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**Workforce Development Board of Oswego County
Skills and Training Committee Meeting
Wednesday, April 24, 2024 9:00 a.m.
Oswego County Workforce New York Career Center**

'The Skills and Training Committee shall review and approve training programs, oversee training providers 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, Emily Cameron, Tina Eusepi, Kristen Foland, Tim McKernan, Rachel Pierce, Amanda Quaile, Eric Saunders, Kim Sizemore, Lori Harrington, Alexis Cummins

Keiko Kimura called the meeting to order at 8:58 a.m., and roundtable introductions were done

1. Approval of January 24, 2024 Minutes

Keiko Kimura asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Tina Eusepi made a motion to approve. Emily Cameron seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion was carried.

2. Updated WIOA Training Plan – Kim Sizemore

For Adult Funding we have obligated 73% with 289 YTD services. For Dislocated Worker we have obligated 57% with 42 YTD services. For Youth funding we have obligated 109% with 232 YTD services. For County Funding we have obligated 55% with 38 YTD services. We had previously transferred \$120,000 from DW to Adult; and will request another transfer soon. Overall spending is on track and doing well.

3. Training by Provider – Amanda Quaile

We assisted a total of 81 participants with ITAs through the first three quarters of PY23. Most of those were funded for healthcare related training (RN, LPN, Paramedic) and transportation related training (CDL-A, CDL-B). A total of 36 OJT contracts were approved during the first three quarters with Felix Schoeller, Oswego County Ambulance & Hearse, and Pathfinder Bank. Overall, we have provided 117 training services to various occupational clusters.

4. Fulton Customer Satisfaction (Job seekers) – Amanda Quaile

A total of 27 comment cards were received during the second quarter. Most responses were noted in the excellent/good categories. The main purpose of visits was listed as: Information (30%), Job Leads (52%), Resume (19%), Computers (11%), Other (11%), and Training Information (26%). 52% of respondents noted

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that this was their first visit. 78% of respondents would recommend OCWNY to their family/friends. Overall, the comments were positive towards the staff members of OCWNY and the assistance they provided them.

5. ETPL Updates – Kim Sizemore

- CCC- Environmental Studies Associates Degree- \$10,272. This degree would be suitable for entry level employment as an environmental technician and would allow them to transfer to a 4-year program. With everything happening in CNY in the next few years there is a demand and would be valuable training. We did not have enough members in attendance today to vote to approve or deny. This request will be taken to the Executive Committee Meeting in May to be voted on.

6. Directors Report- Rachel Pierce

We received the final report for the PY22 Financial Audit. On it there were 5 findings, 4 of which have been corrected so far, and the final one we need to adjust our Paid Work Experience and On-the-Job training policies and then it should be resolved. Nothing was overspent in PY22, it was just not allocated correctly. We have been working with Centerstate CEO on a CDL Initiative to provide CDL A & B training for individuals in the region. Andre Nichols (Employment Specialist for OCWNY) has been recruiting candidates for the program and has been working with businesses. We are partnering with CiTi for the training, and they have a class starting on 5/21/24 and we will provide tuition assistance for 20 CDL A and 20 CDL B drivers. Kim and Rachel have been going to different local unions as the state is looking to expand the Syracuse Build model across the state to support construction that is already needed and that is on the horizon. They are trying to learn about what we can do to help each of the unions once people are in their apprenticeship. There was a WIOA reauthorization bill that NYATEP and other agencies across the country are lobbying against certain pieces of the bill. The pieces are that the reauthorization would mandate the 50% of the funding is spent on training, the governor would have the right to hold back an additional 10% of funding (on top of the 15% they already hold), and would allow redesignation to allow the federal governments to work with the state which could potentially eliminate local Workforce Development Boards and only have a State board in the place of them. The bill was passed in the House so far and has now gone through to the Senate. Rachel also shared that for local areas that hit their 80% marks in PY 22 and PY 23 there would be additional funding available, and there is also additional funding available for areas that meet all 15 performance measures (so far through Q2 we are hitting all). We are also 1 out of 4 areas across the state that are meeting the Adult Priority of Service measure. We are looking to make a change in the ARPA contract that we have available for the childcare bootcamp as it is not being utilized like we anticipated. We would like to shift how we use funding to provide services to Little Lukes and to current registered in home day care providers with assistance to help keep their business running.

