

Our Children, Our Families Council
Summary of Workforce Investment San Francisco (WISF)

April 9, 2015

Goals of the Effort

The goal of WISF is to provide workforce investment activities, through statewide and local workforce investment systems, that increase the employment, retention, and earnings of participants, and increase occupational skill attainment by participants, and, as a result, improve the quality of the workforce, reduce welfare dependency, and enhance the productivity and competitiveness of the Nation.

Focal Population of the Effort

WISF's target population includes unemployed and underemployed San Franciscans over the age of 17.

Impact

WISF serves to advise on and approve the Office of Economic and Workforce Development's work. The group's work is strengthened by its diversity of membership and the fact that employers are on board with the group's work.

Challenges

One challenge WISF faces is that it only meets quarterly, limiting its ability to truly dig into details of OEWD's budget when providing its approval. Also, WISF only advises the Office of Economic and Workforce Development (OEWD). OEWD is not the only city department concerned with workforce development in the city. Up to 18 city departments work in workforce development. WISF's ability to impact the city's spending of workforce resources is very limited.

Origins of the Effort

The federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998 required cities to create workforce investment boards to oversee spending of grants received from that legislation. San Francisco's workforce investment board is called Workforce Investment San Francisco (WISF) and approves OEWD's stewardship of its WIA funds. The Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act superseded the Workforce Investment Act in 2014. The new legislation requires fewer members to take part in workforce investment boards and removed the requirement that youth councils advise boards, though WISF continues to receive advice from its youth council.

Leading the Effort

Greg Assay has staffed WISF for two and a half years. His role is funded by the OEWD, which receives funding from a WIA grant, a community development block grant from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development, and from general funds. Chairs lead the group and are elected by the members.

Members of the Effort

As mandated by the Workforce Investment Act, the WISF is comprised, at a minimum, of the following entities

- Business (51%)
- Economic Development (2)
- Labor Representatives (15%)
- Community Based Organizations (2)

The WISF is required to include the One-Stop Partners mandated by the Workforce Investment Act. These include:

- WIA Title I (Adult, Youth) (1)
- Post Secondary Education (1)
- Job Service (1)
- Trade Act Assistance (1)
- Adult Ed/Literacy (1)
- Community Services Block Grant (1)

- Vocational Rehabilitation (1)
- HUD (1)
- Title V Senior Services (1)
- Unemployment Compensation (1)

Further, City legislation stipulates that the Mayor appoint two (2) members of the Board of Supervisors to the WISF with the intention that they represent relevant committees of the board such as Budget & Finance and Land Use & Economic Development. Additionally the Chair of the Youth Council (a mandated committee of the Board) also sits on the WISF.

Members of WISF often work in human resources and include:

Kevin Carroll, WISF Chair, Hotel Council of San Francisco

Celeste Alleyne, Microsoft

Tiffany Apczynski, Zendesk

Brenda Barnes, Autodesk

Gwyneth Borden, Golden Gate Restaurant Association

Clearnise Bullard, Job Corps of Northern California

Micki Callahan, City & County of San Francisco, Department of Human Resources

Malia Cohen, City & County of San Francisco Board of Supervisors

Jeanine Cotter, Luminalt

Ximena Delgado, Bank of America

John Doherty, IBEW Local 6

Diane Easterwood, Kaiser Permanente

Ted Egan, San Francisco Office of Economic Analysis

Juliet Ellis, Public Utilities Commission

Jeff Faselow, CBS Interactive

Ebony Frelix, Salesforce.com

Manny Flores, Carpenters, Local 22/NCCRC

Barbara Garcia, San Francisco Department of Public Health

Paul Giusti, Recology

Jennifer Hermann, University of California San Francisco

Ramon Hernandez, Laborers, Local 261

David Johnson, Plasterers & Cement Masons Local 300

Katy Johnson, Wells Fargo

Naomi Kelly, General Services Administration

Sylvia Kwan, Kwan/Henmi Architecture

Charley Lavery, Operating Engineers Local 3

Kent Lim, Kent Lim Construction

Ku-Tsang Lin, Kaiser Permanente

Andrew Lindsay, Jawbone

Rebecca Miller, SEIU-UHW

Laura Moran, SFUSD

Brian Morton, Webcor

Roxanne Murray, Family Services Agency

Bob Nibbi, Nibbi Brothers Construction

Tom Quigley, Riverbed

Trent Rhorer, San Francisco Human Services Agency

Sam Rodriguez, KSR Consulting Group

Toni Rucker, Department of Public Health

Todd Rufo, Director, Office of Economic and Workforce Development

Ruben Santana, Rubecon Construction

Rodrigo Santos, Santos Urrutia Structural Engineering

Barbara Smith, San Francisco Housing Authority

Ontario Smith, PG&E

Jorge Tapia, Employment Development Department

Egon Terplan, San Francisco Planning and Urban Research (SPUR) Association

Arthur Tyler, City College of San Francisco

Anthony Urbina, Sheet Metal Workers' Union Local 104

Sandy White, LinkedIn

Structure of the Effort

WISF meets quarterly, and about 75% of the group's members attend these meetings. The group also consists of sector-based subcommittees in four areas: construction, healthcare, technology, and hospitality. These subcommittees meet around twice a year. The subcommittees provide an opportunity for employers to share what they are hiring for and for job-training service providers to learn how they should be tailoring their trainings.

The group communicates via email and has strict rules that forbid members from having communication among themselves that is not facilitated by OEWD. All communications must go through the OEWD to be dispersed to members.

The Role of Data

WISF receives reports of data tracked by OEWD.

Related Documents

Information about WISF, including the organizations agenda minutes can be found at <http://www.oewd.org/index.aspx?page=135>.