



**KENTUCKIANAWORKS BOARD MEETING
GREATER LOUISVILLE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

Thursday, January 16, 2023 – 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Hybrid Meeting In person (at The Spot 800 West Chestnut Street, Louisville) and via Zoom

Members Present: Tony Georges, Jennifer Lampton, Cornelius Cotton, Dr. Ty Handy, Eric Friggle, John Archer, Andy Bianco, Kimberly Blanding, Patricia Williams, Rick Purdy, Mike Hesketh, Jonathan Westbrook, Rocki Rockingham, Christine Tarquinio, Harold Reynolds

Staff: Michael Gritton, Cindy Read, Latricia Swope, Alicia Pardo, Christopher Locke, Angella Wilson, Evelyn Woock, Patrick Garvey, Aleece Smith, Sarah Ehresman, Katie Elliott, Lada Gasparac, Mike Karman, Bailey Preston, Regina Phillips, Jaime Disney, Brian Luerman, Stacy Roderick, Dana Moorer, Bryan Griffin, Bradley Priestley, Darrius Brooks, Tara Ferguson

Contractors/Guests: Bria Henson, Sara Dodeci, Lynn Rippy, Daniel Hallahan, Lisa Thompson, Charlotte Kerns, Rena Sharpe, Ashley Janicki, Rosell Hamilton, Rodney Cross, Monica Collins, Jennifer French, Bill Meyer, Yvonne Jones

Welcome and Greetings - *Chairman Tony Georges*

Chairman Georges welcomed everyone to the Board Meeting and thanked them for attending.

Vote Needed: Review and Approve Minutes from January Meetings - *Tony Georges*

There was a quorum, and a motion to accept the January Meeting minutes was made by Rocki Rockingham and seconded by Jonathan Westbrook. The motion passed unanimously.

Vote Needed: Review and Approve the Consent Agendas– *Cindy Read*

Cindy stated that the consent item that needed to be approved was the request for proposals for the One Stop Operator Contract. This is required to bid out every four years, and we are at the end of one of those four-year cycles. Cindy pointed out that Angella Wilson, Senior Director of Adult Career Services, will be overseeing the procurement. A motion to approve the consent item was made by Jonathan Westbrook and seconded by Rocki Rockingham. The motion passed unanimously.

Vote Needed: Review and Approve the Fiscal Year 2022 Audits for both

KentuckianaWorks and the KentuckianaWorks Foundation – *Michael Gritton, Bill Meyer, Jennifer French*

Bill Meyer reported that two audits were completed, one for KentuckianaWorks and one for the KentuckianaWorks Foundation. He stated that each of these audits have two parts which are the Financial Statement and a Single Audit of the Federal Funds. This will equal 4 audit opinions, and he specified that all of these audits were clean opinions. Bill explained that they audited the financial statements of the governmental activities within KentuckianaWorks and the major funds of KentuckianaWorks for the year ended June 30, 2022. The report was issued December



15, 2022. He also stated that they audited the financial statements of KentuckianaWorks Foundation, Inc. for the year ended June 30, 2022 using non-profit standards and issued that report on December 15, 2022 too. Bill noted that because the Foundation has been closed as a legal entity, governmental standards will be used going forward to audit KentuckianaWorks, and only one audit will be required next year, rather than two. In conclusion, there were no transactions entered by KentuckianaWorks during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

A motion to approve the FY 2022 Audits for KentuckianaWorks and the KentuckianaWorks Foundation was made by Mike Hesketh and seconded by Rocki Rockingham. The motion passed unanimously.

Disconnected Young Adults: What does the Data tell us? What role Does the Board and Staff play? What Happens on the Ground for Young Adults to Make Them Successful?

Data: – *Sarah Ehresman*

Sarah thanked everyone and started her Youth Opportunity Data Presentation. She stated that the data being shown is particularly for ages 16-24 years old who are neither employed nor enrolled in school. She went on to further explain the youth disconnection rate on the national level perspective. Across the region, 1 in 7 young adults are not working nor enrolled in school. The youth disconnection rate is at 14% in Louisville, the second worst among our peer cities, with only Memphis at 20% faring worse in 2021.

