

**East County One Stop Board Meeting**  
**Wednesday, April 18 – 9 AM to 11:30 AM**  
**OVRs – 305 102<sup>nd</sup> St. Suite 200**

**Meeting Notes**

**Board Members attending:** Lani Staab – Goodwill Industries, Debbie Foote – DHS, Robert Costello – OVRs, Doug Cooper – Mercy Corps, Anne O’Malley – 3 Communications, Marin Peterson – Unlimited Choices, JoAnn Espinosa – Springdale Job Corps, Tosca Rawls – Human Solutions, Laura Bock – JDN, Connie Foster - OVRs

**Others present:** Kedma Ough and Joan Pasco – ECOS Project Directors

**Announcements:**

**Worksystems Inc.:** wsi has posted a RFP to secure contracted services for “**Coordination and Management of Worksource Portland Metro Training Fund**”. Deadline to apply is May 3<sup>rd</sup>. The RFP is posted on their website. This is a \$1 million contract for one year.

**Worksource Oregon** is hosting an Open House on Friday April 20. The event will begin with a Gresham Chamber **Connect to Success** Networking meeting from 7:30 to 9:30, followed by a program and open house from 10 to 11:30.

**DHS** – Legislation is pending to provide transitional support to persons during their first year of employment. If approved, the Post-TANF funds will provide up to \$150 a month to offset the loss of eligibility for support programs. Food stamp policy has also been modified to allow some support for the first six months of employment.

**Unlimited Choices:** Marin Peterson is back with the ECOS team!! She is now representing Unlimited Choices, a non-profit organization that provides assistance to low-income persons needing to remodel or add ADA assistance structures such as wheel chair access, ramps, etc. They can offer free assistance to qualified folks that live in Multnomah County, the cities of Gresham, Beaverton, Portland and Vancouver. Programs include Mend-A-Home, Adapt-A-Home, Add-A-Bar and contracts for service. Call them at 503.234.6167 for more information on who can qualify for these services.

**Human Solutions:** Their Helping Hands Store is still open on 28<sup>th</sup> and Powell. They do need to find a new site for the store after their current lease expires as the building will be sold. Human Solutions has purchased a site at 181<sup>st</sup> and Couch where their new Multi-Service Center will be built.

**Pine Point Apartments:** They are developing a community center with a computer lab and are seeking volunteers who will help residents learn computer skills. If you know of anyone, call Anne O’Malley at 503.317.0403

**The Board approved the minutes from March 28th board meeting**

**Old Business:**

**Action Team reports:**

**1. Job Retention Team: Team members:** Connie Foster and Robert Costello – OVRs, Tosca Rawls and Nell Whitman – Human Solutions, JoAnn Espinosa – Springdale Job Corps, Laura

Bock – JDN, Lani Staab – Goodwill Industries.

Robert Costello reported that they are exploring other training models such as the model used by Dress for Success. Initial recommendations will be to provide training to a minimum of 10 persons per session; have child care available on site; provide food for participants and children; conduct the workshops in the early evening; charge \$175 per person to cover the costs of the instructor, child care and food; and research grant funding opportunities to support these on an on-going basis.

Referrals for the training will come from ECOS partner agencies and others with clients needing post-employment, job retention skills. Workshops will be conducted in a seven-session format. An on-going support group will be available for participants after completion of the series. It is hoped that agencies will be able to pay the enrollment fees until grant funds are secured. It will be easier to get grant funding for a project that is in place and has a track record with proven success.

**2. Enterprise Development Team: Team members:** Doug Cooper, Marian George, Anne O'Malley, Sherry Burbach, and Joan Pasco. Anne O'Malley will be the lead for this team.

The team is exploring 5 different models of enterprise that will employ ex-felons. They include the Pioneer Human Service model –a qualified re-hab approach similar to Portland Habilitation Center; outright purchase of a business that employs ex-offenders such as SkillPoint; self-employment/entrepreneurial options in line with what Mercy Corps NW has in place; contracting with an existing employer to hire a contracted number from this population; or a hybrid of these options.

The team will be meeting with Skillpoint and Central City Concern to explore how their current efforts may be incorporated into the long range strategy which is to create better employment options for persons with a criminal background.

**3. Senior services/cadre of volunteers established:** Team Members: Karen Hubbard, Marian George, Caroline Morrison, Joan Pasco.

**MC Task Force on Vital Aging.** Multnomah County has hired Jay Bloom to coordinate a task force to address both employment and civic engagement for seniors. They will be addressing the same issues we discussed at the January retreat. We have made a request to have ECOS representatives sit on these two working committees. At this point in time, it did not make sense to the team to have two parallel initiatives working on the same issues.

