

**Workforce Development Board of Oswego County
Skills & Training Committee Meeting
Wednesday, October 25, 2023 9:00 a.m.
Oswego County Workforce New York Career Center**

“The Skills and Training Committee shall review and approve training programs, oversee training provider’s inventory, evaluate training providers and programs, identify strategies for addressing skill gaps, issue consumer report cards for programs, monitor training program performance data, and oversee the implementation of the Strategic Plan.”

“Creating pathways to better careers and economic growth.”

Minutes

Present: Keiko Kimura, Eric Saunders, Tina Eusepi, Alissa Viscome, Brian Heffron, Tim McKernan, Emily Cameron, Kim Sizemore, Alexis Cummins

Keiko Kimura called the meeting to order at 9:05 am

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes from July 26, 2023

Keiko Kimura asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Eric Saunders made a motion to approve. Brian Heffron seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion was carried.

2. Updated WIOA Training Plan PY23 Q1- Kim Sizemore

For the 1st Quarter of PY 23 we have obligated 79% of Adult Funding with 79 YTD services, 41% of DW funding with 17 YTD services, and 74% of Youth funding with 89 YTD services. We have transferred \$70,000 from DW to Adult. Overall spending is very good for the 1st quarter.

3. Training by Provider– Linda MacDougall

For Occupational Skills Training we assisted a total of 47 participants. Most of those participants were funded for health care related training (RN, LPN, Paramedic, and some were funded for transportation related training. We have done a total of 13 OJT with Oswego County Ambulance & Hearse (Menter) and Pathfinder Bank with more to come as Felix Schoeller has reached out. Tim asked if the demand for CDL training has gone up now that NTTS has closed, and Kim shared that we are working on an initiative to get a program up and running for more training providers. Brian shared that CiTi has the instructors and the space available, but they only have 1 truck at the moment. For other training we have provided a total of 33 services, and a total of 80 services by occupational cluster. (Healthcare, Training services to businesses, etc.).

4. Customer Satisfaction Report – Fulton Office (Job Seekers) – Linda MacDougall

We had 27 responses that were excellent/good overall. For the main purpose of the visit there was 41% for Information, 37% for Job Leads, 4% for Computers, 37% for Training Information, 33% for Resume, 11% for Workshops, 4% for Phone/Fax, and 11% for Other. Overall comments show customers are satisfied with our services and the level of service provided.

5. Eligible Training Provider List – Kim Sizemore

1 new request was received on the ETPL for General Assembly Space LLC out of NYC. They provide online classwork certificates for Cyber Security, Data Analytics, Data Science, Digital Marketing, etc. With WIOA we can not fund classes unless they are instructor led and based on Kim’s research- most of these courses can be taken locally.

Kim Sizemore asked for a motion to approve or deny. Eric Saunders made a motion to deny the request. Emily Cameron seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion was carried. The request was denied due to local training available.

6. Directors Report- Kim Sizemore

OCWNY submitted the USED A Distressed Area Recompete Program for phase 1 for strategic development to replicate the Syracuse Build model in Oswego County. Phase 2 will be implementation and we will apply for that if we receive the funding for phase 1. Our FOTA Comprehensive Audit will start next week and should be completed around Thanksgiving. Rachel has been asked to join the Constellation Building Trades Pledge Oversight Committee. Phil Church, Rachel, and DSS representatives will have a joint presentation to the Human Services and Economic Development committees regarding making OCWNY their own department. Legislatures will vote to schedule a public hearing for Local Tax to establish a new department in November, and the final vote to establish a new department will be held in December. Phil Church met with the leaders of the WDB committees last week to discuss the changes and any issues/concerns they had. CDL initiative- core team will be meeting soon to discuss the prototype and will be working on a training structure to present. Overall, OCWNY is continuing to serve customers, assist businesses with job postings, hiring events, etc. We are trying to get the word out there of what we can do.

