CITY OF LOS ANGELES
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
TASK FORCE ON VULNERABLE AND UNDERREPRESENTED POPULATIONS

Monday, September 12, 2022
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Via Zoom Video Conference Call

MEETING ID: 846 9843 9757 PASSCODE: 173550

AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

ACTION ITEMS:

3.	Receive and File Meeting Notes of March 17, 2022	Gabriel Pimentel
4.	Update on Efforts by the Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) and Community Investment for Families Department (CIFD) in Building a Sustainable Partnership to Provide Domestic Violence Survivors with Critical Supports to Succeed in the Labor Market and Achieve Self-Sufficiency	Gregg Irish
5.	Discussion of Proposals Supported by the City of Los Angeles Workforce Development Board (WDB) and Submitted to the California Workforce Development Board (CWDB) and Foundation for California Community Colleges (FCCC) for Assembly Bill 628 “Breaking Barriers to Employment” Initiative Grant Funds	Gregg Irish

ADVISORIES/DISCUSSIONS/PRESENTATIONS/REPORT-BACKS/UPDATES

6. Next Meeting
7. Adjourn

TASK FORCE ON VULNERABLE AND UNDERREPRESENTED POPULATIONS:

Gabriel Pimentel, Chair, Jessica Ku Kim, Dr. Llanet Martin, Robert Lake,

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Phone: 213-744-7164 www.wiblacity.org

3.

DATE: September 12, 2022

TO: Workforce Development Board (WDB)

FROM:

SUBJECT: **Receive and File Meeting Notes of March 17, 2022**

REQUESTED ACTION:

BACKGROUND:

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND:

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

- Item 3 - Notes WDB Taskforce on Underrepresented Populations 03.17.2022

WDB Underserved Populations Task Force Meeting
Thursday, March 17, 2022
10:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.
Zoom Video Conference Room

MEETING NOTES

Members Present: Gabriel Pimentel, Charles Woo, Jessica Ku Kim, Robert Lake, Dr. Llanet Martin

City Employees: Gregg Irish, Gerardo Ruvalcaba, Donny Brooks, Victoria Minetta, Sarai Molina, Ricardo Renteria, Makeda Vela, Tiffanie Wong

1. Called to Order: Gabriel Pimentel VUP Taskforce Chair called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

   Gregg Irish provided background for the creation of the Taskforce, acknowledging that it is the brainchild of WDB Chair Charles Woo.

   Charles Woo stated that he wanted to give a voice to those issues that they as a Board were not addressing.

   Chair Gabriel Pimentel provided an opportunity for comments.

Jessica Ku Kim, LAEDC commented that it is wonderful to have this passport to address important issues. When the pandemic happened everyone shifted out of necessity. They are at a different point now. The pandemic impacted women, and individuals with lower education levels. The passport can give them time to pause and re-evaluate those at risk. They can use this moment to continue to not do business as usual. The innovation fund can allow for a lot of flexibility to address different issues, new challenges, and new opportunities as a board.

Dr. Llanet Martin – commented that women have left the workforce in record numbers. She is interested in hearing all of the great ideas to help them see what direction they should move this innovation money, to address those greatest impacted by the pandemic. She would like to hear about opportunities for partnering with other agencies that do have opportunities to leverage resources.

Nahatna Cabanes – thanked the Taskforce for the hearing. She wants to plug the vulnerable and underrepresented older adult folks who may be looking for a career change, or unable to retire, or are experiencing age discrimination in the work force. She asks that the Taskforce place funds in older adult communities, and she suggests a partnership with the Department of Aging. The

LA Fellows program is a very functional program that lost funding. She recognizes innovation, but the LA Fellows Program is a great program that deserves support.

Hyepin Im commented that the Asian community is underserved. Asian youth in the Summer Youth is only 1% yet API population is 13%. The County has Youth at Work Program (17% API) participation 3%. She asked for resources to continue on the journey to assist them.

Joe Altepeter – Covid has shown them a lot. The Downtown Women's Center supports homeless women. Older women are unable to retire and need to continue to work. Providing opportunities for entrepreneurship would be great. A handful of women that have been employed through the CARE dollars for Covid advocates program.

Alex Torres WINTER – asks that they fund women in construction.

Jonae Watts – Hyepin Im brought out good points. She works with PATH, Family Division, and focusses on career pathways. She is having challenges reaching WorkSource Centers. She is waiting to hear back. She knows they have opportunities. They need a sustainable income $1,600 or above. They need to coordinate systems, so that the housing, the career and the workforce development are working together. She suggests a focus group - homeless agencies, Joe from the Downtown Women's center to share their resources and challenge and come back to the Board with recommendations.

Robert Lake – responded to Alex that he is happy to have her work with some of their construction trades business team.

Connie Taylor – she sees a huge need in the literacy program, and feels that help with training would be amazing. This affects the older populations, and we cannot forget about them.

Hyepin Im – outreach is very limited. The ethnic media is something that reaches these groups. She would like to propose that some budget set aside to be used with local media. They FACE has done this over and over and this would be great. HTA is a successful model that transitions people from unemployment to jobs. The Targeted Local Hire Program which allows individuals to get into civil service employment is a wonderful program, but the Asian population was dropped. The lottery system is good for those that get selected. Asians are underserved by the City. She wants to advocate to re-include them in the targeted local hire program.

Gabriel asked everyone to please share data if they have it. This is what can help drive the decision making.

