

Workforce Partnership of Greater Rhode Island

Strategic Development Committee

October 16, 2009

Present: Paul Harden, Susan O'Donnell, Betty Pleacher, Bob Cooper, Wendy Kagen, Fred Ricci and Everett Amaral. Staff Present: Christine Grieco, Jen Buck and Gail DuPont.

Absent: Nancy Roderick, Joe Oakes, Allen Durand.

With a quorum present, Chair Paul Harden called the meeting to order at approximately 8:40 A.M. He asked everyone to review the minutes from the previous meeting on September 18, 2009.

VOTE: Bob Cooper motion and Betty Pleacher seconded to accept the minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.

WPRGI Policies:

Christine explained that the Feds, during their inspection in January, requested some of the policies for review before this committee be put into writing. She also commented the appropriate policies have been reviewed by the One-Stop managers to verify counselors can comply with the requirements.

„« Priority of Service for Veterans

This issuance proves priority of service guidelines for netWORKri managers and local service providers to follow in order to assure the provision of veterans; priority of service with regard to federal employment and training programs and services accessed through the local area; One-Stop Career Center System.

VOTE: Bob Cooper motioned to accept this policy. Fred Ricci seconded. The policy for Priority of Service for Veterans was approved.

„« Pre-requisites for Enrollment in WIA

The purpose of this policy is designed to ensure that netWORKri customers enrolled under Title I of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) are aware of the necessary prerequisites for occupational training, licensing and/or employment, and to ensure that WIA funded training program requirements are in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and do not discriminate in any way against potential participants.

VOTE: Bob Cooper motioned to accept this policy. Betty Pleacher seconded. The policy for Pre-requisites for Enrollment in WIA was approved.

„« Revised Supportive Services

Effective July 1, 2009, Adults, Dislocated Workers, and Youth qualified under Title I of WIA will be eligible for selective supportive

service payments when they are necessary to enable the client to participate in and successfully complete a WIA service or training activity. An eligible client may be reimbursed, conditioned upon the submittal of proper documentation, for a maximum of \$1,000.00 for qualified supportive services upon netWORKri approval. Any and all supportive payments are predicated on the availability of funding.

VOTE: Paul Harden motioned to accept this policy. Everett Amaral seconded. The Revised Supportive Services Policy was approved.

„« Youth Program Monitoring

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for monitoring and oversight of WIA services and activities and to ensure they are conducted in accordance with applicable Federal regulations. WIA youth programs are monitored to ensure goals are being met and participants are achieving necessary outcomes.

VOTE: Bob Cooper motioned to accept this policy. Betty Pleacher seconded. The Youth Program Monitoring Policy was approved.

„« Referring Youth to an ITA

The purpose of this policy is to set the policy regarding older youth eligibility and access to Individual Training Accounts (ITA) under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA) and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA).

VOTE: Betty Pleacher motion to accept this policy. Everett Amaral seconded. The Policy for Referring Youth to an ITA was approved.

„« Individual Training Account Proposal Exemption for ESL Customers.

The purpose is to establish policy regarding the waiver of the training proposal application for non-English speaking customers.

Bob Cooper suggested the language in the second to the last sentence be amended to replace the word exempted with assisted. Christine Grieco explained the language cannot be changed if it comes directly from the federal register. Chris will ask Diane Vendetti, who wrote the policy, if the language can be altered.

VOTE: Paul Harden motioned to accept the policy pending a language change if permitted. Betty Pleacher seconded. The policy for Individual Training Account Proposal Exemption for ESL Customers was provisionally approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Paul Harden informed the committee that CVS would be transitioned from an ITA to Customized Training beginning January 1, 2010. Both local Workforce Investment Boards will enter separately into contracts with CVS. CVS will contract directly with the training providers and pay up to 50% of the cost. The One-Stop Centers will refer customers to CVS who will screen the referrals. CVS anticipates

employing pharmacy techs, customer service and pharmacists for a total of 500 people at the call center by June 30, 2010.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to come before the committee.

VOTE: Betty Pleacher motioned to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:25 A.M. Everett Amaral seconded. The next meeting of the Strategic Development Committee is scheduled for November 20, 2009.

**Respectfully submitted,
Gail DuPont**