#### **Other Project reports**

**Rockwood Weed and Seed** –Natalie Mitchell – This project sunsets in the fall. Several splinter groups are developing to continue the efforts in place.

**SSP – Senior Safety Pin Project** – Marian and Karen – 60 seniors are currently in the program – 12 more than expected. The project is going very well. Both seniors and nursing students are pleased and the results have been position.

**SCSEP** – collaboration with Easter Seals – No project report at this meeting.

**MIPO – Inventor project** –Kedma Ough. MIPO is conducting a major event this weekend. The **Oregon Inventor’s Showcase** will be held Saturday from 10 to 3 at PSU – Smith Ballroom. The event will receive media coverage from KGW TV, Oregon Business Magazine and other publications. Several local inventors will be showcased, workshops will be held. This is free and open to the public. The US Patent Office will co-host a regional inventor training with MIPO on November 9-10. The Vancouver Inventors group is now working with MIPO. ECOS has been invited to make application for a Murdock Charitable Trust grant to support expansion of this project.

**DBA – Differently-Abled Business Association** –Kedma Ough– The DBA Advisory Council meeting is this Thursday. Training continues on a weekly basis. The project has secured the services of a SCSEP volunteer through Easter Seals. Avita may seek a new office location due to ADA issues with restroom access in their current building. Kedma and Joan are looking into a couple of options. Their lease expires in November.

**OECDD MVIP – Market Vendor Incubator Project** – Joan Pasco: the **Maximizing Sales in a Public Market** workshops are scheduled for April, May and June in Grants Pass, Corvallis, Albany, Portland, Forest Grove, and at the Hollywood Farmer’s Market, Portland Saturday Market and Hacienda CDC. These are customized workshops designed specifically for each market.

The last of three 10 workshop series begins on May 15 and continues on Tuesdays and Thursdays through June 14<sup>th</sup>. These workshops are designed to help people grow a business that primarily sells in public markets. They offer good information for anyone interested in learning more about selling in a retail environment. For more information contact Joan at 503.6641.3981. Registration information is posted on the ECOS web page: [www.eastcountyonestop.org](http://www.eastcountyonestop.org)

Both projects have received high praise from participants. OECDD funding lasts through the end of June 2007. The next round of OECDD Targeted Service Provider applications begins in June. ECOS should consider making application for these funds for the 2007-2009 project term. Either MIPO or DBA would be a good candidate for funding. These funds are dedicated to the support of small businesses.

**JDN Jobs Network** – Laura Bock – The JDN has initiated a drive for subscriptions from people who rely on this service for job leads and information. Funds generated will support operational expense. The JDN will be featured in the next issue of the Oregon Business Leadership Network newsletter. Laura has been working with Job Corps and their job search classes. A JDN North group has been launched – North Portland and Vancouver. 32 new members have come on board in this region. Social service entities that provide support for job seekers will be featured on the JDN website. Contact Laura to have a link added to your agency. Remember to use the Yahoo Good Search engine search to support the JDN. You can add this link to your own computer and each search hit generates one cent for the JDN. A link to this search engine is on both the JDN and ECOS web pages. [www.jobdevelopers.net](http://www.jobdevelopers.net)

**Budget/finance report** – The board approved the finance report as presented. 2007 ECOS partner contributions are now being solicited –your support is needed to cover the 501 c3 obligations for our organization. There are certain expenses that cannot be covered from grant funded projects. Thank you all for your support with this.

**Partnership contributions received to date – THANK YOU!!**

- **Springdale Job Corps**
- **Mercy Corps**
- **Goodwill Industries**
- **Portland Habilitation Center**
- **OVRs**

**Grant application update:**

Murdock Charitable Trust – MIPO – being written – waiting until the media coverage from the April 21 event can be included. Support letters are needed.

Key Bank – MIPO – being written

US Bank Foundation – DBA – submitted

MMT – MIPO support – has been submitted

RWJ – SSP and United Way – under consideration with UW

**New Business: THE BOARD HAS CHOSEN A NEW DATE FOR ITS MEETINGS. WE WILL HOLD ECOS BOARD MEETINGS ON THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH. THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON JUNE 7<sup>TH</sup>, 9 TO 11 AM. LOCATION TO BE DETERMINED.**

**Finance and Management Team: THIS TEAM WILL MEET ON THE 4<sup>TH</sup> TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH – ONE WEEK PRIOR TO THE BOARD MEETING.**