



Business Services/Economic Development Committee

December 19th, 2024, 9:30-11:30am

The committee was called to order at 9:32 am.

Featured Topic: The committee heard a presentation on Childcare Support Progress & Needs from Sara Hagen, Community Child Care Coordinator, United Way of Central Minnesota. Please find the full presentation [here](#).

Employer-Related Updates: Items Pertinent to Employers or Employer Services

- M State
- Minnesota Chamber of Commerce
- Economic Development Association of Minnesota (EDAM)
- Minnesota Association of Professional County Economic Developers (MAPCED)
- State Agencies
 - DEED
 - CareerForce MN employer content on the website has been resorted.
 - Last employer engagement specialist has been onboarded.
 - DEED development blog went out yesterday. Setting up meetings with all of you, stakeholders, and employers.
 - Seeing a need for small business hiring for skilled talent - tile setters, cdl, etc. MNW - 16,214 Active Resumes and 61,153 Position Openings
 - VRS
 - DLI got a grant to help connect folks with disabilities to get set up with apprenticeships.
 - Nursing assistance programs getting youth across the state in those programs.
 - Transportation program that works with new Americans & folks with disabilities.
 - DLI
 - Youth Skills Training will open grants in January and you can read more about that here: [Youth Skills Training Program | Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry](#).
 - Apprenticeship has some events coming up in January [News and events | Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry](#) and Dual-Training Pipeline has industry forums in February: [Pipeline events | Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry](#)
- Local Areas
 - Rural Minnesota CEP
 - Dec 11 Career Fair with over 200 attendees.
 - Working with MState to utilize van program.
 - Indigenous workforce development partnership.
 - Out in schools doing outreach.
 - Hired disability resource coordinator for Partners for Youth grant.
 - City of Duluth

- Continue doing monthly job fairs – weather has a large impact on numbers of jobseekers.
 - New employer engagement specialist is getting looped into work.
 - 2nd year of workforce solutions series targeted at employers to help bridge resources and addressing problems in the workforce system.
- City of Lakeville
- Central Minnesota (CMJTS)
 - Busy working with Career Solutions event.
 - Promote tomorrow event coming up in January.
 - Thinking of new ways to revamp I-WE.
- Southwest Minnesota
- Southeast Minnesota (WDI)
 - Surveying employers to get a better sense of what employers need.
 - Event coming soon to highlight employers.
 - Working on strategies and priorities in the region. Created an internal toolkit.
 - New work-based learning staff hired.
 - Speaker coming up on generational differences in the workforce system.
- Hennepin-Carver
- City of Minneapolis
- Anoka County
- Ramsey County
 - [2nd Annual Inclusive Workforce Summit](#) on January 29th at the Science Museum – Keynote on job quality.
 - Artist Career & Resource Fair in February.
 - Green Jobs Fair in March.
- Dakota-Scott
 - Many hiring events and more jobseekers coming through the door
 - Jennifer Byers with MN Chamber is going another workforce event in the new year. Mark to share invite.
 - Increased data centers coming to the county and limited new jobs at the facilities but large opportunities for construction for building the centers.
- Stearns-Benton (Career Solutions)
 - Holding Inclusive Workforce event in March in partnership with CMJTS that will highlight I-WE designees.
 - Promoting incumbent working training programs.
 - Jobseeker events coming up in January.
 - Drive for Five manufacturing training starting soon.
 - Staff appreciation lunch this week.
- Washington County
 - Expansion of the Gold line into the county and how we can work with businesses along the line to help with hiring and retention. Service center is going to be moved next to the end of the line.
- Northwest PIC

The committee concluded at 10:42 am.