

WIOA Youth Workgroup  
December 18, 2015  
Conference Call Notes

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**Members in Attendance:** *Tricia Lucier (Employment and Training Resources), Christine Abramowitz (Hampden REB, Larry Smith (Office of Workforce Development), Kamaria Moore (Department of Transitional Assistance), Ana West (N.E. Farmworkers Council), Jonathan Hasak (Metro North REB), Mary Giordano (ACLS), David Hoff (Institute for Community Inclusion), Krystal Love (Brockton Workforce Board), Sacha Stadhard (Department of Career Services)*

**Non-Members in Attendance:** *Jennifer Stewart, (Federation for Children with Special Needs), Amanda Green (Department of Elementary and Secondary Education)*

***Update on State Plan and State MOU***

*A draft of the Combined State plan was submitted to Governor Baker on November 13<sup>th</sup>.*

*Jennifer James and Sectary Walker provided a PPT. presentation to the Governor on the Combined State Plan. They outlined key changes from WIA to WIOA and potential impacts on the workforce boards and the Career Centers. The presentation was about 20 minutes and not designed to represent all of the work and content in the state plan. It covered areas of interest expressed by the governor and his team. The presentation went well and the message was to keep moving forward with WIOA implementation.*

*The State Plan describes the Strategic Vision and Goals for preparing an educated and skilled workforce.*

*The State Level MOU operationalizes the vision, goals and strategies – the core partners all agree to the vision, goals, and strategies. State partners will work with representatives in local areas to define and build out similar pathways appropriate to regions.*

***Update on the Career Center Standards and Board Certification Workgroup***

*Both workgroups have been developing standards and measures for the board certification and OSCC procurement. The Career Center Standards and Board Certification matrices were sent out to the Youth Workgroup for input.*

*The board standards will be used to certify Massachusetts' Workforce Boards every two years. New standards were developed based on WIOA requirements. One of the new standards as it relates to the youth program is the Youth Service Strategy and Youth Oversight. The boards will be asked to describe their YSS as well as Youth Oversight. The boards will be reviewed against the new standards in October 2016.*

*The One-Stop Career Center standards will be used by the local boards to certify the local OSCCs. OSCC's will go through a selection process every 4 years. WIOA requires that procurement process of OSCCs begin in July 2016 – this is a big change under WIOA.*

## ***OSY Subgroup Update***

*OSY characteristic under WIA were reflective of a younger population of youth served - approximately 56%. WIOA is encouraging that an older OSY population of youth receives services. As the age limited to serve OSY has increased to 24 the workforce system needs to offer training models and programs that will engage older OSY population while increasing credentialing.*

*DOL released a training employment guidance letter which suggests that the cost per participant under WIOA will increase due to the more intensive and costly services that are needed to serve OSY. This suggests that while approximately 2,000 youth were served under WIA, the workforce system may see a decrease in the number of youth served under WIOA due to the increased requirement to serve OSY.*

## **OSY Convening**

*One of the suggestions that has come out of the Youth group and the OSY Subgroup is to have a forum where local areas can come together to discuss their experience with WIOA implementation around serving OSY. The forum would also focus on how to integrate service strategies based on partner collaborations.*

*Sacha mentioned she reached out to Susan Quinones of the Mass Workforce Professionals Association to get her thoughts on an OSY convening. The MWPA has facilitated a Peer-to-Peer youth forum in the past and Susan suggested the possibility of a co-sponsored event with MWPA and the DCS.*

*The OSY forum is in a very a preliminary stage, however subject content and logistics for the convening will be explored further.*

## ***Youth Workgroup Timeline and Work Plan***

*Members of the Youth Workgroup reviewed the work plan and timeline. The work plan is meant to identify operational tasks for WIOA implementation. Although ambitious, members of the group were in agreement with the work plan and timeline. It was noted that the work plan and timeline is subject to revision.*

## ***Wrap Up, Next Meeting, Adjourn***

*Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm - location TBA*