

Quarterly One-Stop Partner Meeting

Minutes

March 17, 2026

2:00 – 3:15 PM

Agenda Item	Notes	Next Steps
<p>1. One-Stop Partner Business Approval of December meeting minutes Next quarterly meeting date: 6/16 or 6/23</p>	<p>Amy Geren opened the meeting. She asked if there were any edits to the December meeting minutes No edits suggested. Will be saved on CCWI website. Amy asked if we should push the next quarterly meeting to the 23rd? No, keep at 16th. Amy then introduced Kim Moore.</p>	<p>Amy will save December minutes to the CCWI website.</p> <p>Next meeting as scheduled on 6/16.</p>
<p>2. Strengthening Regional Service Delivery Work Source Maine Virtual CareerCenter project update</p>	<p>Kim Moore, Bureau Director, MDOL BES Presentation: One year after launch of site www.myworksourcemaine.gov (Virtual CareerCenter) The project was funded by USDOL grant. Rare opportunity that was a collaboration between the three local workforce boards, service providers (EMDC and Workforce Solutions), MDOL, and was led by Andrea Wilson, who will be assisting with the presentation. Tour of site: Individuals can explore the site three different ways, similar to walking to a physical career center. Will soon be intentionally linked to Work Source Maine, we will have the added ability for folks to have specialized career guidance, career pathways, and training to support their goals. Designed to be a seamless transition. You can navigate as a job seeker or employer. Site can be translated into seven languages (primarily spoken in Maine and for which Google translate doesn't do a good job) As a job seeker: match with services (answer questions, name challenges, strengths), explore services on your own, virtual AI assistant (Dee the Chickadee)</p>	<p>Partners should review website https://www.myworksourcemaine.gov/ as a job seeker to see if there are resources that are missing. They should also think about typical Qs asked, and typical resources shared (to add to Dee's Q&A). Andrea will reach out to Amy with partner access information, and information on how to send missing resources.</p>

On home page:
Upcoming events are prominently displayed (can register)
Below that – in the center is where Work Source Maine link will go (myworksource maine is more of a curated experience, while Work Source Maine is more generalized – in a good way)
Live chat bottom right– with live individuals (MDOL CareerCenter staff available during business hours)
Printable guides (if needed)
Bottom of Home Page shows the strong partnerships we have in developing this site.

How site is used:
Pages viewed:
There have been about 68,000 active users (must have been on site for 10 seconds, and viewed at least 2 pages to be an active user)
Search for events 88,101
Home Page 60,644
Job Seeker Services 17,468
CSSP 11,186
Locations 7,719 (where we are – career centers and partner locations)

Where did they go from home page? (Tracking the last 60 days) Top 3: events, job seeker, service matching – job seeker; Dee (virtual assistant) has had about 71 clicks in last 60 days
New accounts created: 927 (this is impressive as this is not a requirement to use the site) This gives us the ability to see a little more info about the individuals
Resources created: 90
Events posted: >200 in the past year
Virtual Fairs/Workshops: 2 completed, a 3rd scheduled 5/7 (at 2nd event 12/10/25 on 12/10/25, had 435 registered job seekers for state-wide job fair; got fantastic reviews, Andrea has been focusing on how we can strengthen that further for the 3rd event.
Working on guiding videos to help orient job seekers on how to use site in best way possible, and one for employers as well – how to set up their profile to best utilize the site.

Next steps:
Create partner accounts – they can create/update own resources, create your own events, update grant language, and increase the Q&A for Dee (virtual assistant)
Dee can be strengthened – Andrea will be collecting info from partners in next few months (fyi – very easy to update/ add to site – please let us know if something is missing! We appreciate it) We want to make sure that we have as many resources as possible. We want to

