



Workforce & Economic Opportunity Workgroup Minutes

DATE: Friday, January 5, 2018

TIME: 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

LOCATION: Lincoln Building
Willamette Conference Room
421 SW Oak Street
Portland, OR 97204

ATTENDEES: Maria Alvarez-Lugo, Elissa Black, Caitlin Campbell, Ryan Deibert, Kenneth Deweese, Patrick Gihring, Marsha Hayes, Nancy Jason, Vivian Lackey, Guy Limasa, Andrew McGough, Rachel Post, Steve Richard, Blair Schaeffer-Bisht, Chuck Smith, Kenyatta Trice, Leisl Wehmueller.

MEETING DISCUSSION

- **Volunteers of America (VOA)**
 - Marsha Hayes coordinates the financial literacy workshops at Volunteers of America (VOA).
 - Services are available to anyone who is a domestic violence (DV) survivor.
 - Attendance ranges from 2-9 participants, with a goal of 12 per class.
 - Many survivors are uneducated about how to manage their financial resources.
 - Financial abuse can be a huge barrier in repairing lives.
 - The workshop teaches the fundamentals of building credit, making a budget, setting savings goals, etc.
 - Marsha supports clients in creating a letter of disclosure to address barriers in their background.
 - Employers have been receptive to this level of proactive transparency.
 - It is illegal for an employer to consider background before a job offer is made.
 - [Home Free](#) is a program of VOA
- **Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) Employment Discussion**
 - What is the overall need for employment services in Multnomah County?
 - How would we quantify this need?
 - What were their incomes at entry of system?
 - What was the income source?
 - What additional information do we need to supplement the employment information received from clients?
 - 50% of the country uses ServicePoint.
 - About 20k new people are entered into ServicePoint each year.
 - We can use custom fields, but there is limited capacity to run customized reports.
 - Data Analyst Senior position just closed.
 - This will increase capacity to improve data collection moving forward.
 - Patrick Gihring, WorkSystems, commented that data measuring at exit points should reference a holistic vision.
 - Typically, a client enters a program experiencing housing instability and once housing stabilizes, the focus begins on employment supports.
 - It should not be alarming that a client exits with stable housing without employment.

- The supports we give should be considered on a continuum.
- Support frequently occurs before entry into employment services
- The data should be analyzed with this in mind.
- Group discussed the following list of providers that should be invited to join the Workforce group.
 - Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)
 - MercyCorps
 - SE Works (reentry program)
 - Aligned Partner Network
 - Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center (POIC)
 - Constructing Hope
 - Empowerment Clinic
 - Department of Human Services (DHS)
 - Community Works Project
 - Impact NW
 - Urban League
 - El Programa Hispano Católico
 - Immigrant & Refugee Community Organizations (IRCO)
- **Goals:**
 - Approve the HMIS category recommendations at February's meeting.
 - Complete program inventory by July 2018.
 - Discuss HMIS category recommendations with the HMIS Data Management Committee (Data-in) in March 2018.

ACTION ITEMS

ITEM

1. Include VOA Home Free in Program Inventory
2. Send out VOA Home Free event advertisement
3. Workforce HMIS Subgroup to develop employment category recommendations
4. Invite Vocational Rehabilitation representative to a workgroup meeting
5. Add HMIS discussion to February's agenda
6. Send an invitation template for outreach campaign

ASSIGNED

Unassigned
Rhea Graves
Caitlin Campbell
Steve Richard
Nancy Jason
Blair Schaeffer-Bisht
Andrew McGough
Rhea Graves
Rhea Graves

NEXT MEETING

Friday, February 2, 2018
10:00 AM – 11:30 AM
Lincoln Building
Willamette Conference Room
421 SW Oak Street
Portland, OR 97204