IWIB Spring Quarterly Meeting

Date: March 14, 2024

Time: 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Chairpersons: Kristin Richards and Andrew Warrington

Location: Parkland Community College, 2400 W Bradley Ave, Champaign, IL 61821, Room D244

**Members Present (In-Person):** Christine Caves | Kara Demirjian Huss | Jennifer Foster | David Friedman | Alaina Harkness | Steve Lefaver | Ray Marchiori | Marlon McClinton | Rahnee Patrick | Michael Perry | Alex Purcell | Kristin Richards | Daniel Serota | Lizabeth Stuck | Andrew Warrington | Caroline Portlock | Nina Tangman | Whitney Thompson

**Members Present (Virtual):** Elba Aranda-Suh | Victor Dickson | Daniele Ferrari | Kevin Irvine | William Lo | Mboka Mwilambwe | Sandeep Nain | Chris Toppin | Jayne Vellinga

**Guests:** Brian Richard | Jennifer Foil | Kim Kuchenbrod | Becky Locker | Caroline Portlock | Carrie Thomas | Claire Sigelko | David Gallagher | Erika Werth | Gina Wells | Kate Lindgren | Kelly Lapetino | Lizabeth Stuck | Michael Guida | Stephanie Veck

**Support:** Aime’e Julian | Sarah Blalock | Jordan Johnson | Elizabeth Yotter | Coryn Barger | Antonio Gomez

| Time | Item | Presenter |
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| 1:00 PM | **Meeting Called to Order** | Co-Chairperson Warrington |
|  | Co-Cairperson Warrington called the IWIB Spring Quarterly Meeting to order. |  |
| 1:05 PM | **Roll Call of Members**  Roll was called. A quorum was determined to be present. | Aime’e Julian, Parliamentarian |
| 1:10 PM | **Approval of September Minutes**  Co-Chairperson Warrington called for a motion to approve the Minutes—the motion passed by unanimous consent. The meeting minutes stand approved as presented. | Co-Chairperson Warrington |
| 1:15 PM | **Welcome Comments and Remarks**  Co-Chairperson Kristin Richards congratulated Mr.Daniel Serota on his appointment to the Department of Labor Apprenticeship Committee. She then commended Ms. Alaina Harkness from Current for being awarded the Great Lakes ReNEW National Science Foundation (NSF) Grant.  Ms. Richards stated that the Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity (DCEO) is working on a state plan that will be released on July 1st.  Ms. Richards concluded by stating that the Governor’s budget, released on February 21st, included the creation of the position of Chief Workforce Officer.  Co-Chairperson Warrington stated that the Executive Committee is starting a strategic planning process as a board.   * There will be a full-day in-person strategic planning retreat in Chicago in June.   Co-Chair Dr. Warrington noted that the strategic planning process has begun and encouraged those present to participate in at least one IWIB committee. Dr. Warrington also stated the upcoming dates for the in-person Illinois Workforce Innovation Board (IWIB) Strategic Planning Retreat in Chicago.   * June 12th – Evening gathering for introductions. * June 13th – All-day in-person meeting at the 555 Monroe Building.   Co-Chair Dr. Warrington also noted that the Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) Summit will take place on April 24th & 25th in Collinsville, Illinois, and invited those present to attend. | Co-Chairpersons Kristin Richards and Andrew Warrington |
| 1:35 PM | **Local Representative Welcome**  Local representative Jim Ayers was welcomed and introduced by Co-Chairperson Dr. Andrew Warrington.   * Mr. Jim Ayers has been a member of the trustees for Parkland for the past 35 years, is the owner of Cim-Tek (a leader in manufacturing fuel pump filters), and is Chair of the Local Workforce Investment Board. |  |
| 1:40 PM | **Migrant Update**  Mr. Emerson Wells and Ms. Clare Sigelko provided an update on the migrant situation in Chicago.   * In the Fall of 2022, Governor Pritzker issued a disaster proclamation. Immediately following that, the state provided housing in Cook County and wraparound services while the city sheltered single adults. * In the Spring and Summer of 2023, people were moved from hotels into permanent housing. * In the Fall of 2023, a new data-informed process was launched to update the intake process. * There are currently 14k beds in Chicago migrant facilities and legacy shelters.   Mr. Wells noted that there are significant spikes in arrivals. In October, an average of 2k individuals were received weekly for those four weeks. Lower numbers of people are accepted in winter, reflecting weather and further border patrol enforcement.   * Demographic of arrivals: Of the 84% of people who seek shelter, 35% are single persons, 49% are families, and 16% are out-migrating or diverting within Illinois. * It is expected that if Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Venezuelans were expanded to March 1, 90% of shelter residents would be eligible for TPS or Employment Authorization Document (EAD).   Department of Human Services (DHS) Services provided include:   * Diversion and out-migration: DHS has partnered with New Life Centers and Catholic charities providing out-migration and diversion services.   + - * A call is made to ensure that there is an individual to receive incoming migrants. They are not necessarily sent to a shelter but are connected with friends and family if possible.       * Over 700 individuals have connected with their families since November 2023.       * Since August 2022, over 4,900 people have been diverted or outmigrated through these efforts. * Case management, led by the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, provides immigrant and refugee rights and has served over 17k individuals. * Highlighting mental health: Screenings on trauma-informed care and emotional wellness are provided. * Other services provided by Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) partners include public benefits, school enrollment, and urgent care.   Mr. Wells noted that over 10k individuals have been re-settled.  Ms. Clare Sigelko noted that while legal remedies are available, they are limited. The most considerable remedies are:   * Temporary protected status is only for Venezuelans until July 21, 2024. * Parole-based work authorization: Clinics are being run Tuesday-Friday for 150 people each day. These clinics aim to connect people with workforce authorization as quickly as possible. Additionally, DCEO and the Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership help people get job training. Nearly 44k individuals have been assisted in submitting apps to United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), allowing approvals to be obtained within one week instead of the average 30-day wait. One thousand nine hundred shelter residents have received work permits. 1800 have received social security cards.   Ms. Sigelko noted that a Hiring Fair for regional residents and new arrivals will be hosted at Malcolm X on March 19, 2024. Questions can be directed to Emerson Wells and Clare Sigelko.  Mr. Julio Rodriguez commended DHS, IDES, and the Tent Partnership for Refugees for providing information a session to employers. Mr. Rodriguez stated that the feedback was positive.  Ms. Jennifer Foster noted that the Illinois Community College Board’s (ICCB) adult education system has done significant work with the migrant population and would like to engage with Illinois educational institutions to ensure an academic network. | Emerson Wells and Clare Sigelko |
| 1:50 PM | **Apprenticeship Strategic Marketing Plan**  Ms. Kara Demirjian-Huss reviewed the Apprenticeship Strategic Marketing Plan.  Goals Overview: Goals include developing a data-driven approach, creating growth and expansion of the apprenticeship program, increasing awareness and education, and building more vital network partners & outreach plans.  Ms. Damirjian-Huss recommended that:   * A brand guide and tool kit should be developed. * Every business with an apprentice should have the Apprenticeship IL logo on their website. * Tailored messaging should be created. * A strong communication plan should be developed. * A strong relationship should be developed with partners. * The 14k followers on LinkedIn should be capitalized more by developing a content strategy. * A paid strategy for a targeted approach should be utilized. * Regarding digital and print collateral, we should ensure that all materials are resource tools for those promoting what we are doing. * In terms of earned media and events, ensure that we participate. | Kara Demirjian-Huss |
| 2:00 PM | **IWIB Strategic Plan**  ***Overview and Expectations & WIOA State Plan’s Impact on the IWIB Strategic Plan***  Dr. Aime’e Julian and Ms. Stephanie Veck began by reviewing the timeline of the strategic planning process   * March IWIB- Begin a dialogue about current status. * June IWIB Retreat- Gaining insights and input. This will be an in-person event. * September IWIB Meeting- A draft of the IWIB Strategic Plan will be completed for review. * December IWIB Meeting- A completed plan will be presented for approval.   Dr. Julian presented expectations for the IWIB members to read, review, and respond to homework before the June Retreat. Members are also likely to engage and provide feedback. The goal is synergy.  