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Rural Committee Meeting

Date: Wednesday, February 28, 2024

Time: 9:00 a.m. MST

This will be a teleconference meeting, see Notes section below the enumerated Agenda items for further instructions.

Committee Members Present:

Randall Kinzie, Chair
Bobby Alcala
Ruby Maldonado
Peggy O'Brien
Frank Spencer III

Committee Members Absent:

Dan Dunlap

Staff Members Present:

Denisse Wiley
Frank Leal
Kandolite Carson
Myriam Guerrero
Odette Flores-Ruiz

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER AND NOTE OF ATTENDANCE

(Randall Kinzie, Rural Subcommittee Chair)

Mr. Randall Kinzie, Rural Subcommittee Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. MST. Quorum was cited.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A: Report and update on Unemployment Insurance metrics in the rural areas
(Denisse Wiley, Deputy Director, Grant Associates)

Ms. Denisse Wiley, Deputy Director, Grant Associates, presented the Unemployment Insurance updates for both offices in the rural areas in Alpine and Presidio; there were 23 UI claimants, there were 28 clients served, there were 44 job referrals, 20 customers received resume assistance, there were 59 customers registered in Work in Texas. Out of the 23 customers receiving unemployment insurance, 11 of them attended the UI orientation.

B: Discussion and update on Business Services Unit activities in the rural areas
(Denisse Wiley, Deputy Director, Grant Associates)

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Ms. Wiley presented the number of job openings in rural areas by zip code. Ms. Wiley discussed the activities the Business Services Unit is working on to include the Trails to Success JobCon in San Elizario on May 8th.

C: Update on Rural Activities (*Odette Flores-Ruiz, Rural Development Project Manager*)

- New Presidio Office
- Rural Office Generalists
- CTE & AEL SWOT Analysis

Ms. Odette Flores-Ruiz, Rural Development Project Manager, discussed activities in the rural area and announced that the Grand opening of the new Presidio Office is tomorrow afternoon from 4:00 – 6:00 pm. Ms. Kinzie and Mr. Spencer said they plan to attend the grand opening event. Ms. Flores-Ruiz mentioned that the staff in the rural areas are trained to be generalists, which means they can assist with all the services provided. Ms. Flores-Ruiz presented the CTE & AEL SWOT analysis to see what staff can do to improve the CTE & AEL programs in rural areas.

D: Discussion and update on rural childcare services (*Frank Leal, Project Specialist II*)

- Continuous Support for Child Care Providers
- Rural Outreach Initiative – Presidio County

Mr. Frank Leal, Project Specialist II, discussed a current enrollment at Alpine ISD of 22 participants. Alpine Montessori has a capacity of 60, and Workforce Solutions Borderplex has provided the materials and equipment for indoor and outdoor activities.

3. ADJOURN

A: Discussion on items of interest for next agenda – April 24, 2024

The meeting adjourned at 9:39 am. MST.