Benchmarks of Success for Maryland's Workforce System
Policy Committee
9:30 – 11:30 AM, May 20, 2019
DLLR, 1100 N. Eutaw Street, Baltimore, MD 21201

Attendees: Lauren Gilwee, Jen Horton, Charles Hunt, Erin Inman, Francine Trout, Jacqueline Tina Turner, Matthew Jackson, Matthew Bernardy, Sarah Sheppard, Wanet Tyson, Patricia Meyer, Mary Sloat, Shamekka Kuykendall, Vijay Iyer, and Natalie Clements

Handouts: Agenda, Policy Recommendations Report 2018, Committee Roster, Draft Charter, and Global Work Plan

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Minutes

I.   **Welcome and Introductions**

- The Policy Committee has new leadership. Lauren Gilwee, Director of Policy at DLLR DWDAL, is the Chair. Jen Horton, Policy and Planning Manager at the Baltimore County Department of Economic and Workforce Development, is the Co-Chair. Natalie Clements, Policy Analyst at DLLR DWDAL, is still the Committee Coordinator.
- The Policy Committee welcomes new members: Jen Horton, Erin Inman, Wanet Tyson, Vijay Iyer, Barbara Ebel, and Nate' Gordon.

II.   **Recap of Policy Committee's Work in 2018**

- Last year, the Policy Committee brainstormed and voted on a number of topics to focus on. The committee focused meetings on bringing in speakers that related to those topics and have a presentation and discussion with the committee. From those discussions, the Coordinator distilled policy recommendations. Committee members each voted on the different policy recommendations to determine which would be included in the Policy Recommendations Report.
- In 2018, the Policy Recommendations Report focused on three topics, including:
  o Jobseeker Advisory Groups: Including Customer Voice in Decision-Making,
  o Workforce Solutions to the Opioid Epidemic, and
  o Youth Apprenticeship.
- The Policy Recommendations Report was shared with the WIOA Alignment Group and the Executive Steering Committee.
- The Policy Committee also updated the Regional and Local Plan Guidance, distributed in October 2018.

- The brainstormed list has more topics that were not covered in 2018. The committee can focus on those topics in 2019 if it would like.

III.   Meeting Logistics

- In 2018, the committee met on the third Thursday of each month for two hours. Each committee meets monthly for at least two hours.
- The committee decides to keep the third Thursday monthly meeting but to alternate morning and afternoon meetings. Natalie Clements will send calendar invites for all of the meeting this year.

IV.   Updates to the Policy Committee Charter

- Committee leadership made small updates to the charter from 2018, including updating the logo, changing verb tenses from future to present, adding leadership changes, and increasing the number of committee members.
- The committee approved and finalized the charter.

V.   Global Work Plan

- The Global Work Plan lays out what all of the committees are doing, including ongoing work and deliverables. The plan also lists large workforce system conferences and other due dates.
- The Policy Committee needs to add their items to the Global Work Plan. The committee will produce a Policy Recommendations Report by December 2019 and have an optional deliverable for legislative recommendations by October 2019.
- The committee does not need to list the topics covered in the Global Work Plan.
- Topics not covered in 2018 from the brainstorm list include:
  - Transportation,
  - Measurable Skill Gains,
  - Trusted Agent Policy,
  - Healthcare (Medicaid Expansion), and
  - Business Needs.
- A Trusted Agent Policy would involve Memoranda of Understanding between agencies as well as data-sharing, so partners would not need to each enter data on the same participant. This initiative would require federal approval. This initiative may be solved by work with MD THINK.
- Natalie will share a summary of an example of Medicaid Expansion from Montana with the committee.
- The committee added additional topics to the brainstorm list in this meeting, including:
  - Benefits cliff (e.g. new Maryland legislation on TANF);
  - Maryland Real ID (education, work with Communications Committee);
  - Universal Electronic Resource (e.g. of resource for employers: Maryland Workforce Expressway; Governor's Office is developing a resource now, and the GWDB is mapping out Local Board resources);
  - Master list of policies needed per WIOA regulation and/or that need updates;

- o Regional and Local Plan Guidance 2020;
  - o Common data collection system (MD THINK presentation?);
  - o Executive summaries for policies;
  - o State universal intake/common referral process; and
  - o Ability to Benefit (create state process).
- The topics and/or recommendations could be sorted into long-term and short-term.
- The WIOA Alignment Group is addressing some of these data collection and integration questions as well as talking to the implementers of MD THINK. Policy Committee leadership will ask the WIOA Alignment Group if they should also pursue these topics.

VI.   Good of the Order

- Jacqueline Tina Turner: The LDSS are submitting their pass plans (plan of how will serve TANF customers and move them towards self-sufficiency), outlining their changes for 2020 (e.g. process changes).
- Shamekka Kuykendall: Baltimore City LDSS just submitted their plan. Their plan includes changes to move people towards self-sufficiency.
- Lauren Gilwee: DLLR will be posting a job opening for a Chief Learning Officer soon, sponsored together by the state agencies in the Maryland workforce system. This position will lead professional development for the system and provide system-wide training. Lauren will share the job posting when it is available.