CPTP Opportunity youth WORKgroup meeting

Date: June 27, 2024

Time: 10:00-11:00 am

**Location:** Zoom

**Chairs:** Kraig Kistinger and Marci Johnson

Members: Brittany Boston, Tabatha Cobb, Susette Crenshaw, Dean Dittmar, Eric Hill, Jon Furr, Antoinette Golden, Dena Giacometti,Erik Grebner, Shannon Hampton, LaDonna Henson, Karrie Rueter, Lee Reese, Mike Massie, Nina Tangman, Whitney Thompson, and Jasmine Williams

**Workgroup Support:** Antonio Gomez and Elizabeth Yotter

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| Time | Item | Presenter |
| 10:00 am | **Welcome, Agenda, and Roll Call**  Antonio Gomez opened the meeting with introductions.  Turned the floor to Kraig Kistinger who gave a brief overview of the upcoming meetings surrounding impactful conversations, specifically looking to address transportation barriers across the state.  Antonio Gomez conducted roll call. Antonio reiterated OMA expectations, stating quorum for OY is 9 members. Quorum was had today. Antonio stated, moving forward there will be time for approval of previous meeting minutes according to OMA expectations. No minutes needed to be approved today.  Kraig Kistinger encouragement of attending the meetings to stay informed and read over the minutes if unable to attend to stay informed.  Antonio noted the minutes will be linked to Illinois workNet.  Antonio informed individuals about letting participants and speakers know time limit to stay on task with the agenda. Antonio will raise his hand at 1 (one) minute to indicate speaking time is nearing the end.  Kraig Kistinger introduced Elizabeth (Beth) Gonzalez, the guest speaker for today’s meeting. | Kraig Kistinger  Antonio Gomez |
| 10:10 am | **Pace Suburban Bus: Program Overview**   * Public transit agency within the Northeast portion of IL covering 3,677 square miles * Partnered with LWIA 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 10 * Fixed bus routes are available to students * Vanpool – three or more people can commute to work with a 24/7 schedule, fuel card, insurance, roadside service, and emergency budget * Vanpool expects primary driver to keep the van and is responsible for maintenance. The van can be used for 300 miles of personal use. * Those using vanpool receive a monthly bill, which differs based on part-time vs full-time in office cost * Feeder Vanpool – a van is dropped off at an outlying location to do the last mile connection: “last mile connection between a station and work or home” * Vango – located at a public transit location that individuals can sign up to use * ADA Paratransit * Dial-A-Ride   Beth reported identifying individuals willing to be drivers is an ongoing barrier for the program(s).  Beth emphasized that Vanpool is solely for work; however, Rideshare can include schools and school-aged individuals.  Non-for-profits and companies are eligible to receive a van from Pace. Employers cannot charge more than a bus pass cost. | Elizabeth (Beth) Gonzalez |
| 10:27 am | **Pace Suburban Bus: Discussion**  Kraig Kistinger opened the floor for questions.  Kraig began the conversation discussing the barriers and empty areas where systems like Pace can help address transportation difficulties for targeted populations such as out of school youth.    Kraig asked Beth if she has heard of other organizations providing similar programs to the youth of varying regions in IL.  Beth responded by identifying that the Chicago area has more opportunities for youth; however, other areas of the state will utilize Dial-A-Ride. Beth noted the rental car company, Enterprise, has a vanpool option outside of the Chicago region.    Mark Lohman asked if all felony convictions are absolute barriers, even if unrelated to driving?  Beth reported needing to continue that conversation with administrators of the programs she works with to address justice impacted individuals having compounding barriers which includes transportation.  Erik Grebner of Homework Hangout in Decatur IL, asked does pace specifically offer services to non-profits outside of service areas and do they know of other companies available to utilize?  Beth reported the services discussed today are in a particular region due to taxing requirements. She encouraged others to speak with their local transportation services to form partnerships and their own programs.  Beth will identify additional statewide programs that may provide similar programs and send those to the OY Workgroup members.  Kraig Kistinger asked for additional questions.  Kraig asked if there are discount options for youth under 23.  Beth reported passes for college students and high school students being available. These passes utilize fixed bus routes, however. Beth emphasized with any youth she works with to identify public transportation prior to making decisions for things like work; if they cannot identify a means of transportation to look elsewhere.  Nina Tangman asked if there are other options for career training from educational institutions.  Beth reported if the institution is a government body ie. public college, they are getting a municipal vehicle that can also be open for other things outside of work-related expectations.  No additional questions. | All |
| 10:39 am | Antonio Gomez discussed the:  Illinois Career Pathways Resource Guide   * Review Progress Made By Other Workgroups * Justice-Impacted Workgroup Tab * Disability Workgroup Tab   Antonio informed participants that the pilot of the guide will hopefully be viewable by late summer or early fall due to ongoing tabs being added by each CPTP workgroup.  Antonio noted for the Opportunity Youth Workgroup should send additional transportation resources and the workgroup will need to review submitted resources as well as brainstorm resources to add.  Following the publication of the site, ongoing outreach will be encouraged to send this information to CBOs for networking in participant’s local areas.  Antonio asked Beth how the Pace transportation information should be linked in the Resource Guide.  Beth reinforced needing to note that Pace services are specific to the Northeast portion of Illinois.  Kraig pointed out, due to the variety of services provided by Pace, even though it is specific to a region of the state, each service could be linked within varying tabs in the Resource Guide.  Beth followed up Kraig’s point by linking the services in the meeting chat. Beth reported on an iDot grant for anyone across the state for a short-term van use which may be rented for up to a month. Beth will add Kraig Kistinger to the list when she sees this come up for application.  Beth also identified the Illinois Public Transit Association (IPTA) as a resource. Beth stated there may be a map and will send that along as follow up to this meeting.  Antonio asked the group for contact information for Uber Business as that is included in the Resource Guide, yet he is still waiting for a contact person to speak at a future meeting.  Kraig Kistinger asked if Dena Giacometti would like to speak on the RIDES Mass Transit she had provided for the Resource Guide.  Dena spoke on receiving information from Illinois Eastern Community College’s partnership with their rides mass transit system that is similar in concept to Pace as Beth described. Dena wondered if this would benefit the OY Workgroup.   * Mike Massie reported Henry County has public transportation. * Elizabeth Yotter noted Decatur IL and Richland Community College have a partnership to provide students with reduced or free public transportation with student ID cards.   Ongoing conversation for transportation resources will continue.  Laura Monteagudo will speak in the July Meeting for OY | Antonio Gomez |
| 10:55 am | Public Comment  Antonio opened the floor to public comment  No public comments were had. | All |
| 10:59 am | Closing and Next Steps   * CPTP Quarterly Meeting 8/22/2024 from 12:30-2:30 pm at Richland Community College in Decatur * Opportunity Youth Meeting 7/25/2024 from 10:00-11:00 am   Lee Reese motioned to adjourn the meeting.  Mike Massie second the motion.  All favored. | Kraig Kistinger |