



# Economic and Workforce Development Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

November 4, 2020

8:30am – 10:00am

Facilitator:	Chad Patton		
Meeting Attendees:	Adriene Pendery, Amanda Aguirre, Andrew Sisson, BettyBeth Johns, Bill Guest, Bill Kirk, Chad Patton, Claudia Pohlen, Colene Johnson, Daniel VanderMolen, Darryl Todd, Emilio Zamarripa, Emily Madsen, Giuliana Estrada, Jamon Alexander, Jayme Vosovic, Jennifer Summers, Jodi Petersen, Jose Cummings, Juan Rosario, Laura St. Louis, Lawrence Kloth, Lisa Venema, Lorena Aguayo-Marquez, Lynne Bosma, Maddie Strom, Mark Bauby, Melissa Rizer, Monica Light, Nancy DuBois, Nicole Smith, Oogie LaMar, Sara Proano-Motta, Sharlene Organ, Tawana Brown, Tia Zeien, Wafa Haddad, Wanda Couch, Wende Randall <i>(List may not be complete- please contact Brianna if you were on the call but are not listed here.)</i>		
Time Convened:	8:33	Time Adjourned:	10:03

<b>Introductions</b>	
<b>Equity Activity</b>	
Discussion	
<p>The Equity Action Team shared the Ruling Class and the Buffer Zone article with the group ahead of the meeting: <a href="http://paulkivel.com">The Ruling Class and the Buffer Zone (paulkivel.com)</a>. The premise of the article is that nonprofit and care workers operate in the buffer zone which helps maintain the status quo and structures of power and wealth. The action team thought this article was timely given the inequities that were highlighted by the pandemic and the fact that billionaires have increased wealth during the pandemic, whereas many people have lost income. The article speaks to the tension felt as nonprofit workers – how do we provide support and services while at the same time working to disrupt oppressive systems? Subcommittee members got into small groups to discuss and reflect on the article.</p> <p>Reflection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This ties into asset framing. How do we move to asset framing instead of stigmatizing communities and maintaining status quo? Suggestion to bring Trabian Shorters for a training for the community - <a href="http://trabianshorters.com/asset-framing/">http://trabianshorters.com/asset-framing/</a></li> <li>• Important to ask communities and neighbors how they see themselves as part of the solution and work with them towards the solution</li> <li>• Consider to what extent barriers are arbitrary and externally imposed</li> <li>• Consider that the workforce system is rooted in slavery which can be seen playing out in different ways today</li> <li>• Important to work towards changing the narrative, how we frame our conversations impacts the power structure</li> <li>• Us versus them mentality in organizations providing services instead of</li> <li>• Potential for tension among organizations competing for limited funding</li> <li>• This conversation ties into data and evaluation. Data can be designed to look at outcomes instead of at individuals.</li> </ul> <p>Call to Action: consider how you are maintaining status quo, as an individual and an organization.</p>	



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<b>Activity Planning for 2021</b>	
Discussion	
The group will discuss the Theory of Change and alignment of priorities for 2021 at January meeting.	
<b>Service Analysis Launch Update</b>	
Discussion	
Last month, Emily shared work plan for the Service Analysis that was developed by Petersen Research Consultants and the Measuring Systems Success Action Team. She is currently working to incorporate feedback from committee members. The survey will be released on Tuesday, December 8 <sup>th</sup> . If you have any questions around the Service Analysis, please connect with Emily ( <a href="mailto:emadsen@hwmuw.org">emadsen@hwmuw.org</a> )	
<b>Steering Committee Nominations</b>	
Every December, the subcommittee submits nominations for folks to join the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee sets the foundation for the subcommittee and guides the work and priorities.	
Election process:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 seats are up for election</li> <li>• Nominate yourself or someone else via Google form: <a href="https://forms.gle/hpczcyb5qU4BwFXJA">https://forms.gle/hpczcyb5qU4BwFXJA</a></li> <li>• Nominations are due by Wednesday, January 6th at 5:00pm</li> <li>• Slate of nominees will be announced at the January 7th meeting</li> <li>• Voting will occur electronically following the January meeting</li> </ul>	
<b>Community Partner Updates</b>	
Discussion	
<p><u>Disability Advocates</u>: they are working on a mobility pilot for veterans and their family members. They are looking for volunteer drivers and for riders. Connect with Laura for more information, <a href="mailto:laura.s@dakc.us">laura.s@dakc.us</a></p> <p><u>Kent ISD</u>: GED testing center on Beckwith is still open, For GED Testing go to <a href="http://www.myged.com">www.myged.com</a> portal to register to take a GED test.</p> <p><u>Literacy Center</u>: recruiting for ESL cohort for Coding Bootcamp</p> <p><u>KDL</u>: partnering with Feeding America food trucks and other organizations to distribute books. If you have a distribution opportunity where KDL can distribute, contact <a href="mailto:bookmobile@kdl.org">bookmobile@kdl.org</a></p> <p><u>MLPP</u>: please continue to advocate!</p> <p><u>West Michigan Works!</u>: hiring a career coach, see their website for more information</p>	