Minutes

GSETA Operations Committee

09/05/2023

# Call to Order – Fran Kuhn

1. Fran Kuhn called the meeting to order at 10:01 am.
2. Approval of minutes: Monica Mulligan motion to approve, Howard Weiss Second.

# DFD Updates- Jennifer Gietka, Alecia Eubanks, Melissa Moody

1. Ms. Eubanks discussed incentives – we can allow incentives, however, there is mixed information regarding the success of incentives. Counties should submit a proposal to DOL (otws@dol.nj.gov) regarding their proposed incentives. The proposal will be discussed between DOL and DHS.
2. Sherie stated that the incentives will not be approved for training. The focus has shifted to employment. DOL is seeking to incentivize employment not training.
3. Davidene asked for best practices – laptop loaner program; apprenticeship programs; internship programs; etc.
4. Linda – Bergen has some creative ideas surrounding employment. She is looking for guidelines from DOL/DFD. What can she do or not do? DFD will put something together regarding programmatic guidelines.
5. Kevin – The employment numbers are horrible. There needs to be a policy change. Transitional employment would be great however, the transitional jobs income is counted towards income for the participant. Alecia stated that there have been discussions regarding disregard. It will require a regs change.
6. Howard – are other states using incentives for training? Yes, for pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs.
7. Fran – planned transition to gainful sustained employment needs to be considered. Fran would like a playbook of all of the resources needed to transition into gainful employment. Job readiness requires the planned transition for a safety net. Work Based Learning needs to be a focus for everyone.
8. Virgen – would you be open to expanding the support needs? You will need to submit a proposal regarding what is allowable or not allowable.
9. Lynda – working with PSEG’s women’s leadership alliance to pilot a program.
10. Alecia – core vs. non-core hours follow up. If you have someone best served in a program, then keep them in the program. Do what is best for the individual.
11. Alecia – the AOSOS issue. The state will start sharing a report regarding outcomes on a quarterly basis.
12. Lynda – make success story videos.
13. Larry – is it appropriate to offer incentives to the employer? Submit the proposal to Sherie’s staff.
14. WOTC for employers.
15. Internships vs. OJT’s - Sherie prefers Internships over OJT’s.
16. LiLA grant incentives – that will affect benefits for TANF clients. LiLA is really for the working poor and not TANF clients.
17. Melissa – incentivizing employers. This is your journey and how can I help you? The case management piece is very helpful for employers to know that they have someone to contact regarding the client.

# One Stop Responsibility for Regional Grants

1. Briana Menjivar – JOBS (Job Opportunity for Building Success) program: The grantee will be determining eligibility. They will send the information to the Job Center for data entry. Regional grants. 2 grants in the North, 1 grant in the Central, and 2 in the South. Adult eligible requirement.
2. David Ortiz – LiLA grants in each region. Up to $9600 for underemployed individuals to address support needs. Grantees will be responsible for collecting eligibility documentation. Must be a resident of NJ, over the age of 18, income consistent with ALICE guidelines, unemployed for 26 weeks.
3. Virgen – respectfully requests notification from NJDOL regarding guidelines of expectations for the Job Center responsibilities. Also please let us know who the contact person in NJDOL.
4. Sabrina – stated that Adult is only 18 and eligible to work in the US as well as Selective Service registration for males.
5. SNAP Steps – not awarded yet. Looking for 6 grantees throughout the state. Up to $1,000,000.00.
6. Will be looking at the categories for WFNJ, SNAP and GA regarding data entry issues.

# Professional Development Institute – Samantha

1. The Institute is looking for ideas for next year through the survey sent out previously.
2. Conference at the Hard Rock Hotel October 18 and 19.

# Open Discussion – Case Management Systems

1. Union County uses Geographic Solutions (UCWorks). However, they still have to enter into AOSOS which causes double data entry. Uses for Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth clients.
2. The State is still working on access to AOSOS for vendors.
3. Greater Raritan – AOSOS and an internal case management system.
4. Passaic – uses Launchpad.

# Adjourn & Next Meeting

* Meeting Adjourned at 11:43 AM. Next Meeting: The next meeting date is October 2, 2023.