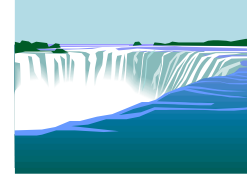


Niagara County Workforce Development Group
WEBEX Meeting



Wednesday, August 25, 2021 @ 9 a.m.
Meeting Minutes

| Item | Result |
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| Welcome/ Introductions | Dennis M., Bonnie R., Chandra W., Mike C., Karen K., JoeB2. |
| REPORTS Alphabet soup | |
| Career Center Chandra W | <p>The Career Center has extended its hours of operation; 830- Noon and 1-4 weekdays. Traffic is picking up somewhat. Many open interviews at the center.</p> <p>Today there is a Community Service Fair outdoors at the Trott center from 11-2 with 26 agencies expected to participate.</p> <p>An outdoor career fair is planned at Oppenheim Park for September 22, 11-2, hoping for 50 employers to attend</p> <p>The recent career fair in NT attracted 50 businesses and about 100 job seekers</p> |
| WDB Bonnie R | <p>New Youth Grants related to youths and employment (18-24) and gun violence prevention. Each of these grants is to serve individuals ages 18-24 residing in ZIP Codes heavily affected by gun violence. For Niagara County, this has been defined as the City of Niagara Falls. We also have the ability to use up to 25% of the grant to serve individuals in the City of Lockport.</p> <p>The first is a federal grant (\$120K), This program goes until 12/31/21. It is focused on employment for youth in these areas</p> <p>The second grant New York State Group Violence Prevention Initiative (NYSGVP) (\$250K) is focused on OJT with 90% wage reimbursement with an end date of July ,2022 and a potential for extension beyond. Waiting for budget approval to get started.</p> <p>Disaster Recovery National Dislocated Worker Grant The purpose this grant is to create temporary jobs for eligible individuals to assist with clean-up, recovery, and humanitarian efforts in areas impacted by disasters or emergency situations such as COVID 19. These projects also provide funds for employment and training services where needed, to help</p> |

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| | <p>impacted individuals return to full employment as quickly as possible. Would be retroactive to April 2020. Four businesses are interested</p> |
| <p>NCCED Mike C</p> | <p>The sad news here is the announcement that the OXY plant in Niagara Falls is closing. Reach out to CSX about this closing and other companies concerns about rail costs in the hope that a negotiated reduction in rail costs might cause OXY to reconsider. Bonnie and Don Jablonski are following up with OXY employees to assist with re-employment opportunities at other local companies. There are 128 workers affected by the closing.</p> <p>Retention: 71 companies have been contacted, resulting in 30 meetings. Bison Bags is expanding in the town of Lockport with a new building and anew jobs. Our August 18th virtual business workshop had 34 participants. It appears that the virtual format works well with a marked increase in attendance over the in-person events of the past. Our next workshop on October 20th is focuses on Import/Export issues. Our last genera; workshop will be held on December 18.</p> <p>Projects: \$1M project to convert the former Melloni Market in Youngstown into a brewery. See attached.</p> |
| <p>NCCC Karen K</p> | <p>NCCC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CBO's looking to use grant money for workforce training. For example, working with Community Missions on a hospitality program targeting formerly incarcerated individuals. Meeting with Boys and Girls Club on Friday. • Sterile Processing class full • Still room in Pharmacy Tech • Medical Billing has been moved back to allow for additional student enrollment. • P-Tech grant summer camp went well. Moog and Stavatti both presented to the students who attended. • Construction Education Meeting- Laborers Local 91, NCCC, NFSD, Ironworkers, IBEW, Cement Masons, and Carpenters unions all met to discuss career pathways from HS though apprenticeship to college. |
| <p>ACCES-VR Dennis M</p> | <p>The Inclusion Committee of the WDB will host a virtual panel discussion for business on November 3, from 830 to 10a.m. D.E.I. In Business: What, How and Why The panelists are: Bob Confer- Confer Plastics</p> |

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| | <p>Joel Feuerman- Home Depot Judy Villani- NFMCC HR Rep -Seneca Niagara-Casino Kim Naus- Center for Assistive Technology (CAT)</p> <p>NDEAM- National Disability Employment Awareness Month. Business awards. 24 nominations including an entrepreneur with a disability who will receive statewide recognition. We hope to return to an in person event this year which is slated for October 28, at the Grapevine on Dick Road. Bonnie is our keynote speaker.</p> <p>ACCES-VR is now able to meet in person with participants by appointment in our downtown Buffalo Office.</p> |
| <p>NYSDOL Joe B 2</p> | <p>Will be returning to Trott Center in September. Business reach-out reveals many job openings. DOL is working with employees at OXY Workforce development grant approvals are pending. CFA Grant</p> |
| <p>NEXT MEETING -, the 4th Wednesday</p> | <p>NEXT MEETING – WEBEX September 22, 9am</p> |
| <p>Remaining meetings in 2021</p> | <p>October 27 November 24 December 22</p> |