



**KENT COUNTY ESSENTIAL NEEDS TASK FORCE
ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
West Michigan Works 215 Straight St.
Thursday October 6, 2016
8:30-10:00**

Minutes

1. Welcome/Introductions

2. Presentation- City of Grand Rapids Human Resources Dept.

- City of Grand Rapids is not here. Jacob Maas had been in communication with the City, but acknowledged there may not have been a final confirmation email sent. We will try to get Alex Melton (City of GR Human Sources department) back for next month. Jacob mentioned to the group that the City of GR is looking for diverse labor force and interested in doing a pilot to hire returning citizens. Jacob stated that he had invited them so they could connect to community based organizations.

3. Calvin Center for Social Research- Neil Carlson, Allison Rudi

- Neil: Reviewed the transportation map. This is a GIS map created for the transportation committee that has major destination sites (mds) for Kent County. Included in those MDS are the workforce development sites, and employment clusters with 1000 or more employees. The group really liked the employment clusters, but asked if the number could be reduced to 500. Neil stated that this could be done and CSR would work to provide this update. He also went over the workforce development report card and the changes that had been with the feedback from the last meeting.

4. Systems Work- Danielle and Shavon facilitation

- Approval of System Navigator Definition: Danielle and Shavon reviewed the updated definition with the group. There was discussion and the group accepted the current version of the definition.
- Three year Kellogg proposal: Danielle and Shavon reviewed the work done by the advisory committee since the last meeting. The advisory committee took the feedback

from the last meeting and gave more detail to the five areas of proposed work for the Kellogg grant. Danielle and Shavon created a chart outlining the each of the three years in the five topic areas.

5. Agency Updates

Agency provided updates:

1. Jubilee jobs is opening up a GED café at Goodwill Sparks location
2. Jamon let the group know about the work being done through a planning grant with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. GR was one of 50 cities around the country awarded an 18 month planning grant. Some of this work will include workforce development and its correlation to health.

6. Adjourn