

REGIONAL UPDATE – FALL 2009

REGIONAL WORKFORCE BOARD OR ENTITY: Central Oregon Workforce Coordinating Council (R10)

LEAD STAFF PERSON: Andrew Spreadborough

CHAIR: Wendy Schechter VICE CHAIR: Robin Popp

RWIB / REGIONAL ENTITY PRIORITIES:

The Central Oregon region is amidst a restructuring from an RWIB to a locally designed “workforce coordinating council.” The Central Oregon Workforce Coordinating Council (WCC) implementation process was launched on July 1, 2009. The WCC has replaced the Central Oregon Workforce Investment Board (COWIB) which was disbanded June 30. Through June 30, 2010, the WCC Steering Team will be transitioning into the new council structure. Following are the transition year priorities:

- Continue to serve as the regional strategic workforce entity. Lead ongoing strategic initiatives, including the Career Readiness Certificate Collaboration and Implementation project, Green CRC development, and submittal of a project proposal for the DOL Green Jobs Training program – “Pathways Out of Poverty” grant program.
- Continue support of the Workforce Response Team and Business Resource Network.
- Develop a transition year Steering Team that will lead the transition to the Workforce Coordinating Council structure (which will fully take effect on July 1, 2010).
- Develop a framework for 1) identifying regional workforce issues, needs and gaps; 2) prioritizing the needs; and 3) selecting priority projects for WCC leadership.
- Developing an outreach and communications plan to engage stakeholders, private businesses and the community.
- Develop leadership structure, membership structure and bylaws for WCC.
- Maintain support of WorkSource partners group.
- Partner with other regions that are in the process of restructuring from the RWIB model.
- Achieve support and endorsement of the restructured WCC from the Oregon Workforce Alliance.

BRIEF REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES SINCE APRIL 1, 2009:

- Restructured from an RWIB to a Regional Workforce Council. Appointed a transition year Chair, Vice Chair, and Steering Team (members listed below).
- Developed transition year operating guidelines and work plan.
- Developed WCC strategic project framework, communications and outreach plan.
- Secured \$30,000 grant for the Career Readiness Certificate Collaboration and Implementation project and Green CRC project.
- Led a coalition of partners to develop a proposal for a green training program; submitted \$4 million proposal to the DOL for their Green Training “Pathways Out of Poverty” grant program.

PLANS FOR FUTURE ACTIVITIES:

- Implement strategic projects – Career Readiness Certificate and Green CRC.
- Outreach to engage stakeholders in the WCC – business, economic development partners, labor, local governments, business development partners, and others.
- Develop WCC leadership and membership structures, bylaws.

- Develop regional workforce analysis with priorities for addressing workforce needs and gaps.
- Implement the WCC on July 1, 2010.
- Complete a regional workforce report and analysis.
- Work with TOC regions to ensure that RWIB restructuring efforts result in maintaining a viable TOC-area wide system for engaging the regions.

MEMBERSHIP (describe your current membership, membership issues, concerns, or best practices):

The transition year Steering Team is composed of former RWIB members that voluntarily continued on the WCC. The WorkSource partner organizations are represented on the WCC Steering Team. During the transition year the Steering Team will define the WCC membership structure, and will begin outreach to solicit membership.

Members:

Wendy Schechter, Partnership to End Poverty (Chair)	Robin Popp, Goodwill Industries (Vice Chair)
Ray Hasart, High Desert ESD	Tom Moore, COIC
Laurel Werhane, OED	Steve Williamsen, UFCW Local 555
Gary Daniele, OVRS	Carol Moorehead, Central Oregon Community College
Ron Parsons, Department of Human Services	Darrel Wilson, Opportunity Foundation

MEETING SCHEDULE:

The WCC Steering Team meets monthly, 1st Wednesday of the month.

Please return your completed report to the attention of Brittany Kennedy (brittany@tocowa.org) no later than October 1. Thank you.