Jessica Ku Kim LAEDC, thinks there is a communication gap; a lack of information continues to persist in our communities. She knows nothing about LA: RISE. We are not doing a good enough job providing the information, if the intended audience is not there. There is a limitation to WIOA dollars. She encourages the taskforce to not be beholden to that system. It can be additive. Not only address the gaps. In terms of workforce development may not always be tied to WIOA. There is a whole of the system that they need to partner better. It is important for the Board to convene

these meetings to strengthen and tie in the resources. It will take a lot of time and resources, but it can be done.

Gregg Irish – Victoria Minetta looked at the Annual Plan. The Department has moved from boutique to actual delivery. Data is missing. David Eder's old job will go to the Department to gather data.

Gerardo Ruvalcaba thanked everyone for their comments, and said that they need to improve with data. The outcomes of the VUP (great successes), will be shared they also struggled in certain areas, collecting data about their system, and demographics of who they serve. To Hyepim's point, Asian Americans are underrepresented in their system. How do they connect these points to the system? They want to build the capacity of the system to better address the gaps.

Gregg Irish – they have the structure and the target. They may want to target more with this, and give the participants tuition, rental assistance, and transportation and get them education. They have the infrastructure.

Gerardo agrees.

Joe Altepeter – innovative pilot programs worked. Is there an opportunity to work with underrepresented data? Human centric design is the more direct questions. Some folks need an American express card, some need a Discovery. Is there an opportunity to work with separate groups that understand human centric design so they can see what design they need to be successful? Not limiting to one demographic for all of the population.

Dr. Llanet Martin – There are many things that tend to impact the most disenfranchised folks, the hidden curriculum, and navigating bureaucracies One thought is with regard to using the innovation money to extend models of success that already exist. LA Fellows, LA: RISE restricted by an age group, a demographic. WIOA dollars come with restrictions. Leveraging their data and collecting data to see where a model of a program that is already successful can be expended. Shared… having served as the first idea in who oversaw the first equity effort. One of the first initiatives was to extend models that were policy restricted, and CalWorks restricted. They used their equity dollars to extend them. They paid for students that just needed another semester, just one more class. It was successful. Take in the Intel that was heard today. Not just addressing the policy shortcomings. Turning around and the infrastructure. Here is a gap in the policy; let's figure out how to change that. Use dollars to extend policy restrictions and using their dollars for improving policies that are out there. It is a two way street.

She advocated for more bilingualism, the need is huge. Data, they can start and continue to collect but building on data.

Jonae Watts –WIOA staff could benefit from training in the understanding of case management. Individual placements of evidence based model created at Dartmouth. It focusses on anyone that has a disability. It addresses the situation that individuals may find themselves in. She helps them

move forward it helps her with the identity. Some type of training or maybe having monthly webinar training in many areas would help staff in thinking outside the box.

Jessica Ku Kim – training by “centerizing” it could be supported as a resource these connections would provide a launch pad for transformation.

Gerardo supports this recommendation. Setting aside funding for training developing the capacity of our system to outreach to Asian Americans or English language learnings that were impacted or underrepresented in our system will have an impact.

Gregg Irish – reiterated Jessica and Llanet’s comments. Teachers are more than teachers; they are sort of like parents. It would be good if all, and not just one center knew how to deal with everyone. Mental health the need for them to be part of our system with Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs). Leverage dollars and people power. Mental Health experts need to be part of the system. They need capacity building.

Joe Altepeter – LA: RISE is a good example of social enterprise, non-profit organizations. Their employment specialist work right alongside of the WorkSource Center. There is a need for WorkSource Centers to know.

Hyepin Im – VUP grant recipient. What they encountered with the WSC they were understaffed. The VUP was not there focus. They encountered that they were an extra burden, the coordination was not good. The WSC are much more trained, and can do the mentorship, and the outreach. The WIOA System they are working in, but they need to make sure that the goals are placed on their plate. Related to the homelessness. The Asian community is nowhere on the radar. She mentioned the possibility of creating tools to assist homeless Koreans who have language barriers.

Gerardo Ruvalcaba – addressed high barrier population goals. The WSC have goals for serving homeless individuals, probation system, disabilities, veteran’s a whole host of populations that are tracked, and part of their evaluations. He asked Hyepin Im about a training Adine tried to do in Korean. Is there a way to have various trainings provided in multiple languages? The API community is underserved. They need better partnership, and coordination.

Gregg Irish – the new Secretary of Labor wants to sit down and talk about setting goals for English language learners. Gerardo has done a good job to make sure that employer’s go to the community colleges or Adult Schools and get training. What they need to define is who is underserved. Hyepim Im when HTA does training there is a certain percentage of English that must be spoken. The center’s get them to the certain level of proficiency.

Chair Gabriel they need to coordinate and communicate better to serve those most in need.

Gerardo Ruvalcaba- LAUSD Adult School integrated training program for their vocational training programs are teaching necessary language skills for an occupation.

Gregg Irish – will put together bullet points of where there are shortages in representation

Gerardo will report at the next meeting **a list of the current grants and projects they are currently working on.**

Next meeting: End of April 2022

Dr. Martin – the Board is having an ad hoc for immediate action this afternoon and she will share information from this meeting.

Chair Gabriel Pimentel adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

4.

DATE: September 12, 2022

TO: Workforce Development Board (WDB)

FROM:

SUBJECT: **Update on Efforts by the Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) and Community Investment for Families Department (CIFD) in Building a Sustainable Partnership to Provide Domestic Violence Survivors with Critical Supports to Succeed in the Labor Market and Achieve Self-Sufficiency**

REQUESTED ACTION:

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ATTACHMENTS:

Description

No Attachments Available

Workforce Development Board
City of Los Angeles

5.

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