



## MAWB Jobseeker Services Committee Minutes

April 21, 2021

### Summary of Featured Topic

Denise Felder and Mary Rothchild shared an overview of Skill Up Minnesota, a new initiative of Minnesota State to encourage participation in short-term training at Minnesota State for those who have lost jobs during the COVID-19 pandemic. The website uses information from RealTime Talent to identify “jobs in demand.” They are also currently focused on programs that are leading to industry-recognized credentials. In the near future, they will be looking for more information on jobseekers to identify what they need in order to optimize the services/information provided by the site.

A brief discussion ensued. Committee members suggested that people with limited technology skills may need something to assist with online learning. Local areas have seen a rise in CDL students. Others suggested that a connection with other students is important, as is providing paid training for people who need money immediately.

### DEED Updates

- Adult Team: General Updates, WIOA Adult & Dislocated Worker, Adult Career Pathways, Trade Adjustment Assistance. [See written updates.](#)
- CareerForce Systems
  - Standardized Workshop Facilitator Training is tomorrow! Email Art Larsen at [arthur.larsen@state.mn.us](mailto:arthur.larsen@state.mn.us) if you need the meeting information. The session will also be recorded.
  - The Good Jobs Now calls (a.k.a. RESEA calls, UI calls) will reach around 21,000 calls by the end of this week. They have been primarily reaching out to hospitality workers. Many people have never heard of CareerForce or MinnesotaWorks, and many are already returning to work.
  - The Referral Database can be found in the Staff & Partners section of CareerForceMN.com. Download the Excel file to use the drop-down menu and select which local area you are seeking information about. Review the file to ensure that the data for your local area is accurate. Call the Help Desk at (651) 259-7501 or emailing [CareerForce@state.mn.us](mailto:CareerForce@state.mn.us) to make any changes to the Referral Database.
- Veterans Employment Program: [See written updates.](#)
- Youth Team: [See written updates.](#)
- Office of Diversity and Equal Opportunity
  - Major changes with diversity and inclusion are expected started at the federal agency level with Executive Orders ([13985](#) and [13988](#)) by President Biden. Recently attended a [bystander training from Hollaback!](#) on how to respond to anti-Asian and general

xenophobic violence. Also shared the US DOL's efforts to advance racial and social equity in employment for people with disabilities – [national online dialogue](#).

**ABE Updates:** [See written updates](#). Minnesota was given a grant to help fund CareerForce branding project a few years ago. Part of that grant was that the Northstar Digital Literacy assessment would be provided for free for a year. This benefit has not been heavily utilized. If staff need training on the assessment, contact [support@digitalliteracyassessment.org](mailto:support@digitalliteracyassessment.org).

#### **DHS Updates**

- Allocations for SNAP E&T have gone out. If you haven't received it, contact Andrea at [andrea.mcconnell@state.mn.us](mailto:andrea.mcconnell@state.mn.us).
- The Equitable Access Workgroup has been meeting and making good progress.
- There is more work to do on the Final Rule Change. Subsidized employment is a new option for states to offer. If you have expertise in subsidized employment, please contact Andrea or Anastasia ([anastasia.polda@state.mn.us](mailto:anastasia.polda@state.mn.us)) to share your knowledge.
- They will also be offering a training on applying to private grants. If you have recently taken a training about grant writing for workforce project, please reach out.
- There has been an extension on the statewide waiver for work requirements which will extend through June 2022.

#### **Leading with Equity**

- The [PY19 WIOA Annual Report](#) was shared in the meeting. Committee members were asked to reflect on what percentage of the individuals they serve are from the BIPOC community, and to work on identifying and addressing gaps.