Chairman Georges asked about the effects that occur when young adults age out of our programs. Sarah stated that young adults will continue to be unemployed, they will continue to live in poverty and have poor health outcomes. Jonathan Westbrook requested if there is data regarding post-secondary credentials. Sarah stated that in many cases, having a post-secondary credential is often required for potential earnings gains. However, data on credentials is not being tracked specifically at the local level. Michael shared with the Board that an upcoming report from the Greater Louisville Project will show that there has been a large spike in homicides committed by 16 to 24 years old and most of the victims are 16 to 24 years old too. The data shows that this population is extremely important for us to create positive change in, or it will continue to have negative consequences. Sarah's presentation was made available to the Committee at the conclusion of the meeting.

KentuckianaWorks Role: - *Lada Gasparac*

Lada began relaying the sense of urgency for aiding the youth and young adults. She then started the Youth and Young Adults Programs Department Presentation to further explain the role of the Board to service these programs. She stated that funding and programs are not linear due to the population. Lada learned that within that week, there was a study that was published regarding childcare costs being an obstacle for young adults transitioning to the workforce. This reaffirmed Sarah's data on the youth disconnection rate fueled by single mothers. In conclusion, Lada specified the challenges we face are reduced funding opportunities, smaller grants, and higher demand for personal interaction by our participants. The presentation was made available to the Board members at the conclusion of the meeting.



Program: - Rosell Hamilton

Rose thanked everyone for focusing the meeting on youth and young adults. She started by presenting The SPOT Presentation. She talked about the pathways provided at The Spot for participants, and how they have options to plan their career, connect to the resources they need, launch that plan into educational or career pathways, and then evaluate this process based on their performance and independent motivations to further expand on their career of choice. She talked about identifying the barriers of the participant, strengths, and weaknesses and the process to help them succeed in their career pathway. This presentation was made available to the Committee at the close of the meeting.

In conclusion, Rose noted that at The Spot Graduation, close to 280 individuals completed this process in Goodwill's first year delivering services to young adults as a partner with KentuckianaWorks. Michael Gritton reaffirmed this data and reminded the Committee that Goodwill established the contract in July of 2022 and started while there was a pandemic. He explained that number of graduates is only the beginning of what we hope to accomplish together in future years. Rose thanked everyone for coming and was excited to show the Board members The Spot after the meeting concludes.

Chairman Georges thanked everyone for their detailed information. He reaffirmed to the Board that these processes and pathways are the pipeline to the workforce, and if workforce is the issue then work being done in the Academies of Louisville and The Spot are important to be aware of. Michael Gritton stated that KentuckianaWorks submitted the 2024 Budget Request on January 13, 2023 asking for twice as much funding from the city than what was currently received. Specifically, for The Spot, \$2 million was requested due to the high demand at the current location and our desire to open a second location in the Dixie Highway or Preston Highway areas. Jonathan Westbrook requested if there can be calculations made from the present gap of funding to where funding needs to be within an amount of time that would allow us to meet the full level of need reflected in the data Sarah presented to us. Michael suggested having a deeper discussion, and circling back to this at the next Board meeting.

Rena Sharpe stated a coach employed at The Spot can take a copious amount of time with an individual to help with their needs. Because of the abundance of participants, there is an abundance in the need of coaches to help. Michael stated that The Spot Infographic, that shows the data of the funding source, number of people being served, and what the outcomes were within the last year vs. the outcomes from past years, will be sent out to the Board members at the conclusion of the meeting. Harold Reynolds stated, and Sarah affirmed, that apprenticeships should be considered post-secondary education.

Salute to Cindy Read – Tony Georges, Michael Gritton

Chairman Georges wanted to remind the Board members that Cindy Read did have a career before KentuckianaWorks at UPS working with him. She will truly be missed! From the Board perspective, KentuckianaWorks will be without a Deputy Director for a few months to test and figure out what the structure will be without her. With Cindy's previous employment background, skills, and connections, she brought a unique set of talents and skills that we'll be figuring out how to replace in future months. Michael Gritton chimed in with his sincerest



thanks for 12 great years with Cindy as a colleague, and noted how true the old saying is that “Time flies when you’re having fun!”

Cindy thanked the Board for their appreciation and good wishes, and expressed how much she has enjoyed her 12 years of working on the Board’s behalf. She is very proud of what we accomplished together, and looks forward to staying in touch with our work even as she begins a new chapter in her life. Cindy also took the time to mention a recent promotion and two new staff members who were in attendance. She noted that Bryan Griffin was promoted to Information Technology Manager about a year and a half ago, and he now has Bradley Priesley under him as a Network Administrator/Helpdesk. Tara Ferguson is the new Workforce Development Coordinator who is working under Angella Wilson in Adult Career Services.

With no further discussion, Chairman Georges then adjourned the meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 23, 2023 at Greater Louisville Inc.