

Union County Workforce Development Board  
Disability Committee Meeting  
Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018 9:30 am  
DVRS office, Conference Room  
921 Elizabeth Ave. Elizabeth, NJ. 07201

Committee Members Present

Leila Molaie, Chair, DVRS  
Jeffrey Jackson, Manger, AJC  
Celia Dipolvere, SLE Coordinator, Linden Public Schools  
Manny Ramirez, Coordinator, UC Office for People with Special Needs  
Carolee Marano, Community Access Unlimited

WDB Staff

Elizabeth Paskewich, UCWDB

Meeting Summary

- Leila Molaie called the meeting to order at 10:00am
- Ms. Molaie address while there is not a formal agenda for today's meeting, todays discussion will be used to guide future meetings. She addressed the need to re-build the committee and invite new participants to join.
- Revision of Mission and Vision Statements  
Discussion surrounding the verbiage included with the statements was discussed. Modifications will be made and reviewed again at next meeting.
  - Mission Statement:  
The Union County Workforce Development Board's Disability Committee is charged with ensuring that all individuals with disabilities have access to comprehensive and integrated services within the American Job Center (AJC) and enhancing linkages between employers and community based programs to remove barriers to employment for this population, and maximizing their economic growth and development.
  - Vision of the Committee:  
The Union County Workforce Development Board's Disability Committee will work on developing innovative ideas, policies and programs that brings together the business community, public and private sector, and community based programs with the goal of increasing positive employment outcomes for individuals with disabilities.
- American Job Center  
The Committee discussed what resources and training the AJC has for individuals with disabilities. Grants and training are often not known to the population and educating CBO's and school districts could help bring these services to this population.
- Barriers  
The Committee discussed the need to help individuals with disabilities bridge gaps in services as well as educate clients regarding services that are available to them. Misinformation often leads to potential clients not taking advantage of services as they are afraid they could lose other services in doing so. Educating the population regarding what programs they can do and what employment they can participate in while keeping all financial and healthcare benefits is

needed.

- Next Steps:  
Discuss Barriers- identify gaps, discuss solutions.
- Next Meeting:  
January 11, 2019, 9:30am  
DVRS office, Conference Room  
921 Elizabeth Ave. Elizabeth, NJ. 07201