

County of Union
Workforce Investment Board (WIB)
Adult Education & Literacy Committee
193 Morris Avenue, Springfield, NJ
Meeting Agenda
January 10, 2014
9:00 a.m.

- I. Welcome and Call to OrderMr. Roberto Camacho, Co-Chair
Mr. Mark Bocchieri, Co-Chair
- II. Introductions
- III. Update of ABLE Plus Consortium.....UCC Representative
- IV. Workforce Learning Link Report.....One-Stop Representative
 - Number of individuals served
 - Performance Outcomes
- V. Plan for more effective integration / coordination of Adult Literacy Educational Services accessed through the One-Stop
- VI. Development of Adult Literacy & Educational Services Component of Union County's Workforce Development Strategic Plan
- VII. Comments
- VIII. Next Meeting: Date & Time
- IX. Adjournment

County of Union
Workforce Investment Board (WIB)
Adult Education & Literacy Committee Meeting
193 Morris Avenue, Springfield, NJ
January 10, 2014 at 9 am

Committee Members Present

Roberto Camacho, Investors Bank (Co-Chair)
Juan Carlos Dominguez, J.J.J. Distributors
Gloria Durham, Genesis Healthcare Solutions
Marlene Loff, Union County College
Kim McConnell, The McConnell Leadership Group
Julio Sabater, Workforce Advantage

Committee Members Absent

Mark Bocchieri, Verizon New Jersey
Jean Forstenhauser, Linden Adult School
Elizabeth Gloeggler, Union County Literacy Volunteers of America
Syreeta McClain, Union County Vocational Technical School
Lyle Moseley, Elizabeth Board of Education
Stephen Nacco, Union County College

Guests

Dawn Harrison, Union County Literacy Volunteers of America (sitting in for Elizabeth Gloeggler)

Staff

Antonio Rivera, Director, Workforce Investment Board
Philip Kandl, Workforce Investment Board

Meeting Summary

- I. The meeting was called to order by the Adult Education & Literacy Co-Chair Mr. Roberto Camacho at 9:05 am. Self introductions followed.
- II. Mr. Antonio Rivera briefly explained to the new members how policies will be developed by the Adult Education & Literacy Committee. Mr. Julio Sabater mentioned the importance of the Committee being an advocate on behalf the public for the provision of literacy services. Discussion followed.
- III. Mr. Kandl explained the two programs that provide adult literacy services: WIA Title II ABLE Plus Consortium and the Workforce Learning Link program. The ABLE Plus Consortium provides adult basic educational services and ESL instruction to over 1500 individuals annually and the Workforce Learning Link has two classrooms, on located at each One-Stop Career Center that provides short term workplace literacy instruction including computer literacy. Each Workforce Learning Link classroom has twelve computer workstations providing self-paced instruction.

- IV. Mr. Rivera indicated that the Committee should be forward looking and consider what were the mismatches between employer needs and prospective employee skill sets.
- V. Ms. Marlene Loff provided an update on the WIA Title II ABLE Plus Consortium. Ms. Loff indicated she attended a State meeting on January 6, 2014, and the meeting was about how New Jersey was doing as compared nationally. Ms. Loff reported that there were three million individuals in the State that were in need of adult basic skills and ESL services. The SETC reported at the meeting that WIA Title II grants only addressed 10% of the people needing literacy services (30,000 individuals) were receiving services across the state. Only 17,000 individuals completed the program. The goal was to find out why students were not able to complete the program. The state was studying how to help the students that complete the program transition into better jobs.

Program participants were aged 25-44 and were predominantly Hispanic females. Ms. Loff reported that it was hard to keep clients engage 20 hours a week in the program. The State can track client GED test results. There were concerns regarding the new GED Test – it will be more comprehensive, designed to mirror the Core Curriculum Standards. The GED test was moving to a computer based test, but can be still administered as a paper test. The issue was that the test was unfair for clients that were not computer literate.
Discussion followed.
- VI. The Committee discussed the plan for more effective integration/ coordination of Adult Literacy Educational Services accessed through the One-Stop.
- VII. The committee discussed development of a Strategic Plan for Adult Literacy & Educational Services.
- VIII. Mr. Rivera indicated he would send information to committee members to bring them up to speed on adult literacy issues, i.e., Union County Adult Literacy White Paper and the State Employment & Training Commission - Workforce Investment System Core Values.
- IX. Next Meeting will be on March 7, 2014 at 10 am at same location.
- X. Meeting was adjourned at 10:25 am.