

**GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE BOARD RI  
PLANNING AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE MEETING  
APRIL 10, 2007**

**MEETING MINUTES**

Members Present: Mario Bueno, Paul MacDonald, William McGowan, Adelita Orefice

Members Absent: Mia Caetano Johnson, Armeather Gibbs

Staff Present: M. Koback, M. McDowell

Guests: John O'Hare, Bob Ricci, Steve Kitchin, Dottie Miller, N. Ucci

Location: RI Department of Labor & Training

With a quorum present, Chair McGowan called the meeting to order at 9:15 AM. He stated that the committee would be voting on the two local Workforce Investment Board's Draft Two-Year Plan.

Bob Ricci, Administrator of Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston, presented the Providence/Cranston Workforce Investment Board's Draft Two-Year Plan for the period July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2009. The plan describes how the purpose, goals and objectives of WIA will be supported and carried out in the Providence/Cranston Workforce Investment Area. This two-year plan embodies the following key principles:

- Streamlined services delivered through the co-location of employment, education and job training partners at our netWORKri office in Providence;
- A system of empowerment for individuals seeking training by providing better information on the performance outcomes of training providers and by giving eligible individuals more choice through the use of individual training accounts at eligible institutions;
- Universal access for all individuals of comprehensive core and intensive services designed around a "work-first" approach;
- Technical assistance and information for area businesses to enable them to meet their workforce needs;
- Direction and guidance from business and labor with respect to the identification of demand jobs, needed skills and training programs that most meet their needs;
- Youth programs that focus on educational attainment, promote youth development and citizenship, such as leadership development through voluntary community service opportunities, adult mentoring and follow-up.

This two-year plan does not project the number of individuals to receive services or anticipated expenditures. The public hearing is April 12, 2007.

A motion was entered to approve the Providence/Cranston Workforce Investment Board's Draft Two-Year Plan for the period July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2009.

**VOTE:** A. Orefice moved to approve, seconded by P. MacDonald. All approved.

Pertaining to the discussion on the make-up of the Providence/Cranston Workforce Investment Board, P. MacDonald suggested that they add an additional Labor representative to their Board membership, and to contact Frank Montanaro and George Nee.

Dottie Miller, Acting Director of the Workforce Partnership of Greater RI, presented the Workforce Partnership of Greater Rhode Island (WPGRI) Draft Two-Year Workforce Investment Plan. This Plan is very similar to Providence/Cranston's Plan in terms of the services provided and clients served, except it includes thirty-seven of Rhode Island's thirty-nine communities. WPGRI is confident that the Plan allows for sufficient flexibility to modify its approach, while remaining committed to its primary goals and objectives. The Plan includes a description of the business community and its workforce needs, as well as the resident population and their employment, training, and related education needs. The Plan also describes how WIA funds that are provided under the three WIA funding streams – Adults, Dislocated Workers, and Youth will be utilized to service individuals, as well as employers in the Greater Rhode Island Workforce Investment Area.

Memoranda of Agreement have been developed with a number of One-Stop partners to provide core, intensive, and training services to customers. These partners include:

- Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training
- Rhode Island Department of Human Services
- Rhode Island Department of Elderly Affairs
- Rhode Island Department of Education
- Tri-Town Community Action Agency
- Exeter Job Corps Academy
- Rhode Island Indian Council

The WPGRI Draft Two-Year also does not project the number of individuals to receive services or anticipated expenditures. A Public Hearing is scheduled for April 26, 2007.

A motion was entered to approve the Workforce Partnership of Greater Rhode Island's Two-Year Draft Plan for the period July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2009.

**VOTE:** A. Orefice moved to approve, seconded by P. MacDonald. All approved.

J. O'Hare stated that staff will be reviewing the Local Plans to recommend changes and additions.

A motion was entered to approve the amendments to the Draft Two-Year State Workforce Plan under the Workforce Investment Act for the period July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2009.

**VOTE:** P. MacDonald moved to approve, seconded by A. Orefice. All approved.

A Public Hearing regarding this plan is scheduled for April 16, 2007.

M. Koback announced that the consultant from the Corporation for a Skilled Workforce, who will be working on the development of a unified five year plan, has suggested the development of a Steering Advisory Committee comprised of 25 to 40 members who will be the key players to provide information for the strategic planning process. From this committee, focus groups will be formed. Mr. Koback is soliciting the names of agencies.

With no other business to be discussed, the meeting adjourned at 11:15AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha McDowell