



Economic and Workforce Development  
 Subcommittee Meeting Minutes  
 September 3, 2020  
 8:30am – 10:00am

Meeting Attendees:	Adriene Pendery, Adrienne Goodstal, Angela Wallace, BettyBeth Johns, Bill Kirk, Carra Oteto, Colene Johnson, Erin Donnelly, Giuliana Estrada, Jamon Alexander, Jayme Vosovic, Jennifer Summers, Jodi Petersen, Jose Cummings, Laura St. Louis, Lawrence Kloth, Lisa Venema, Lynne Bosma, Lynne Bosma, Mary Engle, Melissa Rizer, Michelle Bryk, Monica Light, Nancy DuBois, Niesa Nelson, Sara Proano, Shannon Harris, Sharlene Organ, Shawn Arapovich, Tia Zeien, Tim Novak, Tony Calcagno, Wanda Couch, Wende Randall, Emily Madsen, Brianne Czyzio Robach <i>(List may not be complete- please contact Brianne if you were on the call but are not listed here.)</i>		
Time Convened:	8:35	Time Adjourned:	10:04

<b>Introductions</b>	
<b>Theory of Change</b>	
Discussion	
<p>As ENTF is going through the strategic planning process, the Steering Committee has been discussing planning specific to this subcommittee and had identified a theory of change as a strategy to move planning forward. Wende overviewed the basics of a theory of change. A theory of change is an opportunity to create a blueprint for where work is going and how to get there. It can also help ensure current strategies are in alignment with long-term goals and understand how strategies play into broader community activities. Components include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clear goal: in creating a theory of change, the subcommittee will have to consider whether to reaffirm goal created a few years ago or update the goal</li> <li>- Powerful strategies</li> <li>- “So that” chains: show how series of events leads to the goal.</li> <li>- Links to outputs and outcomes</li> <li>- Testing of logic and relevance: Emily will be working to support this work</li> <li>- Articulated assumptions</li> </ul> <p>The theory of change comes out of several previous and current efforts including input during the Process Evaluation with Jodi Petersen and Smart Practices Report theme areas. Steering Committee has been talking through the why behind the work, and how to create strategies to move forward. Creating a theory of change is one of these steps. In light of COVID-19, there are impact areas that could be included in theory of change. Reflections from the group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Necessary exercise in cycling back and evaluating. Also, important to bring conversations back to practical application to address disconnect between theory and practice. Having the opportunity to share how the work here impacts direct service (in relatively 'real' time) is very useful.</li> <li>- include focus on racial equity, this can also inform organizational work</li> <li>- Impacts due to COVID: digital connectivity and literacy barrier, virtual schooling needs, ID services</li> <li>- Collective power and voice of group - hope the group can use this to inform and push policies to bring about change (childcare, housing, minimum wage, benefit cliff)</li> </ul>	
<b>Community Partner Updates</b>	
Discussion	



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- **The Rapid:** Bill Kirk is the Business Affairs Specialist at The Rapid. He will be joining the group regularly and is available to talk with about gaps, barriers, service opportunities at [BKirk@ridetherapid.org](mailto:BKirk@ridetherapid.org)
- **MLPP:** Current advocacy areas:
  - The state budget deficit is lower than expected due to boosts from federal funding. However, there will likely be cuts in FY2021 if there is not additional federal stimulus funding. <https://mlpp.org/covid-19-highlights-the-need-for-more-state-revenue/>
  - They are also focusing advocacy around restoration of federal UI benefits. <https://mlpp.org/trumps-insufficient-unemployment-benefits-order-will-hurt-michigan/>
  - There is a moratorium on evictions but rent and fees will still be due and there is not currently sufficient state funds to meet these needs.
  - Reminder that providing advocacy before an election is also important to ensure that the candidate and electorate are informed.
- **Advocacy:** ENTf and MLPP connecting on ways to provide coaching on advocacy, stay tuned!
- **Disability Awareness Day (virtual):** September 18<sup>th</sup>, 10:30-1:30. Tables are still available for \$25. Register at: <https://disabilityawarenessday2020.eventbrite.com>
- **GoBus Plus!:** Launched mid-July for eligible users, offering credit for trips with GoBus, GoLux, Lyft, or Uber. Reach out to Laura St. Louis with questions: 616-323-2236.
- **KDL:** sustainability dept. has used books (in great condition) that can be reused and repurposed to stock Little Free Libraries or for organization libraries. Also, wifi hotspots are available for pick up.
- **Digital Inclusion:** ENTf recognizing that digital connectivity needs are elevated during this time. They are working to bring together organizations, providers, and municipalities to discuss how to strategize for digital inclusion across the county and potentially regionally. If interested in joining these conversation, please reach out to Wende ([wrandall@hwmuw.org](mailto:wrandall@hwmuw.org))