

**NCI Works Executive Committee
Zoom Meeting
Tuesday, July 5, 2022
12:00 Noon**

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Mission Statement

Northwest Central Illinois Works' mission is to work hand-in-hand with business, service, government, education and non-profit organizations to enable workers to work and businesses to compete.

Agenda

Call to Order (Linda Burt & Cary Robbins, Co-Chairs)

Roll Call

Approval of the January 4, 2022 Meeting Minutes (Page 1) (Action Item)

Business Meeting

- Employer Engagement Committee (June 7, 2022 Meeting Minutes (Page 7))
- Review and Approval of the Financial Reports (March & April 2022) (Page 9) (Annette Pace) (Action Item)
- Approval to Recertify Program with Castor (Page 17) (Carrie Folken) (Action Item)
- Approval to Recertify Programs with IVCC (Page 17) (Carrie Folken) (Action Item)
- Approval of the PY 22 Local Plan (Page 19) (Carrie Folken) (Action Item)
- Approval of the PY 22 EDR 5 Regional Plan (Page 22) (Carrie Folken) (Action Item)
- Approval of the PY 22 EDR 6 Regional Plan (Page 24) (Carrie Folken) (Action Item)
- Approval of the PY 22 Budget (Page 26) (Carrie Folken) (Action Item)
At the May 3, 2022 staff were given authorization to enter into an agreement with DCEO and submit the necessary documents to establish the Grant.
- Request approval for any grant modifications (if necessary) (Carrie Folken) (Possible Action Item)

Other Business

- Program Services Team Update (Carrie Folken)

The One-Stop Program Services Team met on May 25. Participants on the team include staff from BEST, DHS, IDES, IVCC Adult Education, Tri-County Opportunities Council, and DHS ORS. This team will meet monthly going forward.

At the first meeting, goals were communicated as to the purpose of the team. The overarching goal is to promote coordination between agencies and improve referrals to better serve One-Stop customers.

The first project of the team is the completion of a Quick Guide for referrals. This 2 page guide will provide contact information for a designated staff person from each agency, so that when staff have a question about services from a partner, they will know who to contact and how. It will also break down by service who to call, should a customer indicate a particular need. We anticipate finalizing this guide at the next monthly meeting. At that point it will be sent out to each partner to distribute to their agency staff.

Future projects will include a trial and review of a web-based referral system, which has been created, and will get input as to any improvements that may be needed. Another project will be for each partner to create a brief presentation of services that will be recorded, and can then be used in the future as a training tool for new staff at any of the partner agencies.

- Status Reports for Special Grants:

- Opioid – Submitted by Kerri Hicks

Not much has changed with the Opioid Dislocated Worker Grant since my last report in March. There are a total of 29 participants since starting in November 2019. 22 have been exited and 5 have been placed into Employment. Others that are still enrolled but not active in a Paid Work Experience and/or OJT, I am providing Case Management to.

In April, we had transitioned 6 impacted Participants into WIOA services, due to lack of funding. Now with money back in the Opioid Grant, we have moved those individuals back to the Opioid Grant and end date will be 6/30/2022.

Luther Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) is working with 5 of our impacted Participants in a Paid Work Experience. 4 girls are still doing a great job and completing numerous trainings to promote their positions in Peer Support. Expectation that at the end of the Grant, LSSI will be able to hire all but 1 these positions Full-Time. The girls are very happy and comfortable with their environment and are continually thanking me for this experience.

Perfectly Flawed is still working with an OJT.

With any other referrals that are coming in, I am reviewing them and if they are eligible for BEST services, then I provide them with the correct contact for their County. Sterling Office has been working wonderfully with a few of my previous/existing Opioid Clients in providing Resume assistance and/or Job Leads.

I am still in constant contact with Perfectly Flawed and Arukah Institute of Healing. I have been sitting on the Consortium for C5 Rural. We have been asked to join the Veteran Assistance Commission in LaSalle as they are working with NIU on an Opioid Grant that will serve Veterans and their families. Just like with C5 Rural, we will help to provide Workforce Development to their impacted participants once ready for employment. I have also been invited to sit on the Board for Perfectly Flawed.

With the closing of the Grant being June 30th, I am just focusing on Clients that are currently being served, either WBL or Case Management and seeing what they need in order to transition into Employment elsewhere. Making the transition as seamless as we can.

➤ Apprenticeship grant update – submitted by Dianna Schuler

We have meet with a total of 179 individuals/companies (as of May 26, 2022) either one on one or through our group events. .

Inpro/Seal has fizzled out on us. However, we are currently working with Martin Engineering to establish some new programs for them through an online provider Tooling U and RCBI Institute. In addition, we met with Putnam County High School which would like to establish a number of Youth Registered Apprenticeship opportunities for their juniors and seniors. They hope to use the 22-23 school year to get those developed. We also finally saw some movement with Label Mills who has looked to Highland Community College to be their training provider. At the last meeting Highland and our DOL contact were working to finalize a proposed classroom training outline. We hope that of these 3 at least Label Mills will be able to sign their standards before the end of our grant extension on June 30, 2022.

We will keep the board apprised of developments with our close out report after the end of the current quarter June 30, 2022

BEST Success Stories (Page 29)

Next Meeting: September 6, 2022

Public Comments

Adjournment