

Coastal Operators Group (COG) Meeting

Minutes

September 25, 2024

2:00 – 3:00 PM

Agenda Item	Notes	Next Steps
Welcome & Review August meeting minutes	In attendance: Linda Greer (Adult Ed Hub 9); Robert Ducharme (MDOL BES); Barb Stoddard (Adult Ed/NMRC); Rob Klaiber (MDOL BES); Sheila Muldoon; Rob Klaiber(MDOL BES); Joy Rodrigue (Workforce Solutions); Kim Desso (Voc Rehab); Krista Campbell (MDOL BES); Samantha Funk (Workforce Solutions)	Finalize August meeting minutes & share on CCWI's website.
Updates from the group	<p>Sheila Muldoon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trying to recruit out of school youth. Doing well with in school youth. • Finished up the AGC summer programming – went well with almost 40 youth. It's an opportunity to explore careers in trades and earn a wage. • Building Infrastructure Grant is occupation focused in growth areas. Training career advisors for this program. Will be connecting with Adult Eds for training support. • Cohort with AGC for Saco transitional housing/Catholic Charities is starting. • Had a successful year with adult grant programming. • Afghan grant is doing well with referrals coming in. • Employment recovery grant will be winding down, but dislocated worker grant can pick up need after these funds are spent – similar focus. <p>Sam Funk:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quest grant received an extension. Have funds to spend down. Close to meeting numbers served. Eligibility changed slightly – no longer serves under-employed. <p>Linda Greer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three new walk-ins last night who needed English language support. • Hiring for career navigators – goal is to attract up to 70 learners in the field of clean energy. <p>Rob Ducharme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapid response team was at the landing assisting with the restaurant fire situation. • Upcoming hiring events, including one with the chamber of commerce. <p>Rob Klaiber:</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MDOL has a newer career advisor/business coordinator (Wayne). • Alex Richards (Workforce Solutions) will be joining MDOL next week. • Freddy joined the Portland team to focus on reemployment. • Craig will be filling one position in Portland. • Still to be filled – Veterans position out in the community. • Consolidated Veterans role is still to be filled, pending offer for a strong candidate. • Events: Portland 1st Monday job fair; Springvale Adult Ed job fair next Thursday; City of Westbrook job fair at church on Brown Street. Hosting A4TD at Springvale CareerCenter. Recruiting with Habitat for Humanity for volunteering to build resume skills in South Portland, focus on working with women – October. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hoping for more registrants for entrepreneur focus. ○ October 2nd Veterans stand down event – Craig will be attending. <p>Kim Desso:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hoping to fill a rehabilitation assistant position; would be nice to connect with Barb on this position. • Transition councilor transferred to South Portland location. • Several positions are available. There are lots of vacancies across the board. <p>Barb Stoddard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will be relaunching the Ed Academy (teacher program). Ramping up, doing lots of outreach about the opportunity. 	
Affiliate Site Certification updates	The five affiliate site certifications – Workforce Solutions’ Belfast location, and the Brunswick, Rockland, Portland, and Springvale CareerCenters – have been accepted by the CCWB. Notification will go out to CareerCenter managers and WFS this week.	
One-Stop Center Relocation updates	The One-Stop Comprehensive Center move is in full swing. The new location at 56 Northport Drive in Portland is planned to be open on October 16 th .	
Virtual American Job Center Updates	MDOL received a six-month extension, which will allow for a marketing effort to be developed and implemented. Erin, Galan, and Amy will be assisting MDOL with resource/program entry for all of the One-Stop Partners.	
Adjourn		2:38 PM

Next Meeting: October 23 @ 2:00PM