



APPROVED
August 4, 2022

**Northern Middle Tennessee Workforce Board
Special Populations Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 3, 2022, via Zoom 2:00 p.m.**

Members Attending	Members Absent	Staff & Guests Attending
Carol Puryear	GC Hixson	Ginger Fussell
John Alexander	Lynn Seifert	Andera Dillard
Bo Callis	James Harper	Marla Rye
Christopher West	Jennifer Hobbs	Sherry Maynard
John Zobl		Ellen Gomez
		Meagan Dobbins
		Freda Herndon

The Northern Middle Tennessee Workforce Special Populations Committee met on February 3, 2022, at 2 p.m. via Zoom.

Carol Puryear called the meeting to order. Marla called the roll, and a quorum was declared. Carol requested a motion for approval of the minutes. Bo Callis made the motion to approve the minutes. John Alexander seconded the motion, and with no discussion, the minutes were approved.

Contract Service Provider Performance Review

Marla started with a review of the contractors' performance. She reported that the contractors have now had a complete year of operations within the Northern Middle region. They did not get off to a good start but have improved their enrollment numbers. EDSI met their cumulative exit goals, which means they are moving people through the system and putting them to work. They have also met their cumulative positive placement rate goals.

However, Marla mentioned that the federal performance measures are trending downward possibly due to COVID since the federal reporting lags behind. She stated that on the positive side, placement wages are above goal. They still struggle with MPCR, although they are trending upward. They also continue to struggle with the in-school youth ratio.

MAC worked very hard during their fourth quarter and have caught up their cumulative enrollment goal. However, they are not meeting their exit goals, so their caseloads are increasing. The placement rate is below their goal, but they met their placement wage goal is above average. Their cumulative MPCR is not at goal. They have only been able to meet their

MPCR goal one quarter out of four. They have not met their work experience goal but have the potential to get there. They have met their in-school youth ratio goal during their fourth quarter.

Marla then informed the committee that the Finance committee met and voted to approve putting out another RFP for targeted proposals around sector strategies primarily for youth but with the possibility of using it for Adult as well.

Federal Performance Standards

Andrea Dillard reviewed the Federal Performance scorecard with the committee. Several of quarter one goals are being meeting at 90%. There are two standards that we are failing, below 90%, at present. They are employment rate fourth quarter after exit with adults and credential attainment fourth quarter after exit with youth.

The federal performance is on a rolling four quarters, and it is not finalized until the fourth quarter is complete. Andrea stated that we are able to work on the areas that need improvement. Some areas can be fixed by checking the system and ensuring that credentials are claimed correctly. While the second and fourth quarters after exit for adults are not quite passing, the second quarter could pass if file corrections can be made.

The federal data is being pulled from as far back as September 2020, which was being impacted by COVID. Marla also explained that she felt the changeover is also impacting these performance measures and the time it has taken the contractors to become proficient. Many workers in the field now are new and still learning the system. She stated that staff turnover is the biggest challenge at this time.

Youth Spotlight

Marla informed the committee of Kimberly, who went through the WIOA program to complete phlebotomy training and graduated in 2021. She plans to obtain a position as a phlebotomist and continue her education to become an LPN.

Programs and Grants

John Watz explained to the committee that plans are being made to create a transitioning soldier program on Ft. Campbell through EDSI. Marla informed the committee of the \$100,000 the finance committee approved to support justice-involved individuals and reentry programs. She also told them about \$160,000 that will go towards apprenticeship training. Freda gave more information about the apprenticeship training and the layoff aversion funds.

Ellen Gomez gave an update regarding the Innovative High School Grant.

Adjourn

Carol Puryear adjourned the committee meeting.