

Employer Connections Committee

Meeting Agenda

January 17, 2024, 9:00 AM

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81739627320?pwd=jS4FwKkyOsBTgcBbBt42rIATxcJbRR.1&from=addon>

I. Meeting Opening

1. Call to Order DJ Newport
The Meeting was called to order at 9:03 AM.
2. Public Comment
No public comments
3. Chair's Report
It was reported that the chair position for the committee was in transition and will be filled in the future.

II. Consent Agenda

1. Approve the August 2023 Employer Connections Meeting Minutes Attachment A
The minutes were approved unanimously.

III. Regular Agenda

1. IWIB Business Engagement Committee Overview and discussion Jen Serino
 - -Andrew Werrington co-chairs the committee alongside the Director of Workforce Development for the Technology and Manufacturing Association.
 - The committee's goals for the current year include messaging/marketing, partnerships focused on industry sectors, and analyzing data on business engagement across the workforce system.
 - The committee developed a unified message for the whole workforce system focused on sustainable and low-cost strategies for recruiting, hiring, training, and retaining skilled talent.
2. Business Services Team
 - Quarterly Report (July-December 2023) Antonio Garcia
 - Review Healthcare Job Fair outcomes
 - State of the Workforce Update

Antonio Garcia Shared the following information from the Business Services team:

 - They have integrated Salesforce.com to better manage customer data and services through a single application platform. This provides secure, historical data.
 - The team conducted three consulting engagements with local government departments to provide wage comparisons and data analysis.
 - They launched a parent mentor program in partnership with a nonprofit to help

parents re-enter the workforce through initial work experiences.

- *Outreach efforts included logos, industry panels like the successful Healthcare Day event, and a video featuring committee member Carrie Espinosa about business services.*
- *Goals for 2024 include additional industry panels, like one planned for professional services in May, and continued expansion of partnerships across the ecosystem*

3. Apprenticeship Update

Rason Grant

Rason Grant shared the following updates:

- *LCWD has created the county's first registered apprenticeship program in industrial manufacturing with John Castillo's company.*
- *A youth development practitioners academy cohort of 20 incumbent workers from local youth organizations will start a registered apprenticeship program next week in partnership with FHI 360.*
- *Apprenticeship programs have been added to the eligible training provider list, allowing employers to leverage WIOA funding.*
- *Partnerships with organizations like Youth Build aim to expand registered apprenticeship programs in Lake County.*
- *Upcoming plans include a cross-training event for partners in May on apprenticeships and employer incentives.*
- *There was discussion about registering programs, leveraging tax credits, making apprenticeships accessible for small businesses, and collaborating across training providers like CLC.*

IV. Adjournment

- *The meeting was adjourned at 10:01 AM*

Employer Connections Committee Action Plan

Inform employers and industry on current trends – what employers need to know

Focus on increasing and benchmarking recruitment & retention solutions – Incumbent Worker & Apprenticeships

Create space for employers to learn, experience and navigate the new workplace and diverse workforce