

Career Center Partners Council

Meeting Minutes

Friday, June 11, 2021, 12:00 PM

Present: Elizabeth Daniels, Theresa Slade, Hadassah Israel, Macia Hitley, Sylvia Smith, Rachel Oliver, Trish Yahn, Wayne Jennings, Freddy Branham, Frieda King, Louis Dilbert, Manny Joanos, Robin Richardson, Jessica Griffin, Celena Grant, Jeanna Olson, Regina Browning

Next meeting: Friday, September 10, 2021, 12:00 PM, Zoom

- 1. Welcome and Introductions:** Manny Joanos, Public Relations Coordinator for Lively Technical College, new member and Robin Richardson, Blind Services. Jeanna Olson with DCF will be moving soon.
- 2. DEO Work and Job Search Requirements:** Rachel Oliver, CareerSource Capital Region Project Manager, reported the work search requirements for re-employment are reinstated. DEO requires 5 work searches for Leon and 3 for Gadsden and Wakulla. May 31 the waiver was lifted for DCF TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) WT and SNAP for work searches. All participants must do work searches again. They must do the work registration, interview and orientation.
- 3. Updates and Events:** Hadassah reported that the COVID 19 grant is still ongoing through 2022. They are looking for career seekers who are unemployed. Frieda asked the question about whether their background was relative. The response was that it would be determined on a case by case basis. Frieda and Hadassah will connect to talk about other organizations that might hire people with backgrounds on a case by case basis. The Career Connection Virtual Event attracted 18 employers and 43 career seekers. As soon as they get stats on the placement she will update. The upcoming Mega Recruitment Event is fully booked with employers. There will be an information event to discuss the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act with education partners on July 28. It's a way for career seekers to sit down with Career Navigators and learn about WIOA and the different programs offered. The Talent Innovation Summit is November 3, 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM. Trish Yahn is looking for partners for this event. There are different levels of sponsorship.
- 4. Partner Presentation (TRIO Educational Opportunity Center) – Louis Dilbert, Director of TRIO:** Their organization helps graduating high schoolers and adults from disadvantaged backgrounds further their education by helping them with obstacles such as filling out the FAFSA and scholarship forms. Their funding comes from a federally funded grant. Their goal is to teach financial aid literacy. Mr. Dilbert said that they are housed in the Educational Opportunity Center (EOC) at FAMU but they are not affiliated with FAMU. You can go to any college and still receive their help. They serve Leon, Wakulla, Madison, Gadsden, and Liberty County. The assistance is free. They prioritize for Veterans and first generation college students.

- 5. Partner News and Updates—Around the Horn:** A discussion ensued about the different businesses and agencies opening back up. Frieda King said they are fully open for business again. Marcia Hitley with Early Learning Coalition said they are still working remotely, but management is back in the office, with other staff coming back in July. Elizabeth Daniels said the library has lots of virtual activities going on right now. In the near future they will have a borrowing program where you can borrow things such as chainsaws, and they will have a social worker. Jessica, director Workforce Development for TCC, said they are planning for Fall enrollment. Adult Ed. Is wrapping up grant proposals. There will be an Arrive, Apply, Accept event later this month.
- 6. 2021-2022 Council Chair:** Louis Dilbert is the new chair.
- 7. Next Partners Council Meeting:** Friday, September 10, 2021, 12:00 PM