	<p>make sure that this is literally like walking in to an in-person Career Center. (What is the typical question you hear? What are the top resources you promote?)</p> <p>We also have the ability to create a workshop library of events and trainings (can be uploaded to VFair platform).</p> <p>Amy asked will Andrea reaching out to One Stop Partners within the WIOA system?</p> <p>Yes, Andrea will send email to Amy with info to distribute, which includes how to send suggestions.</p> <p>Assignments – go thru <i>I’m a job seeker</i> to check for missing resources, let us know (there is a form to fill out) and Q&As for Dee.</p> <p>We will also be reaching out with info about partner access (i.e., who should have the log-in, and make sure they understand how to update/add things to site)</p> <p>Amy said thank you for sharing and continuing to grow this platform.</p>	
<p>3. Welcome / Introductions, Information Sharing & Awareness of Regional Services</p> <p><i>Please feel welcome to share updates and current challenges with your workforce development colleagues.</i></p> <p>*Meeting will NOT be recorded during this segment*</p>	<p>Amy Geren introduced herself as OSO for CCWI, and introduced Clare Murray from Catherine Cutler Institute, here as admin support, and to take minutes.</p> <p>Megan Dichter, MDOE Adult Ed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with worksourcemaine.com to connect to a new resource called continue ed, which will be fully launched July 1 – could the .gov site discussed today be linked to this site? • Will receive FY27 fed funding. • Maine College and Career Access state grant (RFA delayed). • About to launch a professional development series on integrated education and training and the connection to registered apprenticeship for our field – this will be a priority. <p>Victoria Morrill, LearningWorks YouthBuild. Just submitted for federal YouthBuild grant beginning March. Finishing up last group of students – now on to jobs or work experiences. Pretty quiet here.</p> <p>Danielle Eastman, FedCap A performance director in North (Bangor to Fort Kent) for FedCap (colleague Kathy Marcoux, who oversees central offices as well). This is Danielle’s first meeting after being away. Happy to be here.</p> <p>Molly Ginn, Penobscot Job Corps Representing both Job Corps in Maine (Loring and Penobscot). Lots going on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pause in enrollment of young people in 2025, but back and making up for lost time. Helping them take advantage of the benefits of Job Corps. 	<p>Partners should send flyers/info to Amy for upcoming events so that she can share them when minutes are distributed.</p>

- On 4/1 there will be large open house event. We appreciate partners spreading the word about that – schools are bringing students from as far as Brunswick, plus individuals and community partners.
- Focus is to meet goals to bring in as many young people as possible. At about 50% capacity – room for about 100 more youth 16-24.
- Molly will send Amy a flyer. Amy will share this info with the Title 1B management team.

Kyle Olson, CCWI Gearing up for quarterly workforce board meeting next week. (Thank you for the presentation, Kim. It would have been nice to have that website during COVID)

Rob Ducharme, CareerCenters (Brunswick, Lewiston, Wilton) Biggest focus is on four or five hiring events over next month (this is busy season). Rob will send flyers to Amy.

Susan LeClair, CareerCenters (Rockland, Northern Kennebec Valley, Augusta). There is lots going on. Continue to support navigation with job seekers, employers, skills building, workforce building.

Michelle DePatsy, TANF/ASPIRE Rockland area (Knox, Lincoln, Waldo, Sagadahoc Counties) primarily the ASPIRE managers work closely with FedCap, assisting with policy updates and trainings. Big change on March 3rd:

- ASPIRE 29 policy was adopted – lots of changes in the ASPIRE support services. Quite a few have increased, changed structurally.
- E.g.: transportation, auto repair, clothing, eye care, etc., maximum budgets have changed annually. We have added internet, technology services into the policy. The mileage increased, hourly rate for vocational evaluation (we assist with counseling needed after attending DEEP courses up from \$75 to \$150/hour).
- FedCap and MDHHS have been working on updating and coordinating systems. Everything should be updated as of today. Amy let Michelle know that if there is anything to share, she will send it out.

Grant Collins, ED for FedCap (ASPIRE), with some other colleagues. Thinking about the rest of 2026 – reorganizing to have performance director at each of four regions to provide more opportunity for stakeholder engagement. Possibility to collaborate, e.g., (to Molly) we have families with young children that might qualify, we have facilities to offer. Looking for ways to join and help and support you.

Allen Lambert, Adult Ed Involved with a subcommittee group with CCWIB looking at impact of AI on the current employment picture (its impact on people already working), and its impact on prospective job seekers, to understand it a bit better.

Teresa Mercier, Workforce development, YCCC Loved the updated website. Last few weeks – launched a new welding program, expansion at center for manufacturing excellence in Sanford. Two weeks ago, 14 students started (amazing, enthusiastic group). This upscaling is much needed in this area.

Dennis Collins, MDOL Bureau of Unemployment Compensation Seeing a drop in call volumes, people are back to work in painting, concrete, landscaping, etc. (now that weather is improving). Hearing complaints that there are not enough workers, hopefully a good sign that there is employment to be had.

Teyonda Hall, Dir resident services, Portland Housing Authority (HUD) PHA has no program manager until 3/31.

- One initiative with LIUNA (Laborers International Union of North America), a partnership to help folks pipeline into trades.
- They have a training facility (very cool place – food court, hotel-like rooms) in Hopkinton, MA.
- Sent ten people down, first cohort completed, they are getting plugged into Seabrook, naval yard, and Roux institute. This is open to anyone in the city of Portland. Leadership there have been great cheerleaders, mentors.
- Moving on to second cohort now. Get in touch with Teyonda if interested. She may share a flyer/info with Amy.

