

Burlington County Workforce Development Board (WDB) Minutes

Location: Virtual Meeting (Zoom)

Meeting Date: Friday, April 9, 2021

Scheduled Time: 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM

Attendees:

Jon Sharp (Chair) – HIG (VM)
Jesus Arestirado – AJC/One-Stop Operator (VM)
Stacey Smith – NJDVRS (VM)
Yvonne Payton – NJDOL (VM)
Anthony Phillips – RCBC/WDI/ABE (NVM)
Stacy Hunt – RCBC/WDI (NVM)
Kristi Howell – Burlco Reg Chamber of
Commerce (BCRCC) (VM)
Mark Boyd – Goodwill NJ (VM)
Anna Payanzo Cotton – RCBC/WDI (VM
alternate on behalf of Dr. Michael Cioce)
Curtis Myers – Aspire Youth (VM)
Randolph (Randy) Brolo – Laborer’s Eastern
Region (VM)

Liz Verna – Burlco Econ. Dev. (VM)
Leslie Reis – CVS (VM)
Randy Hamilton – Smith & Solomon (VM)
Shirla Simpson – Burlco Dept. of Human
Services (VM)
Jean Carter – NJ DOL (Guest)
Kent Pipes – Member of the Public
Barbara Weir – WDB, Staff
Zahirah Sabir – WDB, Staff
Martin Nock – AJC, Staff
Tierra Johnson – AJC, Staff
Nahamah Clark – AJC, Staff

VM = Voting Member

NVM = Non-voting Member

Call to Order – Jon Sharp, Chair

The Board Chair called the WDB meeting to order at 8:02 AM.

Reading of the Sunshine Law – Zahirah Sabir

“This virtual meeting is being held in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 – 10:4-21. A public notice announcing this meeting has been posted in the Burlington County Times, the Burlington County website and the Burlington County Clerk’s office.”

Introduction of New Members

- Kristi Howell
- Randy Brolo

Approving of Minutes – Jon Sharp

Motion (to approve with changes): Randy Brolo

2nd: Liz Verna

Motion passed unanimously

CVS Presentation – Leslie Reis

Topic: Social Determinants of Health

1. Economic Stability
2. Neighborhood and Physical Environment
3. Education
4. Food (Security)
5. Community and Social Context
6. Healthcare System

Health Outcomes: Mortality, Morbidity, Life Expectancy, Healthcare Expenditures, Health Status, Functional Limitations

CVS programs to address disparities:

- Destination Health & Resources for Living (both are part of the “Connecting our Members to Community Based Resources”);
- Building Healthier Communities;
- Healthiest Cities and Counties Challenge; and
- CVS Health Corporate Social Responsibilities Program.

CVS Giving:

- \$67 Million in affordable housing
- \$5 Million towards tackling food insecurity
- \$100,000 to Moms2Be (headquartered in Ohio).

Leslie Reis also forwarded this information to be shared with the membership.

Committee Updates

Business Engagement (BE) – Barbara Weir (Staff Liaison)

- Partnership with Amazon to assist with workforce needs and training gaps.
- Working with Wawa; created a dedicated hiring page – link to page was included in text blast.
- Will connect with CVS to create pages for hiring needs and apprenticeships.
- Continuing to build out Engage by Cell/Mobile Site by making use of all features available.
- Direct outreach to those identified as unemployed (receiving unemployment benefits); sent. over 1200 emails connecting unemployed individuals with current job openings.
- Leslie Reis mentioned that CVS was looking to collaborate on a multi-business training venue. More information to follow.

YIC – Zahirah Sabir

- Last meeting was March 18, 2021.
- Destination Career Planning
 - 3 sets of groups: JJC, BCSSSD, & OSY/ISY
 - Will take place in July
 - Group is working on the curriculum

- Will be looking for employer participation.
- Still looking for a new Chair.

Burlington County Workforce System Oversight – Jesus Arestirado

- Last meeting was February 23, 2021.
- 2020 Stats from July 2020-January 2021
 - 2710 Customers served
 - Average of 370 customers per month
 - 420 requested training services.
- Barbara Weir presented Engage by Cell to membership.
- Disabilities sub-committee will begin publishing The Beacon newsletter and their annual employment event will take place this October.
- NJDOL is working to fill their Burlington County employment vacancies.
- Next meeting: May 25th at 9:30 am.

Adult Literacy – Anthony Phillips

- 65 HSEC recipients (the pandemic has affected these numbers)
- Applying for this year's Adult Literacy NGO (notice of grant opportunity) for Burlington County (due April 23rd)
- Planning a workshop for staff and students for managing biases
- Currently there is a cohort in their 4th week of HSEC prep
- Next meeting April 28th

General Discussion/Questions/Announcements – General Membership

Kristi Howell mentioned that Sen. Sweeney has begun a task force for employment for individual with disabilities. This may be helpful for both Destination Career and our Disabilities Committee.

Anna Payanzo & Jesus Arestirado announced RCBC/WDI (along with other partners) will be hosting another virtual Career Fair on April 29th. Any employers who have hiring needs but cannot make the event can forward information and it will be shared with participants.

Barbara mentioned a possible Drive-Thru Job Fair for late May early June. Still unable to host in person events. Still in its infancy, will provide information to the group as it develops.

Martin Nock introduced two new WDB/AJC staff members: Tiarra Johnson & Nahamah Clark

Meeting Adjourned: 8:59 AM

Next Meeting: June 25, 2021, 8:00 AM