Ms. Veck presented the board with multiple questions concerning the event following the Apprenticeship Illinois Reception on June 12, 2024. Those present will gather at 5:30; dinner and engagement activities will begin at 6:00 PM.  Questions asked:   1. What is the one thing that you would most like to get out of the evening event on 6/12/24?    * + Mr. Marlon McClinton stated that considering feedback from the governor’s office regarding expectations, what would be most meaningful is for the IWIB to make expectations clear.      + Ms. Demirjian-Huss stated that she would like to hear more about the general organization chart of the IWIB.      + Co-Chairperson Warrington stated that he would like to see speed-dating in addition to the other suggestions.      + Ms. Jane Flanagan stated that it is important to align around one mission. 2. Rate (1-4) Actively participating in the learn and explore sessions on June 13 will help me better be prepared to serve on this board and in helping to create the IWIB strategy plan.    * + Average answers indicated that most board members agree and would like to support preparation efforts to ensure that the IWIB gets the most out of their time at the retreat. 3. I am most looking forward to exploring and learning…    * + Ms. Jennifer Foster stated that she looks forward to exploring how workforce and education can better align.      + Mr. Steve Lefaver would like to explore how the IWIB can connect its work to construction and other trades.   Ms. Stephanie Veck shared the Goals of the WIOA State Plan with the board.   1. Illinois’ Workforce Development System is an example of excellence in its collaboration and customer service approach. 2. Illinois’ Workforce Development System will enhance employers' abilities to hire and retain skilled workers that meet their emerging needs. 3. Illinois’ Workforce Development System will use customer-centered and data-informed practices to improve the quality of the jobseeker experience in pursuing fulfilling career pathways in a manner that is equitable and accessible. 4. Illinois’ Workforce Development System will support the state’s efforts to cultivate next-generation technologies, such as clean energy, biotech, and quantum computing.   Ms. Veck also noted the IWIB’s Place in the WIOA State Plan.   * Monitor alignment with Vision * Advise-contribute through recommendations, be a sounding board, representing the diversity of geographies, industries, and organization types. * Lead strategy development and guide the system based on the expertise and representation of its members.   The IWIB reviewed all of the goals, asked members to look at these goals, and had a conversation about each one of these to see what the role of the IWIB is. | Aime’e Julian and Stephanie Veck |
| 2:30 PM | **Public Comment**  Co-Chairperson Warrington called for public comment.  Mr. Tony Fuhrmann reiterated for the IWIB that the workforce is a local issue and that there are two rules at the one-stop in Wood River.   1. Even if the answer is “no” there should be an effort to connect individuals with someone who can assist them. 2. The term “always on” means that there are as many individuals assisted in everyday places as there are in the office.   Mr. Fuhrmann also stated that during the WIOA Summit on April 23rd, there will be an opportunity to tour 3 different businesses in Madison County: (1) Gateway Bronco, (2) West Star Aviation, which just started their in-house apprenticeship academy refurbishing private jets, and (3) Worldwide Technologies, one of the largest minority-owned businesses in the country.   * Option to go to dinner that evening at Old Harold.   Dr. Lisa Bly-Jones noted that Chicago Jobs Council (CJC) has created its 2024 Illinois Scales for Good Job Legislative Agendas. Dr. Bly-Jones also stated that in terms of alignment, we should equitably consider the workforce component.  Ms. Whitney Thompson stated that she wanted to thank several members of the IWIB Committee. Because of their input, her team closed out a four-year grant meeting and exceeded expectations. Ms. Thompson also shared information on their 10 Million Dollar Ramp-Up Electric Vehicle Community College Initiative. Through this initiative, they will be able to engage 350 employers. | Stephanie Veck and Aime’e Julian |
| 2:55 PM | **Adjournment**  Co-Chairperson Warrington called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kara Damirjian Huss moved that the meeting be adjourned. Ray Marchiori seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM. | Co-Chairperson Warrington |

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, June 13, 2024, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM