

**Displaced Homemaker Board
Meeting Minutes
Monday, December 8, 2008, 1:30 p.m.
Video Conference: Carson City, Las Vegas, Reno**

Board Members Present:

Mary Hausch
Louise Helton
Tracy Guinn
Terry Ditton

Board Members Absent:

Chairperson Mary Katherine Moen

Workforce Investment Support Services (WISS) And Financial Management

Staff Present:

Harvey Lee
Susanne Etter
Ron Hilke

DH Center Coordinators Present:

Mich Glazier

Truckee Meadows Community College

DH Center Coordinators Absent:

Carolyn Wilson
Terrie Stanfill

JOIN Inc.
HELP of Southern Nevada

DH Center Staff:

Fuילala Riley
Denise Gee
Germaine Kinunwa
Sidney Sullivan
Kathy McKnight

HELP of Southern Nevada
HELP of Southern Nevada
HELP of Southern Nevada
Truckee Meadows Community College
JOIN DH Fallon

- I. Call to Order:** Louise Helton, as immediate past president, called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. Four Board members were present for a quorum.
- II. Verification of Posting:** The proper posting of the meeting was confirmed.
- III. Welcome and Introductions:** Ms. Helton asked attendees to introduce themselves and welcomed all to the meeting.

IV. Approval of September 15, 2008, Board Minutes: Ms. Guinn moved and Ms. Hausch seconded approval of the minutes. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

V. Update – DH Program Revenues and Expenditures:

Harvey Lee reported on the DETR Financial Management figures up to November 5. Susanne Etter was also present to answer questions. The top row of Cash Analysis is the key information of what cash is available to the centers for their invoices. JOIN Northeast and West both have cash available to develop programs. An agency can spend up to the contract authority. Mr. Lee also reported on some research into the fees that were collected in 2007 according to the State of Nevada Supreme Court Annual Report on the Internet. Both Washoe County and Clark County were under the \$20 per “marriage dissolution” total potential. The average was \$17.50 collected for each divorce. This suggests that judges are assigning the fees to all those who can afford the fee. Mr. Lee suggested that the Centers carefully budget for the rest of the year and suggest how their programs will be best served by releasing the Board Reserve at the March meeting.

VI. Reserve Account Expenditure: Mr. Lee obtained bids on the Displaced Homemakers brochure. The bid was given four ways: Quantity 5,000 and 10,000, and two-color and four-color. The 10,000 and the four-color bid was for \$1,442.65. A motion was made by Mary Hausch and second by Tracy Guinn to approve this purchase from the Administrative Reserve Account. Approval was unanimous.

VII. Review of Grantee Reports:

HELP of Southern Nevada
Denise Gee, Center Coordinator

Ms. Gee presented the report for HELP of Southern Nevada. The center, which is now called WORC -- Work Opportunities Readiness Center, has been busy meeting the challenges of a down economy. Unemployment is 7.6% with many companies downsizing, laying off employees, hiring freezes, and the like. Recruiters that used to come on site aren't doing that now. Housekeeping was historically a good placement for their clients due to high turnover and that it was 20% of the hospitality industry. Now, the turnover has reduced so even that resource is not as good. The buzzword is training and you will see more of our area involved in training. You will also see our wages freeze in our reports. Some of their clients are going back to school and taking part-time jobs.

On the good news side, WORC has been developing new partnerships. One potential partnership is called Build Nevada. WORC has referred six people to Build Nevada which is funded by Associated General Contractors' Local Labor Union. They may pay \$15 to \$45 per hour during the training period. The last class that graduated average age was 25. Nevada Partners works closely with WORC in some of their training programs.

WORC was the recipient of the National Men's Wearhouse campaign in Las Vegas. From five stores we received 863 suit sets. National notified us that we were going to receive 300 new dresses as well. They are stacked up everywhere in our offices. A large business campaign is being launched out of California and they wanted each entity to bring a "dress for success" item and WORC is the recipient of that campaign. WORC is a new provider for WIA (Workforce Investment Act) Youth. That grant money will enable them to provide more services in training and employment. WORC just hired a new career specialist and job developer. WORC is in full swing for the holiday program. They took 1600 applications and have given out information for that workshop. WORC was contacted by the Census Bureau. Their representatives will be attending the first workshop in January and hopefully recruiting and hiring people onsite. Germaine added that their training program starts at \$11 to \$17 an hour. They are hopeful that the displaced homemakers will benefit greatly with this partnership.

Truckee Meadows Community College
Mich Glazier, Director The Re-entry Center

Ms. Glazier reported that cutbacks at the community college and university levels have been severe. There will be no Christmas party this year. TMCC and the Re-Entry Center have lost a lot of people. In July they lost 33 and 10 more a scheduled to depart by January 1. Ms. Glazier is retiring July 3, 2009, but will be in the Re-Entry Center through the end of June. The people who planned the annual Christmas party are no longer around and the funding was no longer there. But the student association and some generous donors are contributing so the participants of the program will be receiving \$50 Wal-Mart gift cards to use for whatever the need is. They took in eleven students for their Perkins grant program. All three dental assistant graduates are working as are their four nursing student graduates. They have lost some of their Re-Entry Center budget already.

Sidney Sullivan explained that the dental assistant students are earning between \$15 and \$17 per hour; one of them went to work for the Veterans Medical Center. One of the nursing students is also working for the V.A. A couple of the staffing agencies have closed their doors, cause for worry. IGT has laid off many people. Fitzgerald's closed and laid off 188 people. (They will convert the casino/hotel to a resort hotel/no casino and reopen in a couple years.)

The headcount at TMCC is up way over 13,000. During a recession everyone wants to go back to school. The problem is there are enough people to serve them because some of the staff is gone. Because we don't know where or who will be cut, it's hard to know how our program will look. Every professional at the college will be given a terminal contract. I'm one of the lucky ones, said Ms. Glazier. She is able to retire after 25+ years. Our basic mission, our college's core mission will remain.

JOIN Inc.
Kathy McKnight, JOIN Inc. Fallon Center

JOIN is experiencing the same amount of business shut-downs in the Fallon and Fernley areas. Lyon County's unemployment rate is 9.5%. All of our displaced homemakers are dual enrolled in the WIA program so we are able to pay for training out of WIA funds. Three of our participants have earned their Certified Nursing Assistant State licenses. All

three are working: two in Fallon and one in Carson City. Many of our clients in all programs have turned to cosmetology and manicuring. Two displaced homemaker clients are attending cosmetology school in Carson City. One displaced homemaker earned her commercial drivers license (CDL) and is employed by Swift Transportation as a trucker. More displaced homemaker clients are coming in for assistance. Questioned about the program in the Northeast, Ms. McKnight said that there aren't enough qualified candidates in the Northeast where the mines are. Unemployment is very low there. Mines are being very conservative about hiring. And most of the hiring is in technical positions.

VIII. Public Comment: There was no public comment.

IX. Suggested Agenda Items: Mr. Lee will bring figures for the budget consideration for the March 9, 2009, meeting and asks that each DH Center consider how their program will look for the rest of the year.

X. Adjournment: The Board adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

**Harvey L. Lee, ESD Program Specialist II
Workforce Investment Support Services**

**Mary Katherine Moen, Chairperson
Board for the Education and Counseling of Displaced Homemakers**

Date of Board Approval