

# **Region 1 Youth Interagency Conference Call**

**Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA)  
“Workforce Partners – Helping Iowa Work”**

**Tuesday, July 21, 2020  
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

## **AGENDA**

### **1. Welcome/Introductions – Ron/Lisa**

Members present: Ron Axtell, Amy Chicos, Lisa Curtin, Marla Loecke, Keri Maas, Diana Mount, Jamie Phipps, Mike Smith, & Patrick Taggart

Members Absent: Gisella Aitken-Shadle, Jeff Beneke, Jeanne Helling, Caprice Jones, Kathy McCarthy, Gina Robinson, & Hannah Steiber

### **2. Roll Call/Call for Quorum – Ron/Lisa**

Meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

## **DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

### **1. Consider Approval of Agenda – Ron/Lisa**

Motion Diana Mount, seconded Patrick Taggart, to approve agenda as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

### **2. Iowa Workforce Region/Area Realignment Update – Ron**

Background was provided on the Realignment process in Iowa during the past three years with the following information on where things currently stand across the state:

Region 1 – merging with Regions 2 & 7 into new Northeast Iowa Local Workforce Development Area (LWDA); board approved current Adult/DW/Youth providers (ECIA and UERPC) through 12/31/20

Region 2 – merging with Regions 1 & 7 into new Northeast Iowa LWDA; board approved current provider (North Iowa Area Community College) through 12/31/20

Region 3/4 – Northwest Iowa Planning & Development Commission ended 6/30 and selected Goodwill as new Adult/DW/Youth provider starting 7/1/20; moving forward as new Northwest Iowa LWDA

Region 5 – board approved current Youth provider (Children & Families of Iowa - CFI) through 12/31/20 and selected CFI as new Adult/DW provider starting 7/1/20

Region 6 – board approved current Adult/DW/Youth provider (Iowa Valley Community College) through 12/31/20; merging with Region 15 into new South Central Iowa LWDA

Region 7 – merging with 1 & 2 into new Northeast Iowa LWDA; board approved current provider (Hawkeye Community College) through 12/31/20

Region 8 – Region XII Council of Governments ended 6/30/20; board selected Goodwill as new Adult/DW/Youth provider starting 7/1/20; merging with Regions 12 & 13 into new Western Iowa LWDA

Region 9 – Eastern Iowa Community College ended 6/30/20, board selected ResCare for Adult/DW and Southeastern Community College for Youth based on RFP; merged with Region 16 into new Mississippi Valley LWDA

Region 10 – board approved current provider (Kirkwood Community College) through 12/31/20; moving forward as new East Central LWDA

Region 11 – board approved current provider (Des Moines Area Community College) through 12/31/20 for Adult/DW; DMACC; board approved current provider (Children & Families of Iowa) for Youth; moving forward as new Central Iowa LWDA

Region 12 – Western Iowa Tech Community College ended 6/30/20 and board selected Goodwill as new Adult/DW/Youth provider starting 7/1/20; merging with Regions 8 & 13 into new Western Iowa LWDA

Region 13 – board approved current provider (Iowa Western Community College) through 12/31/20; merging with Regions 8 & 12 into new Western Iowa LWDA

Region 14 – board approved current provider (Matura) through 12/31/20; moving forward as new Southwest Iowa LWDA

Region 15 – board approved current provider (Indian Hills Community College) through 12/31/20; merging with Region 6 into new South Central Iowa LWDA

Region 16 – board selected ResCare for Adult/DW and Southeastern Community College for Youth based on RFP; merged with Region 9 into new Mississippi Valley LWDA

As Regions 1 (Decorah/Dubuque), 2 (Mason City), and 7 (Waterloo) transition to the new Northeast Iowa Local Workforce Development Area, it is anticipated that the current Region 1 Youth Interagency Committee and Disability Access Committee will combine with the same groups in Regions 2 and 7 to potentially form much larger committees with representation from the current membership in those three regions. Additional guidance should be available this fall

on when this transition will occur and who will actually serve on the new Youth Interagency Committee and Disability Access Committee.

### **3. Round Robin Updates - All Agencies**

IowaWORKS/WIOA Title I, Ron/Lisa - still waiting for our local budgets to find out about taking referrals since the funding allotment was allocated for the Northeast Iowa Local Workforce Development Area instead of Regions 1, 2, and 7 respectively. ECIA was able to operate the Summer Youth Work Experience Partnership with Dubuque Community Schools, Dubuque County Conservation, IVRS, and IowaWORKS again this summer for special education high school students from Hempstead and Senior.

Proteus, Patrick - no updates, focusing on COVID testing for migrant workers and still taking referrals

Re-engage Dubuque, Mike - Dropout prevention program. Works with students in the Dubuque area aged 16-21 who are struggling with the traditional high school setting or have dropped out. Determine barriers that are preventing them from focusing on school. Make connections with community resources to help them navigate through struggles and try to lessen barriers. Struggling to meet with students due to COVID-19 restrictions. Still accepting students and continuing to meet with parents and students virtually.

IVRS/WIOA Title IV, Keri - meeting with students virtually during pandemic; statewide summer camp started in mid-June and ends next week; these virtual camps have been focusing on different sectors of employment; attendance has been good.

IVRS/WIOA Title IV, Amy - IVRS is still providing all services virtually; changing name of OJT to Externship, same service but new name.

IVRS/WIOA Title IV, Diana - Planning for virtual meetings for students this fall

IowaWORKS/WIOA Title III, Marla – UI focused due to pandemic. If assistance is needed for youth, let Marla know and she can try to free somebody up to work with customers. No timeline for opening doors to the public at this time but doors are open for taking documentation from customers. Some workshops are recorded and online so that may be an option for clients. Some of this information is on social media. Extra \$600 in UI benefits in the CARES Act will expire on 7/25/20, some discussion on extending that but is still being debated. If people are called back for work but don't and they continue to claim UI, that is fraud. Reach out to Marla with any questions that you may have for clients. Coursera, an online training program offered through IWD, is free training that is open to anybody, but you have to sign up by 9/30/20 and complete it by 12/31/20. Lots of different options/courses. Ask for an invite on the IWD website to get the process started.

IDB/WIOA Title IV Jamie - Hiring two new counselors and shifting territories to better match LWDAs. LEAP program was held this summer in Des Moines which is an independent living training. Virtual summer trainings were also held. Meeting with clients using PPE, but trying to get back to face-to-face interactions. Waiting to see what will happen this fall.

**4. Other Business**

Further discussion on the Re-engage Dubuque Program.

**FLOOR ITEMS/CLOSURE**

**1. Proposed Next Meeting Date/Time – Ron/Lisa  
Fall - October 20, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.**

**2. Adjournment**  
Meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.