklist, they have at least 2 to 3 individuals who are going to start their OJT. Thompson has a great, twelve-week program that will start at the end of September. Kathy along with some business engagement consultants will be taking a trip to the city of Murray, who are interested in different city administration jobs. She will be meeting with BEC's soon to follow up on the work-based learning survey that was sent out. Over 800 employers said yes, they would meet with someone from IWD on work-based learning, half of them are willing to work with adults. They will have a process to access which employers are in the Iowa Plains area. A Work Based Learning webinar series will be coming up.

ACTION PLAN

Review the first ten policies to discuss at the next meeting.

Next meeting will be October 11, 2024, 8:30 am to 9:30 am.