

Coastal Operators Group (COG) Meeting

Minutes

March 26, 2025

Agenda Item	Notes	Next Steps
Welcome and Review 2/26/25 Meeting Minutes	Linda Greer (Adult Education, Hub 9); Barb Stoddard (NMRC/Adult Education, Hub 8); Rob Klaiber (MDOL BES, Portland & Springvale CareerCenters); Kim Desso (MDOL Vocational Rehabilitation); Amy Geren (OSO)	
1. Updates from the group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programmatic updates/initiatives • Biggest challenge of the month 	<p>Amy reminded the group that we want to send out an invite for partners to participate in the May 8th DOL training at 1:00 – 2:30 PM mentioned last month. A virtual meeting is an option if it is easier. Individuals can share what services they offer within the One-Stop Partner system. For registration – embedded link in the invite details.</p> <p>Talent on Tap – April 8th @ 9:00 – 11:30 AM: https://www.manpowermaine.com/2025/03/10/talent-on-tap/</p> <p>Rob: BES is in full hiring event mode. Next week on April 2nd at the Portland CareerCenter, April 8th in Westbrook at St. Hyacinth (senior focused), April 9th at American Legion in Westbrook. Biddeford hiring event with the Chamber on April 15th; April 16th clean & renewable event at the Portland CareerCenter, including job-seeker sessions. April 28th – working with Boys & Girls Club & Portland Public Library for a youth-focused event. Talking with Mary Falkner of <i>In Her Presence</i> to create a reoccurring networking event. Talk about bringing back an unemployed professionals group. New weekly service session has begun every Tuesday 1:00 – 4:00 PM at the Portland Recovery Community Center; had touched based about a year ago and this is now coming to fruition.</p> <p>Linda asked about expanding to the Sanford site. Needs to fall under ARPA capacity. Interest from Linda re: Adult Ed presence at clean & renewable energy career fair. Rob replied that Kate Points will be in attendance.</p> <p>Linda: Had an advisor attend a career fair and assisted students. Went to Empire Beauty School. Attended a recovery-friendly meeting.</p>	<p>Rob will send a registration link to Amy for distribution.</p> <p>Share sign-up link with contacts who might benefit from learning about the talented clients of Manpower.</p>

	<p>Kim: Nearly fully staffed. A new transition counselor to work with youth and hoping there will be a full team soon (~May). New adult counselor starting this week. Grateful for quality candidates to hire into these positions. College bus tour and other programs for clients coming soon. Working hard to get anyone in school now into work experiences as there is evidence that they are more successful in future employment when there has been school employment.</p> <p>Barb: ~300 people have come through since July. Roux Institute events recently re: international employment and rural health workforce program. Sending applicants interested in healthcare. Currently organizing an event for May 5th for licensing of internationally trained physicians. Massachusetts is a bit more progressive in this legislation.</p>	
<p>2. Work Source Maine Virtual Career Center Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next steps 	<p>Rob noted there are still some ongoing transfers between the MDOL site and new site. There is an increased opportunity to capture more detail of an event, but harder to see future events.</p> <p>Barb is looking forward to pathways getting up and running.</p>	<p>Amy to check with project management re: publications link on myworksourcemaine.gov</p>
<p>3. OSO Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOU update progress 	<p>Amy has been working with Jess Godfry, the OSO for the two other local workforce development boards, to update the MOUs. The updated CCWI MOU will be more streamlined regarding partner programming. Update requests have been sent to partner directors.</p>	
Adjourn		2:55 PM

April 23, 2025 @ 2:00PM