

EmploymentFirstMaine

Steering Committee Meeting

Friday November 13, 2015

9 – 11 am

Frances Perkins Room, 45 Commerce Drive, MDOL

Present: Rick Langley, Terry Morrell, Jeanie Coltart, Karen Fraser, Janet May, Jan Breton, Lisa Sturtevant, Leticia Huttman, Debbie Gilmer, and Shannon Hartmann

Absent: Betsy Hopkins, Brad Strause,

Welcome/Introductions/Review of minutes

Rick facilitated the meeting and did a brief review of the ground rules.

Membership review & preparing of ballot for December elections

Rick will be preparing the draft ballot today and sending it out to members in preparation of voting at the December meeting and nominations will be accepted until then.

WORKGROUP REPORTS:

Vision Quest update – Information is posted on the website. Debbie Gilmer shared the following: ODEP application was submitted and includes significant increase in resources being offered, including technical assistance (350 hours) and instate attends. Focusses are on policy: Mental Health and Employment (Doug Crandall and Virginia Sullick); Capacity building to establish five communities of practice (Cory Smith Nancy Brooks Lane), and Data, including common elements across departments and Lisa Mills retrospective report that is being compiled . Betsy is working with Abby Cooper, former Washington State director – state’s experience with setting minimum of hours worked for successful closure.

Posted on website is Lisa Mill’s report, *Vision Quest Phase I Assessment*, and Rick will send out an announcement to make sure all know that it is there.

Capacity Building – Debbie presented the workgroup’s review of its deliverables and recommendations going forward. Much of it remains a high priority and needs to be continued.

Legislative/Policy - Rick shared this group's review of its deliverables and recommendations going forward. There is evident overlap between this group and capacity building. There was discussion about how best to manage this.

Business – Lisa reached out to her group, but only got one response. In looking at the recommendations, a majority need to go to others to actually executive.

Transition – Janet and Jan pulled together a subset of their workgroup and are in process to review and clean-up their recommendations.

Data

Communication

There was discussion that Maine needs a strategic plan for employment of people with disabilities. The one that was prepared with assistance from the Muskie School and the Medicaid Infrastructure grant was through 2016, so it needs to be updated.

Recommendation to bring to the full Coalition: Schedule will continue to alternate monthly between Steering team and the Coalition, but expand the meeting time of the Coalition and have it structured and facilitated to use it as the venue for moving the work plan, including bringing in ODEP subject matter experts and move items along more effectively. Lisa has offered to help pull together what this might look like in preparation of sharing it and voting in December.

There was some sense that we need to circle back to the EFMaine law and evaluate where we are. Lisa and Leticia recently sent along the initial EF recommendations to the DHHS administration with a little clean up, so these will be shared with the full Coalition and we also need to do a crosswalk with the workgroup tasks and the law.

Success stories/outreach/coalition building

Other business

Every person. Every talent. Every opportunity.