

**Displaced Homemaker Board
Face to Face Meeting Minutes
Monday June 24, 2013 10:00 am
Video-Conference: Las Vegas, Reno Town Mall, Carson City and Truckee Meadows
Community College**

Board Members Present:

Tracy Guinn - Chairperson
Barbara Twitchell
Deborah Levy
Louise Helton
Jennifer Counter

Board Members Absent: None

Department of Employment, Training & Rehabilitation Staff Present:

Jennifer Bender
Keith Hosannah
Samantha Hill-Cruz
Sophia LaBranch

DH Center Coordinators Present:

Sidney Sullivan Truckee Meadows Community College

DH Center Coordinators Absent: None

DH Center Staff:

Cheryle DeDios	HELP of Southern Nevada
Denise Gee	HELP of Southern Nevada
Olga Mesina	Truckee Meadows Community College
Linda Gotelli	JOIN Carson City

DH Center Staff Absent:

Kathleen McKnight JOIN

- I. Roll Call and Confirmation of a Quorum:** Tracy Guinn called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. Five Board Members were present at that time for a quorum.
- II. Verification of Posting:** Samantha Hill-Cruz and providers confirmed proper posting of the meeting.

III. Welcome and Introductions: Barbara Twitchell introduced newest Board Member Jennifer Counter.

IV. Public Comment:

- Cheryle DeDois addressed the board members about a client she had attend a workshop who was DH eligible. He received an Intent to Hire letter for a machine company on the condition that he purchase his own tools. His tools would cost between \$40 and \$500. Cheryle wanted to know if DH funds could be used to purchase these for him. Barbara Twitchell and Louise Helton addressed the situation confirming the DH grant does not cover purchase of tooling, however partnering program could. Olga Mesina/ TMCC and Samantha Hill-Cruz/DETR confirmed that CEP, Silver State Works and WIA could partner with DH. Samantha offered to put HELP in contact with her local Job Connect and WIA providers.

V. Program Reports:

- **TMCC** – Sydney Sullivan introduced Olga Mesina as the new Employment Specialist. She was formerly employed with DETR in the Vocational Rehabilitation Department as a counselor. They received two Perkins grants for the upcoming year. One of the grants will be used to build the Job Preparation Center. They also received a Regents Award to hire a student worker for that center. Sydney attended a Bridges out of Poverty workshop. TMCC is planning on presenting to the college’s presidential counsel in September to start some faculty development along these lines as well as curriculum for those that are referred. Unsure of how that will come together right now.
- **HELP** – Denise Gee reported that they’ve built strong partnerships in the community and they are receiving referrals from those partnerships. The court ordered Alternative Sentencing program is now sending their clients to volunteer free labor to local non profits. They have a new program that they’re working with called Framing Hope. Framing Hope is a Home Depot foundation and is run by the Good 360. This program donates materials to local non profits and offers supplies for training to clients at 25% of retail. Cheryle reported that HELP of Southern Nevada received a donation of a 50% of the cost of a new closet and dressing rooms from California Closets to house all of the clothes and suits for clients. The closet is set up more like a boutique and clients are showing more interest. They hired Cynthia Eagan as a new Job Developer and added a new position (Data Entry Information Specialist Assistant) which they have also filled. The National Men’s Warehouse Suit Drive is happening in July and they expect at least another 1,000 pieces this year. HELP is still actively involved with “What’s it mean to be Green” workshop which is a partnership with Workforce Connections. Graduates of their workshop are eligible to participate in the green workshop. Barbara Twitchell had a question on their report regarding the YTD column for C1A & C1B. There

is a dollar amount rather than the total number of people that have obtained employment. Denise Gee will correct it.

- **JOIN** – Linda Gotelli was asked to attend for Kathy McKnight. Kathy did not send anything specific for her to report. Linda advised that JOIN of Carson City has obtained an additional 1100 sq. ft. in which they will build their GED Testing Center. They also have a job opening for a Job Developer.
- **DETR** – Louise asked Jennifer Bender if she was seeing any shift in the divorce rate this year. She reported that as of February 2013, about \$78,000 had been collected from divorce fees. Olga Mesina asked if fees are being collected from dissolution of Domestic Partnerships. If not, that could be the next opportunity.

VI. Approval of minutes from December 12, 2012 meeting. - Approved pending correction of *tepid*.

VII. Discussion/Action Items

- Louise Helton reported that the Attorney General will not broaden the interpretation of Displaced Homemaker Board Member in the NRS to include *former* displaced homemakers. If we want that changed we will need to have the NRS rewritten. Barbara Twitchell felt that the Board should wait and see if the state's financial situation improves before taking any action that might otherwise jeopardize our funding.
- Barbara Twitchell also reported that she looked into the Judicial College and they are strictly educational and judges do not meet by state. They referred her to Diane Barnett at NCJFCJ (National Counsel of Juvenile and Family Court Judges). She was advised of a statewide conference in Ely. Family court attorneys, judges, paralegals, etc. attend each year. Louise Helton also received the same information.
- Board members would like to find out if the next face to face meeting could be held during the statewide Juvenile and Family Court Judges conference in Ely. If so, hotels need to be secured ASAP. Board members would also like to know if a DH Board retreat could be held at the same time. Tracy Guinn nominated Louise Helton and Barbara Twitchell to be panel speakers in Ely. Olga suggested the Board use some activities from Bridges out of Poverty. The Board needs to find out if they can have a booth at the conference. The Board discussed ideas for presenting at the Ely conference such as;
- Creating a PowerPoint presentation client success stories and purchasing a table banner.
- Barbara Twitchell can put together an article about DH to see if the Nevada State Bar Quarterly would publish it.
- Louise got the name of Mike Kattleman who sits on the State Bar and issued Barbara his contact information.
- Creating Sub committee(s) for a possible face to face in Ely

- Use \$5,000 of reserve funds for materials, promotional items, and Judicial Conference/retreat travel, will discuss further at next meeting.
- Contacting Ely JOIN for thoughts, support, space etc while in Ely.
- Barbara Twitchell distributed completed Board manual to members. She thanked DETR for their help.
- DH website v. brochure. Website committee?
- Discuss duties of committees in September
- Tracy Guinn nominated Barbara Twitchell to be the new Chairperson and the Board unanimously agreed.
- Future meeting dates 9/9/13 and 12/9/13 at 4:00 p.m. Board will decide on March and June dates at 9/9/13 meeting.

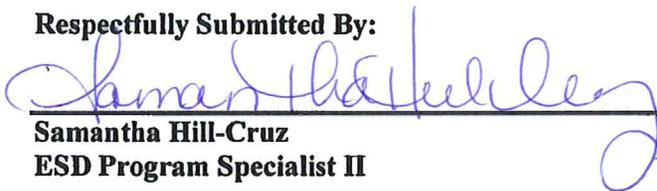
VIII. Future Agenda Items:

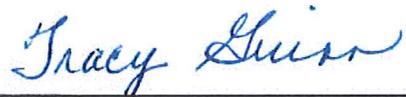
- Find out more information on domestic partnership dissolutions, numbers and fees
- Discuss creating subcommittees regarding website, brochure, materials, and conferences
- Follow up on March date to coincide with Ely Conference
- Revisit release of board reserve funds
- Discuss planning of board retreat and bringing in a facilitator for the event

IX. Adjournment:

- Tracy Guinn motioned for adjournment of the meeting at 11:55 a.m. with a unanimous second.

Respectfully Submitted By:


 Samantha Hill-Cruz
 ESD Program Specialist II


 Tracy Guinn, Chairperson
 Board for the Education and Counseling of Displaced Homemakers