



# What's Happening News

January 19, 2016

## **WIOA (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act) by June O'Dell:**

- \*The By-Laws Taskforce met and has submitted draft WDB By-Laws, which meets the WIOA, for full WDB's approval.
- \*The Personnel Policy Taskforce has met and up-dated the WDB Staff Personnel Policy to meet new requirement. The draft Personnel Policy is attached to WDB packet email.
- \*The Youth Action Network will be meeting on February 1, 2016, 9:00 a.m. at the WDB office.
- \* Staff has begun working on the Southeast Regional Plan; deadline is June 1, 2016.
- \* Flood grant money is available, working with Commissioner on worksites per region.

## **No Selective Service:**

There are two attached letters, (#1 consent and #2 consent) to your WDB packet that is the self attested reason customer "failed" to register with Selective Services. Gretchen is asking you to read and be prepared to vote. Compliance needs board vote to approve Job Center enrollment past basic WIOA services. This vote does not affect core services through Job Center, however it will affect any paid services that participates would need or want. If you have questions about the letters, Gretchen Morse is always available.

## **Work Ready Communities:**

The Southeast Region will have three counties applications presented before the MO WDB (State board) for the declaration of Certified Work Ready Communities. We have Dunklin, Madison and Bollinger Counties submitted and Cape Girardeau and St. Francois County already certified. There are other counties in progress, which will only strength our Region.

There are many benefits to being a CWRC including funding for your school system for Workkeys access. The state just awarded Perry Co funding for Workkeys testing at Perryville Area Career Center. If you're county can use funding for Workkeys testing their high school students, please encourage them to apply at <https://www.ded.mo.gov/cwrcfunding>. The State Director Certified Work Ready Communities is Cheri Tune, phone 573-291-5686, email [cheri.tune@ded.mo.gov](mailto:cheri.tune@ded.mo.gov), and contact her if you have any questions.

## Breakfast Meetings:

We had our first breakfast meeting with Bollinger County Commissioners, WDB member and business. We discussed the county needs and share information about our programs. I am looking forward to meeting other counties. I would like to meet in each of the 13 counties with the three Commissioners, WDB members; a couple of businesses that you feel would be interested in using services from our programs. I will set up a breakfast meeting at a local restaurant around 7:00 a.m. so everyone can eat while I present and answer questions before everyone heads off to work. My goal is for these small groups to be comfortable to discuss what's going on in your county.

## Show-Me Heroes:

December 2015



*2015 Outstanding Service to Veterans Award winners from the Show-Me State pose for a group picture during their recent trip to Washington, D.C.*

Missouri Winners of the 2015 Outstanding Service to Veterans Award

Every year Job Center staff members who have provided exceptional services to our veteran population can be nominated to receive the Outstanding Service to Veterans Award. Winners receive an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. where they will participate in the U.S. Department of Labor "Salute to Veterans". The **2015 winners are Carol Drummond from the Cape Girardeau Job Center, Don Bequette from the Rolla Job Center, Pam Williams from the Cape Girardeau Job Center, and Justin Hirniak and Tom Christine from the Kirksville Job Center.**

## WDB Staff Information:

I have listed WDB staff's information for your convenience when needing to contact.

Phone: 573-334-0990

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## **WIOA Youth Program Up-dates-December 2015:**

### **Bollinger County - Cindy Baker**

Bollinger County Youth Program has 6 enrollments with 0 exits and 0 new enrollments.

Youth in Bollinger County continue to work on their Individual Employment Plans by setting both short-term and long-term goals for themselves. It is both enlightening and inspiring to see what these young people intend to do with their futures. The goals they are setting for themselves are wide-ranging, as far as career paths go, and that is a truly great thing. As we have begun Work Readiness Class, it is clear that this group has determination and drive to obtain the goals they have set for themselves. These are a persistent group of young people, determined to better themselves and not willing to settle for mediocre. We have one young lady that will begin CNA classes at Cape Career and Technology Center next month and we are very excited for her to take this next step on the way to reaching her career goal!

We are preparing to start new enrollments in the WIOA program and have 2 potential enrollments.

Total Enrolled: 6

Enrolled This Month: 0

Total Exited: 0

### **Cape County - Christina Gonzales**

Cape County has 12 youth enrolled in the WIOA Program at this time. One youth successfully exited the program and we are excited to have 1 new WIOA Youth Enrollment. Cape County youth have been working hard in their Work Readiness classes. They have been learning about career choices, colleges, different types of Resumes, interviewing skills and career pathways. On the 5<sup>th</sup> of December the Adult Education center will be reopening and 5 of our youth will be enrolling for High School Equivalency classes. Employment is slightly down with our youth due to the ending of seasonal jobs, but the youth of Cape County are showing initiative by visiting the Job Centers, looking at our Job board and filling out applications online. This is a great step toward self-sufficiency.

Our first workshop this month was "Creating a Resume" (2 youth). We looked at different templates for Resumes, discussed ways to build a Resume and made new Resumes. The second workshop was "The Interview" (1 youth). We discussed what an interview is used for, do's and don'ts of an interview and common interviewing questions. Overall December was a busy and productive month. We are anxiously anticipating working with the youth and new enrollments to set goals for their career paths for the upcoming year.

