



Business Service Representative Meeting
Friday, March 19, 2021, 9:00 a.m.
via Zoom

Present: K. Bailey, J. Celso, L. Freid, J. Geiger, J. May, L. Principio, M. Sykes, J. Vrabel, M. Woloson
Guest: J. Kirchhoff

1) NYSDOL Virtual Job Fair – April 15th

Mr. Kirchhoff joined the group to give an update on the April 15th job fair: there are currently 85 business registered, 17 of those from the 4 county region. Marketing materials are being developed and the registration date and link for businesses are available on the NYSDOL website. They are hoping to have all businesses registered by March 24th and are targeting healthcare, manufacturing, seasonal positions, software IT, optics, and non-profit human resources. There is no cap on the number of businesses that can register for the event. NYSDOL is asking businesses to send information regarding positions to be able to create job orders in the job bank, which allows DOL staff to match. Mr. Kirchhoff said that they have been successful in registering so many businesses thanks to staff. Staff have been on the UI project and have been disconnected from businesses. Staff used this opportunity to reconnect and did all the outreach for this event.

ACTION ITEM: Mr. Woloson to send spreadsheet of participating businesses to the group.

2) Review/approve minutes from – A motion to approve minutes from February 19, 2021 was made by Mr. Vrabel and seconded by Mr. Sykes. All in favor, motion carried.

3) COVID-19 Update

Mr. Woloson stated that Ontario County is now vaccinating non-profit employees.

Seneca – Mr. Vrabel reported that he attended a recent vaccine clinic at del Lago and saw that there were not many visitors to the casino itself. Hopefully spring will bring more people out to the businesses in the tourism sector.

The group discussed the rampant fraud involved in unemployment and shared numbers that can be called if fraud is suspected:

866-435-1499

518-485-2144

4) Dashboard – Mr. Woloson reviewed the unemployment rates for January and compared them to those from December. In January, the Finger Lakes unemployment rate increased from 5.4% in December to 6.2%. New York State saw an average of 9.4% unemployed and the U.S. 6.8%. Front door traffic increased from 1,363 to 2,460: 291 actual foot traffic and 2,169 remote contacts. Access to the management site has been limited, but a report on customers and services will be provided at the April meeting.

5) Virtual Presentations, Job Fairs, Recruitments –

NYSDOL will host a 9 county regional virtual job fair on April 15th.

Ms. Haust will host a virtual workshop, “Surviving Job Loss”, on March 25th.

Mr. Sloane will host “LinkedIn 102” on April 15th.

6) Other Business – Mr. Celso reported that there has been an uptick in job postings in Wayne County, including seasonal work, McDonalds, and Lowe’s. A new HVAC company is moving into Wayne County in the next month

or two, Finger Lakes Heating and Cooling.

Ms. Principio shared that everyone is hiring in Yates County, including seasonal and manufacturing. Businesses are having a hard time finding employees.

Mr. Sykes stated that every business is scrambling to get applicants. A lot of businesses are expressing frustration that the extended UIB are keeping people out of the workforce. Hopefully vaccines will make people more comfortable. There has been a lot of interest in OJTs and there is a recruitment event for Ollie's next week.

Ms. Geiger reported that ACCES-VR continues to place people in positions and getting others work search ready.

Ms. Freid stated that the Benefits Calculator Taskforce will meet on March 22nd.

7) Next Meetings: The next meeting will be on Friday, April 16, 2021, *via Zoom*

Submitted by J. May