



Greater Omaha AJC Partner Meeting
February 18, 2022
Zoom Meeting



Attendees

Aaron Moreno, NDOL MSFW
Alejandra Sinicio, National Able Network
Anupama Micek, LFS
Beth Paleogos, ENOA
Betty McKernan, National Able Network
Brian Palmer, WIOA Youth
Carol Tucker, LFS
Christine Trosper, Project Reset
Connie Jones, Omaha Housing Authority
Colleen Plasek, Ponca Tribe on NE
Dawn Coffey, Metro Community College
David Vaughn, WIOA Youth
Derek Comba, Heartland Workforce Solutions
Deb Renner, Job Corps
Eduardo Gardea, RISE
Erin Porterfield, Heartland Workforce Solutions
Frankie Charles, Nebraska VR
Giovana Urbiola, Urban League
Gloria Harwell, Metro Comm College
Haji Salad, Omaha Housing Authority
Jess Begin, Turner Construction

Joe Thibodeau, Heartland Workforce Solutions
Jonathan Lokamas, NDOL
Kashya Burrell, Seventy Five North
Kelly Adams, COIFS
Kendra Tait, NDOL
Maggie Kafweko, Omaha Housing Authority
Michele Simpson, Equus
Michelle Pfortmiller, Douglas Co Problem Solving Court
Omar Valentine, WIOA Youth
Nicole Lewis, HWS/Seventy Five North
Ronda Newman, Heartland Workforce Solutions
Savannah High, National Able Network
Sharon Brodkey, LFS
Shayla Dailey, Job Corps
Stan Odenthal, Heartland Workforce Solutions
Stephanie O'Brien, AmericaWorks
Stefanie Torres Chan, Health Center Association of NE
Timothy Jefferson, NCBVI
Tom Prescott, NDOL

Agenda

One Stop Update

Business Team Update

Safety Committee Update

Partner Task Force Committees Discussion

Partner Updates

AmericaWorks
CRED
DESI - WIOA Youth
ENCAP
Equus
Goodwill YouthBuild
JobCorps
Latino Center of the Midlands
Metro Community College
National Able – SCSEP
National Able – WIOA Adult/Dislocated Worker



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NCBVI
NDOL
Nebraska VR
Omaha Housing Authority
Operation Hope
Ponca Tribe of NE
Proteus
RISE
Programs Not Listed

Optional Networking

Notes

One Stop Update

- Upcoming events
 - February 23 – Resettlement Staff AJC tour and Info Session
 - Every Monday – Employer Spotlights 11-2
 - Resume Workshops 1-4 by NDOL
 - March 14 & 15 Insurance Exploration with HCAN
 - March 18 – Until Help Arrives Course 1-3PM by Nebraska Medicine (Virtual) Email Savannah if interested. Participants will earn Until Help Arrives Certificate
 - Closed Feb 21. Next closed holiday will be April 29 for Arbor Day
- Referral Update
 - We saw an 70% Increase in referrals being made through the resource room staff
 - We continue to see a lot of interest in CDL training

Partner	# of Referrals
WIOA	18
DESI	8
SCSEP	1
DHHS	1
Operation Hope	2
AmericaWorks	4
Goodwill Employment Solutions	6
Charles Drew	1

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Family Housing Advisory Services	2
Together	2
CRED	1
Learning for ALL	2
Omaha Housing Authority	2
Total	50

- Safety Committee
 - Upcoming Trainings – Deescalation March 4 for frontline staff, Fire, and Tornado
 - Safety Improvements – Designated safety Committee members by badges on cubicles. Looking at badge access
- Welcome to America Job Fair set for two sessions. Contact Carol Tucker, John Slaughter, or Savannah High for more info
 - March 26 1-4PM @ HWS
 - March 30 11-2 @ UNO Community Engagement Center
 - Employer Spotlights every Monday
 - Join our Better Business Workshops
 - Businesses can [register for services here.](#)
- Workforce Task Forces
 - Task forces bring together multi-agency partners who are stakeholders who already work toward similar objectives to empower clients who face barriers and to position ourselves to identify opportunities for improved services
 - Reentry Task Force – Meets the last Wednesday of each month at 3PM
 - We are looking to launch
 - Veteran
 - Referral/Co-enrollment
 - Aging Workforce

Partner Updates

- AmericaWorks – Stephanie O'Brien sobrien@americaworks.com
 - Serves as a Ticket to Work program for folks who are currently on SSI and SSDI
 - Stephanie is at the office at HWS on Monday and Tuesdays and can be reached by either phone or email, remote the other days
- CRED – Derek Comba dcomba@hws-ne.org



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- CRED offers funding for credentials for individuals in Douglas, Sarpy and Washington counties to gain new or further their employment, \$1000 a calendar year
 - Examples include CNA, Phlebotomy, OSHA 10, DACA renewals and
 - Partnership with Project Reset and National Security Council for OSHA10 Certification
- DESI WIOA Youth – Omar Valentine omar.valentine@hws-ne.org
 - DESI was recently acquired by Dynamic Workforce Solutions, however nothing changes besides name – Enrollment, referrals, processes etc. continue as normal
 - Kickstarting Work Experience with Siembra, Step Up, OPS Legacy
 - Youth Fair held Wed February 16, great connections made w/ Urban League, Seventy Five North and Center for Holistic Development
 - David Vauhn said that the Bryan Senior High fair was well attended and the kids who attended were well-prepared
- Equus – Michele Simpson
 - Looking for ESL classes because they are serving 250 refugees statewide
- Job Corps – Shayla Dailey dailey.shayla@jobcorps.org
 - Hiring an Admissions Counselor
- Lutheran Family Services – Carol Tucker ctucker@lfsneb.org
 - Opening new location in Council Bluffs at the AJC there
 - Omaha AirB&B contract expired – staff are scrambling to get people moved into stable housing
 - Hiring employment staff
 - Frankie Charles asked if LFS has any good connections for mental health services – Sharon Brodkey from LFS said that they should connect
- Metro Community College – Gloria Harwell gdharwell@mccneb.edu
 - Workforce Development Trainings are up and running
 - Fiber Optics Trainings will start in May – Accepting applications now
- National Able – WIOA A/DW – Alejandra Sinicio asineco@nationalable.org
 - Look at making the enrollment/application process simpler
 - Hiring for Career Coach and Program Manager
 - Still seeking out dislocated workers to enroll – those who have recently been laid off or spouses of military who have recently moved to a new station
- NCBVI – Timothy Jefferson timothy.jefferson@nebraska.gov
 - Thank you to MCC for the invite to the recent job fair
 - Hiring for NE Business Enterprise Orientation Counselor, VR Counselor in Omaha and Norfolk and Orientation Counselor
 - Looking for drivers
- NDOL – Lex Ann Roach lexann.roach@nebraska.gov / Jonathan Lokamas jonathan.lokamas@nebraska.gov
 - Veteran Services – Career counseling, resume/cover letter assistance, supportive service referrals, job placement, Boots to Fill Hiring events



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- Hired new DVOP, Alex
 - Quarterly Priority of Service Training set for mid-march
- Nebraska VR – Frankie Charles frankie.charles@nebraska.gov
 - Seeing an uptick in referrals
 - Hiring Administrator
- RISE – Eduardo Gardea egardea@seeusrise.org
 - Business Academy is open to anyone in community who has justice involvement

Networking

Nicole Lewis commented on the new Highlander Connector facility – set to open officially in May. It includes computers, desks, meeting space. There is a greenhouse attached, a coffee shop nearby.

[Link to Slides](#)

Next Meeting March 18