Total Enrolled: 12

Enrolled This Month: 1

Total Exited: 1

**Dunklin County - Sheila Fisher**

Dunklin County has 2 WIA youth and 1 new WIOA enrollment currently enrolled; 0 Exits and 1 youth completed work experience successfully. We also have 13 youth in Follow Up. We are working with students regarding interest in the new WIOA program. Our focus has been working with youth, employers and Vocational Rehabilitation with possible enrollments. Community events included the Christmas Chest and Christmas Cards. Workshops that were offered to youth this month: WRC Career Readiness.

Our goal for upcoming months is to outreach to the community to get information about our program. We will be working on recruiting WIOA enrollments.

Total Enrolled: 3

Enrolled This Month: 1

Total Exits: 0

**Iron County – Linda Bohannon**

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Linda Bohannon and I will be the Case Manager at the MERS Goodwill Office in Ironton. I will be working in Ironton on Wednesdays each week. I am a native of Ironton, having lived here most of my life, and am very familiar with the people of this community. I have previously worked as a Youth Case Manager for the WIA program in Iron County. I bring with me the current knowledge of my county and I am looking forward to meeting and forming relationships with my colleagues at MERS Goodwill and collaborating with area partners. Knowing that I can make a difference in the lives of young people by assisting the youth of Iron County to achieve their goals and reach their full potential with employment and education, I view this opportunity as an honor and a privilege.

Total Enrolled: 1

Enrolled This Month: 0

Total Exited: 1

Total in Follow-Up: 5

**Madison County – Sharrie Berowski**

Madison County currently has 4 active WIOA Youth, had 0 enrollments, 0 exit and 13 follow-up. There was 1 workshop offered for December. The Youth Advisory Meeting was offered during the month. The meeting was to discuss different ways to conduct a job search (internet, business home page, jobs.mo.gov, newspaper and networking).

AEL Classes continue to be offered in the Madison County office. Classes are available Monday-Thursday 8:30-12:30. Night classes are also available Tuesday-Thursday 5:00-8:00 pm. 1 youth continues to participate in adult education classes and attend Youth Career Readiness classes.

As the new Case Manager in the County, I had the opportunity to meet with a board member from the local Caring Council and obtain information on meeting dates. The January 12<sup>th</sup> meeting will allow the opportunity to introduce the WIOA Youth Program to the Community and generate partners to assist Youth in our county.

We are anticipating a great year in Madison County.

Total Enrolled: 4

Enrolled This Month: 0

Total Exited: 0

Total in Follow-up: 13

**Mississippi County - Tiffany Penrod**

Mississippi County Youth Program has 3 actively enrolled youth in the WIA/WIOA Youth Program. December was a great month for the youth in Mississippi County. We have hard working youth that are working to reach their goals.

We have had a lot of training on the new WIOA program this month and have a lot of interested youth needing services. One of our main focuses this month has been getting the Work Readiness Credential Modules done with each youth. We are still working on the process and hope to have those completed for the youth to gain more insight and skills in job searching and performance.

We are looking forward with great anticipation to begin the enrollments for the new WIOA program in Mississippi County. We believe there will be a positive impact on our county and will help youth obtain the work experience and credentials needed to be successful. We have been in contact with local youth, making sure that our services are a perfect fit for them to successfully reach their career goals.

Total Enrolled: 3

Enrolled This Month: 0

Total Exited: 0

### **New Madrid County – James Hollywood**

New Madrid County has 7 enrolled youth and 1 client exited the program this month. We had 1 client entering employment this month as she is preparing to take the HiSet exam and working towards obtaining her HSE while working part time.

Over the course of next month the youth program will be working with local and state agencies to promote and serve the youth in the county and help with generating enrollments. The goal for next month is to have enrolled 2 to 3 new WIOA youth and helping active client complete work readiness courses.

Two workshops are scheduled for Leadership Development. The first workshop scheduled is “What Do I want to be”. This workshop takes clients back to goals and dreams growing up and will lead into the second workshop “Following My Dreams”. Clients will be able to use technology, worksheets and assessments to help them visualize and pursue dreams.

New Madrid County is up for an exciting month in the WIOA youth program as we are in the process of gearing up for a successful year in Adult Education for the county.

Total Enrolled: 7

Enrolled This Month: 0

Total Exited: 1

### **Pemiscot County - James Hollywood**

Pemiscot County has 10 active youth with 2 clients exiting the month of December. There are 3 clients enrolled in AEL classes. These youth are preparing to take the HiSet exam early 2016. We have 1 client who entered the workforce this month. This client is looking forward to continue working part time and attending AEL classes to prepare for the HiSet exam.

This upcoming month Pemiscot County will be partnering with local and state agencies to help serve the community and WIOA youth program. Agencies such as probation and parole, caring councils, special school districts and vocational rehab have each been contacted in regards to setting up a referral system. Pemiscot County has in place a plan to enroll two new WIOA youth, with goals of helping the clients reach their short term and long term goals. The majority of the active clients would like to complete their HSE, find part/full time employment or enroll and start post-secondary

education. In the midst of helping clients with short/long term goals, the youth will also be working on completing work readiness courses.