Jaimi Clifford, DHHS, Community Action Agencies working on Federal end report: biggest poverty report to Congress:

- Data collected by CAA on behalf of entire agency and demographics that they serve. It is a picture of what that looks like state-wide, will submit end of month. ME has been working on de-duplication of data, have worked on this for over a decade – looks like numbers are diminishing, but really getting to true numbers and outcomes of families in plethora of domains.
- Will share once approved by fed govt. This is not just numbers – includes outcomes of work, health, education, social, behavioral development and the services offered statewide. Jaimi will send once approved (possibly in a few months).

Dave Wurm Goodwill, Workforce Solutions (Title 1B in Coastal Counties), going through pivot: high level of resources and funding is much lower.

- Adjusting down how many clients we can support. Have some resources not as affected.

- Some resources that are not as impacted by funding drop: dislocated workers, construction engineering pathways [due to separate grant funding in those areas]. If you have folks in those lanes, we are here and want to talk.

Libby Stone-Sterling, MDOL BRS:

- Samantha is away at conference doing work around the re-entry population.
- New report: BRS Highlights report.
https://www.maine.gov/rehab/brs_highlights/index.shtml
- Open Positions:
 - Systems improvement quality assurance director position – posted but closes 3/19 (current person retiring)
 - Pathway Youth Specialist (working with younger kids down to age 10, all around the state), for more info contact libby.stone-sterling@maine.gov

Elissa, DHHS, MDOL BES Division for Blind and Visually Impaired:

- Summer youth programing: essentially for any youth you have. Collaborating on all so that there can be interaction with other peers.
- College launchpad – one week at Thomas College this summer,
- Two bus tours to view colleges, what it’s like to be on different campuses
- Try a trade tour (two 12-passenger vans) engaging with different business (i.e., BIW, HVAC, solar, electric)
- City Quest: Blind, visually impaired-specific -partner with other NE states. Will meet other students in Boston to learn to navigate public transportation and the city.
- For more info, reach out to Elissa Rowe.

Rep Marshall Archer, State Representative / Joint Committee on Labor

- Finished work sessions last week, now gone to appropriations
- Potential for \$300,000 on AI training for workforce going through RFP (MDOL)
- Down to less than four weeks in this session, anything passed by the committee will go to floor, then signed by governor or not.

Adam Goad, Adult Ed Hub 9 Southern Maine, here to listen and learn.

Meg Krieger, Educate Maine Semi busy, primarily focused on apprenticeships and pre-apprenticeships:

- Now onboarding, some programs in auto tech, some in building construction.
- In aquaculture world (Aquacultures Pioneers pre-apprenticeship, Seaweed Aquaculture Technician registered apprenticeship), the ~30 farms are in final phases for making hires for apprenticeships and pre-apprenticeships

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morgan has been doing a lot of behind-the-scenes work to create a more robust strategy for getting participants involved in different workforce development supportive services as some of our funding streams wind down. • Hope to pioneer new strategies on upcoming cohorts • Pre-apprenticeship program at Passive House Maine (Freeport), building construction pipeline for non-traditional folks to enter this workforce, low time commitment (two hour sessions once a month Apr-Oct) – open to anyone, applications still open, will send a link to that application. <p>Amy: It was noted at a recent Portland Regional Chamber event that housing construction is taking longer (~50%) due to workforce shortages.</p> <p>Elizabeth Grout, Pathstone Corp, National Farmworker Jobs Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looking for a third person (we are now two). • Big campaign with youth participants: in schools, work experience virtual reality demonstrations, with NFJP-eligible and non-NFJP-eligible students to get kids thinking about plans after HS • Youth farm worker scholarship campaign: six spots, up to \$3,500, for farmworker youth looking for secondary education or workforce, and paid work experience at HS earning \$15/hour • Health and safety training campaign (for any farm workers): heat stress prevention, tractor safety, pesticide prevention • Both staff members are now certified customer service trainers (able to do retail certifications in house) and first pilot group of NFJP participants will come to Bangor office next week. Participants will get three days of training, customer service credential, and a Chromebook. Funded through Rise Up Foundation) <p>Kathie Marcoux, Fedcap [from meeting chat]: Performance director in Fedcap covering the central area (Augusta, Lewiston, Farmington, Skowhegan and South Paris area). Excited to connect with this group. Thank you for having me.</p>	
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Next Meeting: June 16, 2026 @ 2:00 PM