

ARRA and Fiscal Year 2010 Planning

Worcester State College – June 30, 2009

Meeting Notes

1. Telling the Story (non-federal reporting) – Jenn James

Discussion – how will the numbers and the dollars translate into a complete ARRA picture?

- Jenn discussed the issues regarding anticipated non-DOL reporting requirements (GAO, State Administration and Legislative requests and potential media requests).
 - ✓ Creating a picture of how the new infusion of resources is impacting the people in Massachusetts.
 - ✓ Looking to differentiate ARRA – specific expenditures, participation and outcomes from regular annual allocation.
 - ✓ *Handout #1* – ARRA Overview of Potential for Accountability Measures and Potential Data Collection Requirements”
 - ✓ *Handout #2* “ARRA Planning, the Impact of ARRA: Telling the Story” includes a short, sample list of potential questions that the workforce development system should be prepared to answer.
 - ✓ Sought input with regard to approaches for effectively capturing information/data for anticipated reporting requests (other than DOL).
- Some agreement that focusing on “telling the ARRA story” would best be targeted at showing increased services.
- Local ARRA enrollment polices will affect how local ARRA activity including expenditures and outcomes may be perceived/interpreted so consistency regarding explanation is essential.
- “Accountability Measures/Telling the Story” working group will be convened by Marilyn Boyle to address these issues. A sign-up sheet was circulated.

2. RES Enrollment Clarifications – Alice Sweeney

- *Handout #3: “How’d We Get There from Here?”* Alice reviewed the history of RES and the Profiling aspect.
- Reminder: RES is only for UI claimants – we do not expect 100% of CCS attendees to be enrolled.
- Revisited the level of 2,500 letters to be mailed weekly, discussing the possibility of revising the number to 2,000...consensus was to keep it at 2,500.
- *Handout #4: RES Customer Flow Chart*
- *Handout #5: RES Seating Capacity*
- *Handout #6A: ValleyWorks RES Program description* as an example of what is generally perceived to be a model worthy of consideration.
- *Handout #6B: ValleyWorks RES Desk Guide*
- *Handout #7: Updated DRAFT of a new, more flexible version of the Career Center Seminar (CCS) that allows for greater customization to specific areas/centers.* However, if CCS is presented at an off-site Rapid Response session...the “generic” version should be used.
- *Handout #8: Draft Sample – Job Readiness Inventory*

3. ARRA Planning Trends and Issues – Marilyn Boyle

- Brief discussion of ARRA stats, to date....the data is weak and uneven in certain areas, but one meeting participant appropriately noted that many local plans do not call for enrollment of summer youth in ARRA until they actually begin their summer employment experience after July 4th.
- DOL will be accompanying Commonwealth Corporation on the youth site visits.
- First ARRA report due to DOL on July 15th
 - ✓ **important reminder:** please ensure MOSES data is updated **a week prior (7/08)** in order for it to be included in the report.
- Interest raised in pulling together a broader “regional” or “Statewide” approach to responding to some of the recent ARRA “Green Jobs” grant solicitations. Jennifer James is working on this.
- Point was raised regarding the lack of ability to distinguish ARRA data to meet these reporting purposes due to the 60% “training threshold” requirement for ARRA WIA Title I funding.

4. FY10 Planning - Diane, Holly, Marilyn

- Brief discussion revisions to Charts 2 & 3. New versions were provided (handout)
- Performance Goals Question: I would like to post my plan for public review and comment – will there be any changes to the performance goals?
 - Response: no, the performance goals will stand for the FY10 Plan submission timeline. If adjustments were to be made to the state goals, any resulting changes in local goals would occur later in the fiscal year.
- No particular issues were raised with regard to the Narrative questions other than an entry for the Narrative Questions does not appear on the current Annual Plan checklist. Please submit the Narrative responses to the Narrative folder on the X drive.
- One-Stop allocations - TBD
- MOSES user fees – TBD
- State One-Stop funding – look for information during the week of July 6th
- WTF funds: plan for \$95,000 per area
- Navigator funds – amount per area is \$15,625

5. Miscellaneous

- Switches/routers that were purchased with Y2K money should be replaced at the expense of the career center – Bob Murphy is the point person and may be asked to attend a future Director’s Meeting.
- Eddie Bartkiewicz is reconvening the IT Coordinators group.
- EOLWD Request: information about the workforce development innovations using ARRA funds
 - In a stand-alone document, a compilation of your individual responses to ARRA Plan Narrative Question #3 (Innovative Services) were sent to the Executive Office.
 - It is important that we are able to provide updates in this regard, ongoing. We will explore a mechanism to capture.