

Northwest Central IL Works (NCI Works)  
Zoom Meeting  
Tuesday, November 2, 2021  
12:00 Noon

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83653669740>  
Meeting ID: 836 5366 9740  
Dial by your location  
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)  
Meeting ID: 836 5366 9740

## AGENDA

Call to Order (Linda Burt / Cary Robbins)

Roll Call

Chair Comments

**Consent Agenda** (*Action Item*):

*Consent Agenda Items - Anyone may remove an item from the consent item list by requesting the chair to do so. Items removed will be discussed and voted upon immediately following passage of the remaining consent items.*

- NCI Works (September 7, 2021 Meeting Minutes) (Page 1)
- Employer Engagement/Targeted Population Workgroup (October 5, 2021 Discussion) (Page 9)
- Business Liaison & Marketing Committee (October 6, 2021 Meeting Minutes) (Page 13)
- Youth Committee (October 12, 2021 Meeting Minutes) (Page 15)

### Business Meeting

Business Liaison & Marketing (DeAnne White / Linda Burt) (*Action Item*)

- Election of Officers

Cary Robbins / Linda Burt – Co-Chairs  
Amy Soltis Strawn – Vice-Chair  
Patty Head - Secretary

Oversight Committee (Gerald Waszkowiak)

- Review and Approval of the Financial Reports June 2021 (Revised), July & August 2021 (*Action Item*) (Page 20)
- Review & Approval of 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Partner Report (*Action Item*) (Page 32)

- Review of the Partner Referral Report (*Action Item*) (Page 33)

## Other Business

- Request to transfer up to \$500,000 from Dislocated Worker to Adult (Annette Pace) (*Action Item*)
- Request approval for any grant modifications (if necessary) (Carrie Folken) (*Possible Action Item*)
- PY 21 Memorandum of Understanding Corrections (Page 34) (Carrie Folken) (*Action Item*)
- Participant Support Payment Progress Policy Revision (Carrie Folken) (*Action Item*)

Reimbursement for transportation charges is set by the NCI Works Board and will be reviewed annually by staff and amount will be determined based on allocation and availability of funds not to exceed the federal rate. Reimbursement for TAA customer transportation is reimbursed at the lesser of 50% State of Illinois individual area per diem rate (if destination rate is not listed, Conus rate is used) or miles traveled times current mileage rate set by Federal Gov. found at GSA.gov. (Attachment N Client Mileage Claim)

- NCI Works Committee Update / Membership (Page 36)
- One Stop Partners Update
  - Title I (Adult, Youth, Dislocated Worker, Trade) – Joel Torbeck
  - Title II (Adult Education & Literacy) – Sara Escatel
  - Title III (Wagner-Peyser, UI, etc.) – Rhonda Krueger
  - Title IV (Rehabilitation Services) – Jim Knauf
  - Community Services Block Grant – Vanessa Hoffeditz / Marcia Derrer
  - Senior Community Services Employment – (National Able)
  - TANF – Janet Graham
- One Stop Operator Update
  - Rhonda Krueger, IDES
  - Joel Torbeck, BEST, Inc.
  - James Knauf, Vocational Rehabilitation
- Input from Providers and Businesses on how Child Care, or lack of, is affecting employers in the workplace (Member Discussion)
- Opioid Grant Update (See Report from Kerri Hicks below)

The Opioid Dislocated Worker Grant has had a total of 26 participants since starting in November 2019. The Grant received money again in September, I was able to enroll 2 more impacted Participants into a Paid Work Experience during this time. There have been 14 exited and 3 placed into Full-Time Employment.

In April when we transitioned 6 impacted Participants into WIOA services, we have 1 in an OJT and another still in the Grant enrolled in OJT as well. Another Client, who had been moved from OPI to WIOA has been placed into another Paid Work Experience at an Insurance Agency. We are currently having conversations with that worksite in regards to OJT. They are hoping to start in November.

Little SUCCESS STORY about this Client:

My Client has worked hard for where she currently is. When enrolling her into the Opioid Grant, she was pregnant, had the baby and due to some unfortunate circumstances, had lost custody of her child to the State. During all of this, the Client stayed in constant contact with me, received treatment, has found housing, and is taking online courses to prepare for either Business Management or Accounting once all Pre-Req's have been completed. This Client's next goal is to be able to save enough money to be able to buy her own home that her and her children can all live in together. She does have 3 other little ones that she had lost custody prior to her enrolling into the Opioid Grant. This Client had taken many falls during our Program but throughout everything she overcame and continued to move forward and with the help of the Opioid Grant and our Services, we were able to help get her there.

Though it has been very quiet with referrals, those that are coming my direction, I am just reviewing all Pre-Applications with both Opioid Grant criteria and BEST qualifications. This has been discussed at our last Opioid Call with Tammy Stone – DCEO and all other LWIA's are reporting the same as far as a quiet time right now for referrals, we know they are out there but no one is completing applications for our Services at the moment. I am having conversations all the time with Agencies we have partnered with during this Grant – Arukah, Perfectly Flawed, and Sauk Valley Voices of Recovery just to make sure we are still present on everyone's mind.

- Apprenticeship Expansion Grant Update (See report from Dianna Schuler below)

We have meet with a total of 168 individuals/companies either one on one or through our group events. We've held a total of 6 sector events. We the Hospitality/Tourism Sector event for October 15<sup>th</sup> and are working on an event for Apprenticeship Month in November.

Plastic Products, a manufacturer in Rock Island County, signed onto the Eastern Iowa Community College manufacturing standards recently. The program was already developed and meets the company's needs.

Nikelle is now working with Miller Excavating in Savanna on a custom set of standards for their employees. Nikelle is meeting with Miller, as she did with Plastic Products, on a weekly basis to get this program up and running.

We are very close to reaching our goals as set forth in our grant project plan. We now have 4 of the 5 new apprenticeships up and running with the 5<sup>th</sup> in the works. We also have 1 of the 3 expansions that we planned for completed. Because we have not been receiving any reimbursement requests from a few of our sub-contractors we are actually underspent in our grant at this point. We have taken measure (Annette actually has) to get the sub-contractors to

submit for reimbursement. We have also applied for an extension to March 31, 2022 to give us time to fully spend the grant.

- Success Stories

- BEST Success Stories (Page 43)

- NCI Works Meeting Schedule:

- March 1, 2022

- May 3, 2022

- September 6, 2022

NCI Works Executive Committee Meeting Schedule:

- January 4, 2022

- July 5, 2022

Public Comments / Recognition of Guests

Adjournment