

Displaced Homemaker Board
Meeting Minutes - Corrected
Wednesday, March 31, 2005 9:00 a.m.
Video-conference – Carson City and Las Vegas

Board Members Present:

Chairperson Mary Hausch
Sara Besser
Lee Geldmacher
Estela Gutierrez

Board Members Absent:

Louise Helton

Workforce Investment Support Services (WISS)

Staff Present:

Connie Williams
Ron Hilke
Harvey Lee

DH Center Coordinators Present:

Barbara Twitchell
Terrie Stanfill

Truckee Meadows Community College
HELP of Southern Nevada

DH Center Coordinators Absent:

None

DH Center Staff:

Denise Gee
Sydney Sullivan

HELP of Southern Nevada
Truckee Meadows Community College

I. Call to Order: Chair called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

II. Introduction: Chair welcomed persons attending the meeting, attendees introduced themselves, and announced their affiliations.

III. Approval of December 13, 2004 Board Minutes: Chair asked if there were any comments. HELP of Southern Nevada was going to serve over 2000 not 200 families as part of their holiday assistance program (the actual count was over 3500). TMCC noted the following corrections

1. Sydney Sullivan's name needs to be corrected
2. The Center is beginning the hiring process to fill Ms Simkins position. Also they have established a scholarship in her memory.
3. The Center held a Job Fair targeting the placement of women in non-traditional career fields.

Ms. Gutierrez moved for approval with corrections. The motion was seconded by Ms. Besser and unanimously approved.

IV. Election of Chair: Two nominations were received. Ms. Hausch was nominated by Ms. Besser, and Ms. Geldmacher by Ms. Gutierrez. The vote resulted in a tie and the item was tabled until the next meeting.

V. Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation Financial Management Report: Connie Williams provided updated collections information to the Board. Board members expressed concern over the collections shortfall from Washoe County and the Northeast with possible negative impact on the program. Members requested information on whether this was due to decreased divorce rates or to waiver of fee collections by judges. Additionally there was discussion over alternative program funding. DETR-WISS staff will investigate the issue and report back to the Board. Further discussion centered on contacting judges to insure they are briefed on program activities and funding. Ms. Williams also briefed the Board on new procedures required for posting and Board discussion. Ms. Geldmacher moved for approval of the reports and was seconded by Ms. Besser. The report was approved unanimously.

VI. Review of Grantee Reports:

JOIN Inc.

Carolyn Wilson and other JOIN Inc. staff were attending an agency training/staff session presented by DETR and were not able to attend this meeting.

Truckee Meadows Community College
Barbara Twitchell, Director The Re-entry Center

The Center reported 183 active Participants with a 2nd quarter placement wage of \$11.14 (\$10.57 YTD). Ms. Twitchell credited center staff particularly Sidney Sullivan for their efforts in this area. Staff is participating in training to improve service to clients including Ms. Sullivan who is working on the Career Development Facilitator Certification program. Center staff attended the International Career Development Conference including professional and developmental training. Ms. Twitchell continues as the Women's Work Region IX representative and Board of Directors member and will address program issues at the upcoming Conference. The Center has hired Dr. Marsha Hope as the new Transition Specialist. She is the former Dean of Students at Sierra Nevada College and brings extensive experience and knowledge to the program. Her position is funded by the College as part of its contribution to the program. The Center has had to severely reduce expenditures because of the reduction in fee collections. Ms. Twitchell discussed additional actions that may be required and the possibility of outside funding for the Program. The Board discussed the issue and instructed staff to continue to monitor the situation.

HELP of Southern Nevada
Terrie Stanfill, Center Coordinator

HELP of Southern Nevada has moved to their new location at 1640 E. Flamingo. Julia and Germaine will be attending the Women's work Conference. The Board's suggestion to place information at mortuary facilities has generated some referrals. HELP addressed the Southern Nevada Workforce Investment Board providers meeting which generated follow up conversation with eight providers including the Job Connect Center Staffs. HELP has received an unrestricted private grant to provide childcare to program participants attending class. HELP were given several computers. They intend to raffle them to program participants, which has generated considerable interest. White Dove a service organization composed of area businesswomen has adopted HELP for the current year. They intend to provide speakers clothing assistance and will provide funding for HELP's food voucher program. Steinmart has donated clothing to assist with the program. Ms Stanfill introduced Ms Gee who discussed her hopes for the program. The Board asked about the Hispanic outreach conducted by HELP. The agency has hired an ESL coordinator who will assist with the DH program.

VII. Public Comment: There was no public comment addressed to the Board.

VIII. Adjournment: The Board discussed the next meeting. The consensus was to hold the meeting by video-conferencing on June 6th at 9:30 AM. Board members requested that public information processes be discussed. Ms. Besser moved to adjourn and was seconded by Ms. Gutierrez. The Board adjourned at approximately 10:30 AM.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Ronald Hilke, ESD Program Specialist II
Workforce Investment Support Services

Mary Hausch, Chairperson
Board for the Education and Counseling of Displaced Homemakers

Date of Board Approval