

Coastal Operators Group (COG) Meeting

Minutes

November 16, 2022

3:00 – 4:00 PM

Mission Statement: The Coastal Operators Group (COG) is a committee of the four WIOA-required entities¹ that are in a position to ensure that the initial triage of job-seekers and service provision to employers are consistently conducted by knowledgeable staff. The goal of the COG is to strengthen integration efforts and communication channels between regional WIOA partner staff by increasing opportunities to share best practices and relevant challenges, and to improve the systems in which we work.

| Subject | Minutes | Actions Items |
|--|---|---|
| Welcome | In attendance: Amy Geren (OSO), Jillian Sample (CCWI), Jeff Martinelli (Workforce Solutions), Mike Robinson (Workforce Solutions), Paulette Bonneau (Adult Ed), David Watts (Adult Ed) | |
| Review 10/26 Meeting Minutes | No edits requested | |
| Updates from the group 1. Programmatic updates/initiatives that you want other partners to be aware of 2. Biggest challenge of the month | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paulette (Hub 8) – Hired a career navigator, plus a college and career navigator, housed at Sanford Adult Ed. Challenge: Biddeford has a position that turns over frequently because it doesn't offer benefits; will work on making it fulltime with benefits to encourage job security. • Jeff (WFS) – Opioid work is finishing strongly; staff working at bare minimum, grant is running out. All signs looking good for Opioid grant. Youth program had someone ready to hire but the person rescinded the offer, so they are back to the hiring process. A couple interviews are scheduled. There are two positions, which will work between York and Cumberland Counties, and between Cumberland County and the Midcoast region. Biggest challenge currently is limited staff. • Mike – Acknowledges staffing woes as a challenge. They have filled a position with an internal hire that was left open when healthcare advisor had moved on. Juggling what has been left behind. Referrals and training are going on for Grey/New Gloucester, so there are lots of referrals coming in. Someone is on leave through early December and they are | Amy will review Business Service Survey results with partners at next month's One-Stop quarterly meeting, and can share ideas with this group next month. |

¹ Title IB (Adult, Dislocated Worker, Youth program provider); Title II (Adult Education); Title III (Career Services); Title IV (Vocational Rehabilitation)

| | | |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| | <p>juggling that case load. Workforce Solutions still locates at the Portland Career Center on Wednesday. Would like more collaborations like this in other career centers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Value of COG meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jeff would like there to be a news blast with information between CORE partners. ○ Jillian suggested encouraging partners to share events among COG partner list. ○ Anything that could help drive referrals would be a value add for this group. ○ Mike suggested connecting with career navigators at different career centers would add value from the partners from this group. They are always looking for more referrals, and this could help, as with the Portland location collaboration. | |
| COG Goals Development | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CASAS Testing in collaboration w/ One-Stop Center 2. Streamline the referral system between One-Stop Center and system partners 3. Business Service Coordination | |
| Review Next Steps | <p>Review and develop draft goals at next meeting Bring up co-locating at career centers with center directors at next meeting Participate in Business Services survey review at One-Stop Quarterly Meeting next month</p> | |
| Adjourn: 3:30 PM | | |

Next Meeting: 12/21/22