

**CareerSource NEFL Executive Committee Minutes**

**December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021 9:00-10:30**

**Zoom Meeting**

**In Attendance:**

Wayne McClain

Kevin Doyle

Clay Lyons

Joe Pickens

Elaine Johnson

Darryl Register

Jake Schickel

**CareerSource NEFL staff:**

Bruce Ferguson

Rebecca Livingston

Cheryl Taylor

Steven Dionisio

Melissa Terbruggen

Brandy Buckingham

**Consent Agenda**

Wayne McClain called meeting to order and confirmed there was a quorum present.

Consent Agenda includes approval of the following:

- a. September 22, 2021 Executive Committee Minutes
- b. Update to Occupational Skills Training Policy
- c. Transfer up to 95% of Dislocated Worker Funds to Adult Funds.

Wayne McClain made motion to take all consent agenda items at once. First – Jack Schickel and second – Darryl Register.

Motion unanimously accepted consent agenda and approved the three items.

## Operations Update, Bruce Ferguson

Presented October Employment Statistics, which was similar to September within NEFL. Net Job Increase was 30,000 from this year to last year. There were significant gains in construction and education/health. Growth was across every industry except government. Continue to have more jobs than people looking for employment. Across the major metros in Florida all are recovering and South Florida and Orlando will continue to see recovery with the increase of international travel.

Presented job seeker traffic at centers – there has been a decrease in the last two months even though there are many jobs and we are reaching out to job seekers to let them know about the opportunities.

COMMENT – Joe Pickens - At the college, enrollment is down and we don't know where the potential students are? There is Pell Grant money for anyone that wants to go to school and our enrollment is still low.

We have gotten more traction in the training – truck driver training interest which is a huge need and in demand. We have adjusted our training policy to open up training in the current environment and not create unnecessary barrier to get into training.

COMMENT - Clay Lyons - When looked in July with the advanced Job credit went out – people are not working because they are getting a monthly check of \$1000 to stay at home.

COMMENT - Elaine Johnson – Seeing a hugely competitive environment for jobs. Usually Thanksgiving on is a dead job market. We are seeing people leaving and 20% bumps of wage increases. Smaller businesses are having problems competing with these wage increases.

COMMENT - Wayne McClain – we are seeing more people with varied sources of income buy more cars than we have ever seen before. People have money to spend and are qualifying for loans at a rate not seen before. Lowes is seeing the same thing in people buying appliances.

We are still seeing about 2000 people at our centers but that is down about two thirds from before pandemic. This is not unique to our region. This is across the state. Those that are coming into our centers have significant barriers to employment. CSNEFL continues to have job orders above pre-pandemic times. If job seekers want to work, there are jobs. Trying to find qualified workers is the challenge now.

COMMENT – Clay Lyons – Is there a correlation between visits at centers and that people can directly find jobs rather than through CSNEFL?

COMMENT - Elaine Johnson – Vaccine Mandate will be required for Federal Contractor and Employees of 100 or more. People who feel very strongly about not getting vaccinated will not enter the workforce, go to smaller companies or become self-employed. The expense to follow this mandate is large for companies.

COMMENT - Joe Pickens- We have a successful training program with LEAD readiness. We are a federal contractor and ending this program on Dec. 31 because we can't comply with the Federal vaccine mandate.

COMMENT - Elaine Johnson - Florida Blue is tracking turn over to see if it is impacted by the vaccine mandates.

Within targeted industries we continue to see strong numbers particularly in finance and healthcare.

### **Strategic Visioning Update, Rebecca Livingston**

Began with an overview of the strategic visioning priorities.

Expanding Apprenticeships in alignment with USDOL Apprenticeship week included:

- Workshops for Job Seekers
- Workshop for CSNEFL
- Proclamation from Governor Curry of Apprenticeship Week
- Apprenticeship Virtual Job Fair

Stakeholder awareness:

- Shared CSNEFL Annual Report that details our programs and success stories
- Story with First Coast News – highlights individual who received an ITA for nursing program
- In 2022, marketing will focus outreach on high-demand occupations and career paths and interviews with CSNEFL staff.

Customers Centered Design (CCD)

- Shared mock-up of Welfare Transition/SNAP signage
- Described how CCD is being utilized to serve the refugee population seeking Welfare Transition and SNAP benefits.

In-School Youth

- JAXUSA gave a presentation regarding career education in the school systems at the last board meeting
- CSNEFL is building resources on our website for students, teachers and counselors regarding career paths and opportunities
- Continue to do research to identify needs and how we can meet those needs

**No Public comments**

**Next Meeting**

Full Board meeting in January 27, 2022 at The North Florida TPO, Transportation Planning Organization.

**Adjourn**