7. Roundtable Update – All

Amanda Quaille- May 9th we will be hosting our Spring Job Fair at the Lake Ontario Event and Conference Center. We have 60 businesses committed to attend. Pathfinder Bank and Oswego Health have generously sponsored the location for us. We will have an hour strictly for High School Seniors to attend and meet with businesses and discuss opportunities for when they graduate. In preparation for the job fair OCWNY will host a Resume Day on May 6th, where the public can walk into our center and register with us and receive help creating or updating their resume. We will also have an application station available at the job fair for online applications.

Tina Eusepi- reported that she had an individual who attended the Pulaski Lit Zone job fair come back and tell her that they gained employment from it. OCO has ramped up street outreach to help combat homelessness. Pulaski Lit Zone is going great, and they have a survey out right now for interest in a daytime GED Class. Their CMA contract has been pulled for review by the Legislative and must be voted on again. The CMA program runs through DSS for those on TANF or 200% cases and provides intensive case management services to those in need.

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Kristen Foland- Shared that the best way to get the information to the schools/parents is by contacting the districts and asking them to share information on social media. She also asked if there was any information on training for mechanics for electric buses. NYS is requiring schools to start purchasing electric buses in 2025, and they must have their whole fleet turned over to electric by 2028/2029. This will be something that needs to be investigated as there is currently no available training for it, but it will be necessary in the next few years.

Eric Saunders- They will be starting their interview process next week and have had over 500 applicants. They will be taking on about 60 this year but would like to ramp that up to about 150 next year and going forward. They are also sending 10 instructors to training to get certified in all training applications which takes about 3 years. They would also like to go to Full Time Daytime instruction for a few weeks at a time starting next year. They will be sending some trainees out to Boise to gain some experience prior to the arrival of Micron in CNY. They have hired a company to do grant writing for them as there are grants available through DOL.

Tim McKernan- EJ is very busy with infrastructure as I81 will utilize a ton of material for them. Overall business is going well and there is a future for growth in the Fab Products industry. They just recently installed a robotic system and will be putting in a request for more and are hiring welders and have openings for machinist positions as well.

Emily Cameron- On track to have 10 people total complete the Electrical Mechanical Micro credential cohort. The grant funding for that is coming to an end at the end of this cohort so they anticipate referring people to OCWNY for training funding. (It is eligible for TAP as well but TAP won't cover the full amount). She anticipates a shift in training for current employees for local manufacturers to have other individuals come in as well. The medical coding cohort will be finishing up soon, but they have 13 students enrolled.

Keiko Kimura- CCC offers a beginner mechanics “nuts and bolts” class. They are attempting to access pre apprenticeship funds and train individuals to go into entry level positions. The class combines basic mechanics, hand tools, leadership, and professionalism. The funding would also allow them to offer training to HS seniors within 3 months of graduation. Keiko and Emily shared that the amount of tuition available is going up for employers who utilize the registered apprenticeship for related instruction component, and that there are stipends available for employers who are a registered site and hire on an employee who has completed an apprenticeship. CCC will also be launching dual enrollment opportunities in two advanced manufacturing certifications: advanced manufacturing and industrial maintenance (which is endorsed by Micron as a pathway to employment as a production technician). This will be available to High schools through distance learning, and they will expand it with visits to the Advanced Manufacturing Institute to engage with employers and learn about the machines. CCC is also searching for an Electrical Tech faculty member as they need them to be able to offer the degree program on campus.

At this time there were no further updates. Keiko Kimura asked for a motion to adjourn. Rachel Pierce made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tim McKernan seconded the motion. The motion was carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:33 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 24, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at Oswego County Workforce New York.

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