

ECOS Board Meeting
Thursday, September 6, 2007 9 AM to 11:00 AM
Springdale Job Corps: 31224 E. Columbia River Highway

MEETING NOTES

Board Members Present: Robert Castello – OVRS, JoAnn Espinosa – Springdale Job Corps, Marina Rikker – Portland Habilitation Center, Aaron Rivera – Human Solutions, Catherine Todd – Easter Seals Oregon, Laura Bock – Job Developer’s Network. Project managers: Joan Pasco (Kedma out-of-town, Marian – ill)

(For those not able to attend – you missed a culinary delight!! Springdale students prepared croissants, Danish pastries, muffins, and a host of other baked goods for us.)

Partner announcements and news:

OVRS: The agency continues to develop and enhance community partnerships; they have a SCSEP volunteer on staff who is expected to apply for a PT position with OVRS.

PHC: Marina is seeking topics for the Metro East Employer Council seminars. They conduct 6 each year for area employers. She asked the board if any agencies would like to participate in presentations about hiring from populations served by ECOS partners and projects. PHC is seeking janitorial applicants – they are paid while in the 4 to 8 week training and will have a full time job at the end of the training. A new contract has been awarded that will require many more janitors as well as five more supervisors. (Applicants must have a documented disability.)

Human Solutions: They have several new staff and are re-engaging with clients. The training for health care trades is beginning – staff is conducting outreach for participants. The Eastern European training project is meeting its enrollment goals. A new location for the Helping Hands store is still needed. They need about 2500 to 3000 sq. ft of retail space plus room for workshops. They received a \$100,000 grant from the Meyer Memorial Trust for design work on the new residential and social service center and to be constructed in Rockwood.

The board approved the minutes from the August 2, 2007 board meeting as emailed.

Old Business:

Action Team reports:

1. Re-entry-Enterprise Development Team: Team members: Doug Cooper, Marian George, Anne O’Malley, Maren Peterson, Joan Pasco,. Anne O’Malley is the lead for this team. The second meeting with area re-entry service groups will be held on September 19th at Mercy Corps. A \$50,000 grant application has been submitted to SAMHSA (Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration – Center for Substance Abuse Prevention) Prisoner Reentry Program to support one year of planning and organization to develop a comprehensive collaborative of re-entry projects. (Funding is a long shot – only 12 grants will be awarded nationally.)

2. Vital Aging Task Force. Joan Pasco – This task force is preparing a report with recommendations (to be presented to the Multnomah County Chair and Commissioners in March) on issues and effective strategies relevant to an aging workforce and the large number of boomer retirements. The research is focused on the following areas:

- **Emerging trends:** What is being experienced in the workforce and what are the emerging best practices? Issues include succession planning to replace key talent, retention of workers beyond their retirement eligibility, phased in retirement, bridge jobs, and employing older workers who cannot afford to retire.
- **Advocacy:** Reviewing public policies that may be/are barriers to retaining older workers, such as pension reform, portable health insurance, expanding eligibility of tax credits to include older workers; delayed retirement benefits, long term care insurance, and many SSI and tax issues.
- **Making the Business Case:** What is the business case for hiring older workers and what are effective tactics to change perceptions?
- **Local Research and Labor Statistics:** what do we know locally about the population, key employers and workforce trends including what is working well in Oregon business practices.
- **Accommodation:** what are the barriers and challenges of 50+ workers and what strategies can business employ to make the workplace more accessible. This report will include basic information about the aging of the workforce, growth in the number of workers with eldercare responsibilities, growth in the number of employees with both childcare and eldercare responsibilities and changing family patterns, and the physical and emotional changes associated with aging.
- **Labor and Legal issues:** Examination of what implications policy change will bring to labor and legal contracts.

The final report from this task force will comprise a guide for local employers to assist them with managing these issues in their own workplace.

Other Project reports

SSP – Senior Safety Pin Project – Marian and Karen – Marian continues to seek new funding for this project. Linfield will assign students to seniors as part of the student's practicum, but important support funds are needed. United Way support included stipends for the students and a fund for them to purchase supplies for their clients.

SCSEP – Senior Community Service Experience Program – a collaboration with Easter Seals – Catherine: Sept 24 – 28 is National Employer and Older Worker Week. They are sponsoring a job fair for Multnomah County SCSEP participants (86 people), 15 employers are expected to attend. Clackamas and Marian counties are hosting an event for SSI information and feature participant success stories. The media will be invited to these events. The job clubs are going well with good participation, interest and excitement. Catherine reported 18 job placements since program year began on July 1. Their performance target is 33 for the entire year so they are very pleased with current results.

MIPO – MicroEnterprise Inventor project –and DBA – Differently-Abled Business Association –Kedma is out of the country for 3 weeks – a full report will be provided at the October 4th ECOS meeting. The IDA program is up and running with staff trained to administer same. Lemelson and United Way funding for years 2 and 3 have been approved. Several other grant applications are pending for these 2 projects.

JDN Jobs Network – Laura: They have 22 new members and 12 new organizations on board. 47 people have signed up for the Sept. 21 seminar. Laura is planning a workshop to train job developers to work with OVRs clients. The annual picnic is Sept. 13th from 12 to 2:30. The state of Wisconsin is seeking assistance from the Oregon group to create a similar program.

Budget/finance report – refer to finance report – attached, separate excel doc. 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**
- **Easter Seals Oregon**
- **Human Solutions Inc.**

Project Grant update: Bold indicates new submissions or awards since last board meeting.

MIPO

Murdock Charitable Trust – MIPO = \$103,500 – submitted, awards announced in Jan. 2008

Lemelson – second year funds approved on August 24 = \$90,300 for year 2

DBA:

Umpqua Bank – submitted – was not funded – but they are offering volunteers if needed
US Bank Foundation – DBA – was not funded

United Way – second year funds – received \$35,640 for year 2

Key Bank: \$5000 - very interested, toured offices on 8-28 – funding likely

VeteransCorp: \$45,000 request to support Veteran’s starting their own biz – submitted on 9-5

SSP:

MMT – submitted April 25 – not funded

Rose Tucker Trust = \$74,250 submitted. Not funded

PGE Foundation = \$7,000 – awards announced in November

NW Health Foundation = \$7000 – December awards

Autzen Foundation – will be submitted by November 15.
Collins Foundation – in progress

JND:

Messinger Foundation – \$15,000 submitted on August 30.

Re-entry:

SAMHSA re-entry grant - \$50,000 - submitted on Aug. 30 - Awards announced in October

Targeted Service Provider TA funds from OECDD:

OECDD META: Micro-Enterprise Technical Assistance - \$100,000 to fund training for 3 projects: Market Vendors, MIPO and DBA – submitted on August 26. Awards announced in October.