

WORKFORCE DIRECTOR REPORT

November 2015

NEW ITEMS

Board Training

Save the date! IWD has established Wednesday, January 20, 2016 as the date for board training to be available in Carroll to all members of Region 8's CEO & RWIB. The training will be provided by Mary Ann Lawrence and will cover workforce board responsibilities, rules of order, choosing service providers, and other topics specific to workforce boards. The training is expected to be helpful for board navigation of the selection of a One Stop Service Provider and One Stop Operator later in 2016. Request for Proposals (RFP) forms will be delivered to the boards by the state sometime before the end of 2015. It has yet to be determined how that delivery will be facilitated. WIOA local plans are due to the State Workforce Board by May 2016.

Open Career Development Specialist Position

Region XII COG is seeking qualified applicants to serve as Career Development Specialist. The position will work to provide outreach to customers and businesses, help in arranging youth work experiences, on-the-job trainings, and set up employment plans that lead to apprenticeship. The position will help with the workload at the center and aid in the success of the statewide NEG for apprenticeship.

New Rules = New Language

With the implementation of WIOA, some of the jargon will change. Regional Workforce Investment Boards (RWIB) are now called Regional Workforce Development Boards (RWDB). Customer Service Plans (CSP) are now Local Plans (LP). Case Managers or Career Development Specialists are now referred to as Career Planers.

UPDATES

Tyson Transition Center (TTC)

There is a full classroom every day at the Tyson Transition Center (TTC) in Denison. The TTC training room can accommodate 25 students. Since opening, 70 people have connected with HiSET and English Language Learners (ELL) classes. "Higher" learners attend classes at the WITCC campus in Denison. Orientations are held once monthly at the college and once monthly at the TTC. Students are assigned to classes that best suit their learning needs following orientation.

Many students are new lowans with concerns about immigration laws relating to employment. The same is true of other students on the WITCC campus. WITCC is serving 250 people in HiSET/ELL literacy programs and therefore, in partnership with the IowaWORKS business team, has arranged a visit from immigration lawyer Anna Kerner Anderson. She will be speaking to students at the Transition Center on Thursday, December 3 beginning at 11:30 a.m. WITCC students are invited to attend as well. Ms. Kerner Anderson will also be speaking to employers at 2:00 p.m. that day. Those attending will not only be exposed to immigration information but students and employers will also be exposed to services at the center.

The Tyson Transition Center has served about 230 people since it opened its doors on September 14, 2015. Another big day scheduled at the TTC is Thursday, November 12 when Quality Foods will be participating in a Meet & Greet.

Quality Assurance Review

IWD has not yet properly notified the COG of any findings from the summer review, so no answer to the letter has been sent. IWD has indicated that it is not a priority for them at this point but to expect a letter at some point in the future.