

Workforce Innovation Board of Ramsey County
JOINT Partnership & Outreach Committee and Equity Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 10, 2022, 3-4 PM

Present:

Michelle Belitz
Shym Cook
Chris Duffy
Lauren Hunter
Susan Jambor
Karin McCabe
Yolanda McIntosh
Mary Russell
Trish Stevens
Julie Thiel
Tanya Velishek

Absent:

Becky Degendorfer-EA
Mohamed Mourssi-Alfash
Ramona Wilson
Tracy Wilson

Staff/Guests:

Ling Becker, Workforce Solutions
Mariann Macalus, Workforce Solutions
Becky Milbrandt, Workforce Solutions

Call to Order, Land Acknowledgement and Introductions

Duffy called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm. Russell read the land acknowledgement aloud. All in attendance introduced themselves.

Approve Previous Month Meeting Minutes

Motion (Jambor/Stevens) to approve the March 8, 2022, Partnership & Outreach Committee minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously by vote.

Motion (McCabe/Hunter) to approve the April 11, 2022 Equity Committee minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously by vote.

Committee Work Plan/Project Updates

Becker reminded the group that the purpose of the Untapped event series is to dive deeper into the workforce disparities of specific populations within Ramsey County, the metro, the state, etc. The series has yet to be named. RealTime Talent will support with labor market information and presentation. Becker recapped the feedback from both committees, so the focus today is around planning those events to include focused population, when, format (virtual vs. in person), the consideration of leveraging inclusive workplaces cohort wrap-up event and volunteer leads. Decisions:

- Two virtual focused population webinars and one in-person luncheon to honor the people in the Inclusive Workplace Cohort. Either the August or October WIB meeting would be replaced with this luncheon.
- The other two events will focus on the Hmong (September) and African Americans (October).
- The committee won't meet in July. Instead, the three planning teams will meet that month to work on plans for the events.

Director's Updates

Becker provided the following:

Fair Opportunities Initiatives: This is a series of events around connecting people who have criminal records to employment. The first event will be on May 20 at Saint Paul College, featuring resource booths and round table discussions on topics such as incarceration numbers, insurance myth-busting, work readiness and employer resources. The other events are scheduled for June, August and September, all of which are in the planning stages.

Leveling Up - Powered by Hack the Gap: This is a training program run by Caroline Karanja. Leveling Up is a woman and non-binary people focused career tech readiness program which will be offered to Ramsey County residents on public assistance. This is a holistic approach to tech career development

identifying and bridging any personal barriers and utilization of technology platforms used in corporate settings. They are in talks with Century College to see if the program can earn college credits.

Other

No further items were discussed.

Adjourn

Upon completion of the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 3:57pm.

Next Meeting Dates: Partnership & Outreach: Tuesday, July 12, 3-4pm
 Equity Committee: Monday, July 18, 3-4pm