

Coastal Operators Group (COG) Meeting

Minutes

April 26, 2023

Agenda Item	Notes	Next Steps
Welcome	Attendees: Amy Geren (OSO); Jeff Martinelli (WFS); Sheila Muldoon (WFS); Mike Robinson (WFS) <i>Career Center Managers were all unable to attend due to scheduling conflicts, so the meeting was kept short.</i>	
Goals Updates	Amy provided an update regarding data collection to track and improve referral processes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met with Adult Ed and MDOL to review referral data collection in MaineSTARS and MaineJobLink • Both systems have a dropdown field for entering referral data; need to have appropriate categories added • Adult Ed is revamping their system and will be able to accommodate requests for updates to data fields, etc. • MaineJobLink has the capacity to enter data under partner agency referrals, but there is concern about referral outcomes for job-seekers; follow up details could be worked out after we start to collect data and look for trends, etc. 	
Updates from the group	<p>Mike emphasized that they are very busy, as evidenced by high enrollment numbers recently.</p> <p>Sheila spoke to the Afghan grant that is picking up.</p> <p>Amy asked about in-care youth and if this is a data point collected when enrolling youth. The team confirmed that foster care and corrections involved youth are eligibility categories that create barrier to employment and so are data points captured at enrollment.</p> <p>Both Sheila and Mike spoke highly of the work that Jeff and the youth team are doing, and the high numbers of enrollments accomplished.</p> <p>Jeff noted that internal work with youth is strong. Lots of outreach happening (advertisement for programming on CYW was mentioned).</p> <p>There are career advisor positions for Workforce Solutions available in Cumberland and York Counties currently.</p>	<p>Amy to confirm City of Portland summer Youth Corps program is currently open for applicants. The program provides a \$500 stipend to youth ages 14 – 18.</p> <p>https://www.portlandmaine.gov/560/Youth-Corps---Summer-Program</p>
Adjourn	3:25 PM	

Next Meeting: 5/24/23