



UPSTATE WORKFORCE BOARD ONE STOP COMMITTEE MEETING

February 19, 2019

12:00 PM

SC WORKS

Present:

Mr. Craig Jacobs, Committee Chair

Ms. Betty Guzzo, Committee Member

Mr. Brent Bishop, UWB

Ms. Vicki Lawson UWB

Mr. Deivis Henao, SC Works

Mr. Carter Smith, Committee Member

Mr. Doug Stephenson, SC Works

Ms. Dana Wood, UWB

Mr. Shelley Blount, Committee Member

Welcome

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Craig Jacobs at 12:08 p.m.

Financial Report

Mr. Brent Bishop, CFO, presented and reviewed the Budget vs. Actual for July through January 2019. He informed the committee that the budget does not reflect the most recent mod as it is pending signature. The committee was reminded that the state IWT, RR grants and the Innovation Grant are in the early stages of spending. Ms. Dana Wood, Associate Director, informed the committee that while the technology grant reflects no expenditures, it will be utilized. Currently, \$72,000 of supplies have been ordered. The funds are being utilized to upgrade equipment in the centers. There were no questions.

SC Works Update

Mr. Doug Stephenson, SC Works Greater Upstate went over highlights from the Monthly Report Card PY18 Dashboard for January 2019. Information: Overall traffic increased during January, (highest it has been in 5 months) 21 OJT contracts, highest number of orientations this program year (caseloads are still manageable). It was noted that the caseload in Gaffney is increasing, but still less than desired. Mr. Stephenson mentioned a special outreach effort that was done at the Thornton Center (Norris Ridge

Apartments). It resulted in approximately 25 attendees. An orientation session will be held to enroll interested individuals into WIOA or to make proper referrals to partner programs.

SC Works Upstate General Updates

Ms. Dana Wood provided the following information: **Rapid Response Funding.** As mentioned in the previous meeting, approximately \$120,000 is being held by DEW because the local DEW manager hired by DEW does not live in our three county workforce area and cannot be appointment to the board. This issue is still pending. **Performance Concerns.** Local staff were informed by DEW performance staff of the methodology our online case management system utilizes when formatting performance reports. In simple terms, client records are merged into one single line. The lead application logic is then used to generate the report. The lead application is defined as the program that provided the first staff service. In many cases this is Wagner Peyser (WP). WP staff are not required to obtain any verification documents when working with individuals. WIOA spends hours verifying barriers, etc. This is causing people served in other areas to impact our local performance (some negatives and some positives). It is also going to create a major issue when the Statistical Adjustment Model (SAM) is implemented. This model is intended to adjust performance measures based on the population served. SCDEW assured the local area they are working with DOL to address this major concern. **Innovative Outreach.** Board staff have been working with the Spartanburg Housing Authority to identify clients to assist in moving towards self-sufficiency. The goal is to do an onsite event at Prince Hall Apartments (similar to the Thornton Center event). The difference in the events is the Housing Authority staff will meet with individuals prior to our event to inform them of the positive aspects of our program and working which include: access to healthy foods, increased income for vacation/extracurricular sports, earned income tax credit, better selection of medical providers, etc. The Housing Authority identified 60 people from that community that are eligible for work. It is desired by the Housing Authority to have 30 of them employed within 8 months. Many of the individuals have significant barriers to employment. Board staff will be evaluating supportive services policies to ensure we are doing all we can to remove these barriers. Staff asked the committee to be aware that innovative outreach may result in negative performance. Sometimes it is difficult to change mindsets and culture for individuals with limited to no work experience and significant barriers. **MOU/IFA.** The MOU/IFA meeting was held this morning. Most all of the partners were represented. One of the main topic areas was focused around the lease rate. Spartanburg Community College (SCC) had the SC Works space within the downtown campus assessed for fair market lease value. The recommendation was \$14.00-\$15.50 per sq.ft. Our current rate of \$10.00 per sq.ft. is planned to increase. We are in current negotiations and looking at \$11.50 for year one. Years two and three are being proposed at higher rates (\$13.00 and \$14.00). While we recognize this is a great rate for the space, we are very concerned with budget cuts and the impact the increase will have on partners who are required by law to share in the cost of the comprehensive center. Mr. Craig Jacobs offered to search for space and to check lease rates. His findings will be sent to Ms. Wood to assist in negotiations. Mr. Cole Alverson, Spartanburg County Administrator, is aware of the negotiations and has offered to assist us in

reaching an agreeable rate. The county has invested significant money in the building and our tax dollars also go to support SCC through millage through each county.

Adjournment

With there being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:08 p.m.

The next meeting will be held April 16, 2019.