7. Roundtable Update – All

Brian Heffron-CiTi's Adult Education programs are going strong. They are looking for a part time nursing instructor (up to 32 hours) at their Mexico location and may be looking for an additional part time instructor. They are not doing Medical Assisting or Phlebotomy anymore. There are 3 CTE programs in the approval process from NYSED- Agricultural, Auto Body, and Dental Chair Side Assisting. Some classes are up for reapproval in 2024 and they are looking for people to do external review of those classes (they can't serve on the CiTi advisory committee). The Project Explore program will be changing to a feeder to the CTE program. In 9-10 grade students will attend the Project Explore program to be ready to attend a CTE program in 11-12 grade. P-Tech will be applying for workforce development capital grant phase 6 to update lab space, add a classroom for CDL, and add space for the tractor to be moved inside for maintenance purposes. P-Tech is also in the process of internships and job shadowing. They are also promoting STEM and encouraging students to pursue STEM at an earlier age by doing a pilot program with a few districts where they do challenges and activities with middle schools. Manufacturing Day and Agricultural Day were both very successful. Next up is a Trades and Union expo on 11/17.

Group- Discussion had about how it's important to continue trying to engage the parents to get the youth involved in programs. Discussed possibly having more events that parents are able to attend rather than holding them all during the school day.

Emily Cameron- CCC Advanced Manufacturing Expo on 11/3/23 for 11th & 12th graders. Fulton Campus Open house on 11/11/23 from 9-12. They have 7 students enrolled in the Electrical Mechanical micro-credential, and are beginning the process of offering it again in the Spring. They still have some SUNY funding available through spring for some students that were effected by COVID who want to participate in the micro-credential. They continue to attend the Micron Consortium meetings.

Keiko Kimura- Micron is coming to the Fulton and Auburn CCC campuses to recruit for internships at their other locations. If these students are successful in their internships, Micron would offer them jobs with the potential to transfer back to NY when the facility is open. At the last consortium meeting there was more information shared by Micron about the opportunities that are available for educational providers and more information about the ways in which we can begin to prepare students for careers there. A big emphasis was put on math, and the group discussed how math was a huge part of a lot of jobs in this county and students potentially need to be given more real-world examples of how math would be used in "real life". Keiko shared that CCC does have a 2-week math course available for \$349 as part of a non-credit micro credential. The criteria of the class is based off of what employers told them they would need to know. The class has 12 hours in the classroom, and 18 hours online and is offered once a semester at this point. Kim shared that OCWNY could potentially fund the class if there was an employment offer attached for employment upon completion of class.

Eric Saunders- They are continuing to renovate their training facilities with a heavy focus on Oswego. All HVAC training will be moved to Oswego location to allow for Micron related training in Syracuse. They are applying for State grants for new equipment to train on. They are also focusing on career fairs and emphasized that the earlier the fairs are held the better for them as they are usually wrapping up their apprentice application process at the end of the school year (by April/May) and if a student doesn't become interested until then they may have to wait for the next round. They are also holding bootcamps at their training centers and have interest in partnering with CiTi to give students some hands-on experience.

Tina Eusepi- OCO prevention just secured the Street Outreach Service Grant for runaway homeless youth (21 and under) with a drop in component. They also secured an OASIS funded grant in partnership with Farnham for outreach to homeless individuals of any age with substance use and help with outreach for recovery. They also help with the advocate programming, comprehensive adolescent pregnancy prevention program and are going into the schools and talking with students. Selkirk literacy zone is growing and hosting events regularly. OCO still has many openings.

Alissa Viscome- Grant approved from DRI to take down the green building right outside their Fulton campus, and groundbreaking should start before the end of the year. This will allow expansion of their current campus. They will also be having discussions with the city about the road that runs behind their Fulton campus and hope to have their expansion up and running by spring. They are doing recruitment for their December classes. A new CNA class will be starting soon on the Manor campus, and they are continuously looking at what they can do for tuition reimbursement, loan assistance, etc. She also stated that they hope to do quarterly welcome events with the chamber.

Tim McKernan- EJ has been extremely busy the past 3 years as they have been tied directly with construction. They are starting to see a slowdown that they are watching very closely. At this point they are at full employment with only a couple of openings, but he stated that they are seeing a higher quality in their candidates. They are very active with the schools and BOCES classes and doing job shadowing all the time and they have one internship per year and the interns always turn out to be great. Brian Heffron gave EJ a shoutout for how involved they always are with the students of the county.

At this time there were no further updates. Keiko Kimura asked for a motion to adjourn. Emily Cameron made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Brian Heffron seconded the motion. The motion was carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for January 24, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at Oswego County Workforce.