

Coastal Operators Group (COG) Meeting

Agenda

March 27, 2024

2:00 – 3:00 PM

Agenda Item	Notes	Next Steps
Welcome and Review 2/28 Meeting Minutes	Amy Geren (OSO), Jeff Martinelli (WFS), Abbie Yamamoto (Hub 8 Adult Ed), Rob Klaiber (Portland, Springvale Career Centers), Kim Desso (Voc Rehab), David Watts (Hub 7 Adult Ed), Linda Greer (Hub 9 Adult Ed)	None
Goals Next Steps 1. Cross-training opportunities 2. Business service outreach opportunities	<p>Upcoming Business Outreach Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion Maine: 5/1 – 5/3 in South Portland https://www.inclusionmaine.org/inclusion-maine/p/inclusionmaineconference • ClimateWorkMaine Summit: 5/9 in Augusta https://www.climateworkmaine.org/summit2024 • Maine Employer Summit: 5/14 in Bangor https://www.maineemployersummit.com/ 	None
Updates from the group 1. Programmatic updates/initiatives 2. Biggest challenge of the month	<p>Jeff: Hired a career advisor to serve Portland through Sagadahoc. Started Merry Meeting collaborative – eleven youth enrolled. Staffing continues to be a challenge. Finding ‘future-proof’ jobs.</p> <p>Abbie: NMRC position is in the early interview phase; assistant director position and instructor position are open and need to hire for. District budget shows a lot of cuts. Doesn’t affect PAE directly, but there are experienced staff coming to adult ed, likely from cut positions.</p> <p>Rob: Foot traffic is high in both Portland and Springvale. Job Fair on the first Wednesday of April with 20+ employers. Event at Rice library in Kittery for new business owners today. Group interested in starting a daycare. Hosting a group from Colorado to share best practices with immigrant populations – they will be here for the Inclusion Maine conference.</p> <p>A Veterans services rep position has been consolidated into a client and business rep position – hoping the applicant will accept offer. There is a prerequisite for Veterans services career counselors to be Veterans.</p>	

	<p>Kim: Gearing up for summer employment with youth, working with Goodwill. Trying to hire for more positions, but seeing fewer candidates. Rise Up program question for the group (national retail association program). Kittery was the first adult ed program that hosted. It includes online learning sessions supported by a workforce grant. Each region has a connection to the grant.</p> <p>David: Eye on the Midcoast – empowering youth w/ financial literacy, career mapping, etc., is beginning soon, and first cohort is enrolled. Have an instructor and location (Midcoast School of Technology) for culinary on-ramp certificate for commercial kitchen work preparation. Have one navigator for four counties, no community colleges, but have three career centers. David is a by-default coordinator.</p> <p>Linda: Disappointed that the Alzheimer’s/dementia project did not run. Plan to have another in the fall brochure. Oral health training is intriguing. Would like to get a session in their offerings. David suggests aligning oral health programming regionally depending on interest and job opportunities. Keeping programming going through the summer. Interested in potential needs coming out of the small business job fair. Could Adult Ed fill any gaps, i.e., business plan writing. Brad Currie with SBA is a great resource. Linda received a thank you note from the town manager for connecting a recent Adult Ed graduate. Re: Water treatment facility training. Unity University could be a resource. Derek Fassett is familiar with CCWI and WIOA programming through board service as a representative with Hospitality Maine. Now works with Unity University.</p>	<p>Amy: Look to see if someone from Rise Up can share information with the group.</p> <p>Abbie: Follow up with Linda re: Oral Health program ideas.</p> <p>SBA Contact: https://www.sba.gov/district/maine bradley.currie@sba.gov</p>
Adjourn		2:55PM

Next Meeting: April 24 @ 2:00PM