



## MINUTES

### Strategic Programs Committee Meeting

1:00 pm, Thursday, December 7, 2023

Via Microsoft Teams

**Members in Attendance:** Mindie Boynton, Robyn Hallet, Ryan Long, Shannon Shultz, Debbie Warga, and Craig Wehner.

**Members Absent:** Sarah Pantol and Jennifer Marks.

**Others in Attendance:** Lea Keesler, Forward Service Corporation; and Terri Green and Anthony Snyder, Fox Valley Workforce Development Board.

**Call to Order:** In the absence of the Chair, Ms. Green called the meeting to order at 1:02 pm.

**Approval of Agenda (*Action Item*):** A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Schultz, seconded by Ms. Warga; motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes from 11.2.2023, Strategic Programs Committee Meeting (*Action Item*):** Mr. Schultz made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Long; motion carried.

**Program Review:** Ms. Green shared the quarter one performance results of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth Programs. She followed up with the remaining grants recognizing two that will be closing in the fall. Preparations to close those grants has started with our subrecipient Forward Service Corporation. Ms. Keesler shared the outreach flyer which provides a menu of grant opportunities on a single document.

**Rapid Response:** Ms. Keesler provided an update on the most recent rapid response events noting positive attendance numbers, however; individuals at this time do not appear to be interested in WIOA enrollment or training opportunities.

**Outcome Evaluation:** Ms. Green reported that the quest to obtain data from the Department of Workforce development (DWD) to validate the committee's assumptions on various policy changes has come to an end. There are too many variables across multiple years making the data impossible to find. Outside of a small increase in Measurable Skills Gains (MSGs), there is no further evidence to support the generous support provided the past two years has made any substantive improvements. The Board and SPC will need to reconsider our current expenditure levels using other means.

**Virtual Reality:** WDA4 has the opportunity to bring virtual reality to its grant programming in support of career exploration and supplement existing programs such as Youth Work Experience. Ms. Green will set up an in-person session where committee members can experience the programming. FSC will also speak with staff in another workforce region which already uses the tool to learn best practices.

**County Workforce Profile:** Ms. Green led the discussion of possible committee work for the upcoming year. Suggestions ranged from collaborating with the Workforce Development Area 4 (WDA4) Business

Solutions Group and working with employers to extending our work to include employers in our grant programming. The committee agree to review the County Workforce Profiles for WDA4 and come prepared with ideas to move forward. Members of SPC will attend an upcoming Business Solutions Group meeting to observe.

**Job Center Updates:** Tabled due to lack of time.

**Next Meeting:** The Strategic Programs Committee will meet next at 1 pm on Thursday, January 4, 2024.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

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