Two workshops are scheduled for Leadership Development. The first workshop scheduled is “What Do I want to be”. This workshop takes clients back to goals and dreams growing up and will lead into the second workshop “Following My Dreams”. Clients will be able to use technology, worksheets and assessments to help them visualize and pursue their dreams. January 2016 appears to be one busy month for the youth in Pemiscot County.

Total Enrolled: 10

Enrolled This Month: 0

Total Exited: 2

### **Perry County – Cindy Baker**

Perry County Youth Program has 3 enrollments at this time. We had 0 exits this month, and no new enrollments.

We currently have 1 youth attending the Work Readiness Workshops.

Individual Employment Plans continue to be something we are working on in Perry County. The youth are starting to embrace the short-term and long-term goals. They have told me that it helps to see things in black and white and realize that their long-term goals will most likely be accomplished with the completion of several short-term goals. It has ‘clicked’ that Rome wasn’t built in a day, and that long-term goals won’t be achieved over night.

We continue to work on the scheduling obstacle for HSE classes for 2 of our youth who are working full-time. With the Holidays over and classes starting up again soon, we are determined to get HSE Certifications!

We are preparing for new enrollments in the WIOA program and have 1 potential enrollment. This young lady is excited about the prospect of being active in the WIOA program and the added assistance the program will give her to meet her Career Goals.

Total Enrolled: 3

Enrolled This Month: 0

Total Exited: 0

### **Scott County - Tiffany Penrod**

Scott County Youth Program has 11 actively enrolled youth in the WIA/WIOA Youth Program. December was a very successful month for the youth in Scott County with 1 new WIOA enrollment and more to follow. This new WIOA client has shown great motivation towards her goals and has achieved some personal goals along the way.

There are no youth scheduled to exit the program and we are working to re-engage youth with intention to return to HSE classes and receive their certification. We are excited to report that 1 youth has re-engaged with the Youth program, has attended orientation and will begin classes at the beginning of the year. Other youth are currently seeking employment or have gained part-time/full-time employment and will be working the HSE classes into their schedules.

We are looking forward with great anticipation to begin enrollments in the new WIOA program.

Scott County has had some great interest in the program, and we look forward to seeing youth reach their goals through our services.

Total Enrolled: 11

Enrolled This Month: 0

Total Exited: 1

**St. Francois County – Linda Bohannon**

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new Case Manager in St. Francois County for the WIOA Youth program. I will be working in the Park Hills office on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. My parents are from St. Francois County and I am very familiar with the area. I bring with me the current knowledge of this county and I am looking forward to meeting and forming relationships with my colleagues at MERS Goodwill and collaborating with area partners. Knowing that I can make a difference in the lives of young people by assisting the youth of St. Francois County to achieve their goals and reach their full potential with employment and education, I view this opportunity as an honor and a privilege.

Total Enrolled: 6

Enrolled This Month: 0

Total Exited: 0

Total in Follow-up: 7

**Ste. Genevieve – Stacy Snider**

December continues to be a work in progress for the change from WIA to WIOA with the Ste. Genevieve County Youth program. Case manager has been making contacts in the community and informing programs within the community about the changes. The WIOA Youth Program has 8 active clients and 10 clients in follow up. The Program has 6 clients in follow up working full time and 1 active youth working full time. There are 2 active youth who are working part time and 1 follow up youth who is working part time. In the month of December 2 youth completed Workplace Readiness in the month of December and 2 youth who are in the process of working on Workplace Readiness. We are proud to announce 1 youth in follow up has earned his CDL license. A youth who has returned to High School is doing well and will graduate in May! A follow up youth is attending college full time.

We continue to assist adults in the community with job applications, resumes, job searches, and Adult Education classes. We currently have 6 adults who are attending Adult Education classes. We have assisted 4 adults in the community with resumes and online job searches for the month of December.

Total Enrolled: 8

Enrolled This Month: 0

Total Exited: 1

Total in Follow-up: 10

**Stoddard County - Sheila Fisher**

Stoddard County has 2 WIA youth currently enrolled; 0 Exits. We have 4 youth in Follow Up status. We are working with students regarding interest in new WIAO program. Our focus has been working with youth, employers and Vocational Rehabilitation with possible enrollments. December community activities offered Christmas Chest and Christmas Cards.

Workshops that were offered to youth this month: WRC Career Readiness

Our goal for upcoming months is to outreach to community to get information about our program.

We will be working on recruiting WIOA enrollments.

Total Enrolled: 2

Enrolled This Month: 0  
Total Exited: 0  
Total in Follow-Up: 4

**“Our Vision: A High Quality Standard of Life for Our Region”**

**“Our Mission: To Promote a State of Economic Well-Being by Helping to Create a Skilled, Diverse, Motivated, and Adaptable Work Force”**

The Workforce Investment Board is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.