

## IOWA PLAINS COMMITTEE

**Date:** May 9, 2025

**Time:** 8:30 AM

**Facilitator:** Holly Espenhover-Chair

### IN ATTENDANCE

- Andrea Mann (Iowa Workforce Development)
- Andrew Sheffield (CJ Bio America)
- Brittney Gutzmann (Vocational Rehabilitation)
- Carolyn Farley (Iowa Workforce Development)
- Elizabeth Waigand (Iowa Workforce Development)
- Holly Espenhover, Chair (UnityPoint Health)
- Jason Anderson (Northwest Iowa Community College)
- Jen Pellant (Western Iowa Labor Federation)
- Kathy Leggett (Iowa Workforce Development)
- Kent Heronimus (Interstates)
- Kristen Russell (Fruit of the Loom)
- Linda Rouse (Iowa Workforce Development)
- N. Omar Valentine (Iowa Workforce Development)
- Randall McQueeney (Iowa Workforce Development)
- Renea Anderson (Harrison County Development)
- Ryan Spratt (Wells Enterprises)
- Tammi Erlbacher (Life Skills Connections)
- Teresa Larson-White (Iowa Workforce Development)
- Wayne Pantini (Southwestern Community College)

### NOTES:

Tammi Erlbacher presented the One-Stop-Operator update with the following highlights:

- A Disability Access Committee has been established. The first meeting will be 5/29/2025.
- The Mobile Workforce Center has been out and about in many areas throughout Iowa Plains serving Iowans who may not be able to make it to their local AJC.
- Customer service surveys continue to come in and results are very positive. AJCs will continue to promote these.
- Weekly trainings for AJC staff are up and going without any issues. These will remain on-going.
- The first Work Experience has been started. More to come on this later.

Elizabeth Waigand gave an update on the MOU and IFA, stating that both are out for signatures and will hopefully be finalized next week.

Linda Rouse provided a policy update on Work Experience and Transitional Jobs, but noted that neither of these were on the State Workforce Board agenda for next week.

Teresa Larson-White gave a Title I update including the following:

- There were 15 new enrollments in April.
- Another Work Experience Placement will be starting in Denison soon, partnering with Job Corp. It is a CNA position where Title I will pay for a WEP at a local hospital for the participant.
- A Title I Career Planner position is open in Spencer.
- Title I will be expanding recruitment efforts over the summer months.

Kathy Leggett gave an update regarding the Healthcare Grant.

Kathy and Kent spoke about his podcast. Kathy stated she will be putting together some clips from it for marketing/outreach on social media.

The Iowa Plains Dashboard project is still in process. Carolyn Farley will send out the dashboard prior to the June meeting.

The Murry School District may have a couple students who are interested in Work Experiences. Title I will follow up.

An upcoming job fair in Clarinda was discussed and promoted.

The One-Stop Certification process was touched on briefly. It will be the next project for the committee. It will contain a list of questions that cover integrated service delivery. Committee members not affiliated with a particular center will go to each center and ask questions of the team members.

The next Executive Committee Meeting will occur June 13, 2025 at 8:30 a.m.