

Displaced Homemaker Board
Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 12, 2007, 9:30 a.m.
Las Vegas, NV

Board Members Present:

Chairperson Louise Helton
Sara Besser
Mary Hausch
Mary K. Moen

Board Members Absent:

Carmen Hirsh

Workforce Investment Support Services (WISS)

Staff Present:

Ron Hilke
Harvey Lee

DH Center Coordinators Present:

Barbara Twitchell

Truckee Meadows Community College

DH Center Coordinators Absent:

Carolyn Wilson
Terrie Stanfill

JOIN Inc.
HELP of Southern Nevada

DH Center Staff:

Kathy McKnight
Fuilala Riley
Denise Gee
Germaine Kinunwa
Sidney Sullivan

JOIN Inc
HELP of Southern Nevada
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TMCC

I. Call to Order: Chairperson Louise Helton called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. She was in Carson City to discuss issues with legislators.

II. Verification of Posting: The proper posting of the meeting was confirmed.

III. Introduction: Ms. Helton had attendees introduce themselves and announce their affiliations.

IV. Approval of December 2006 Board Minutes: There was one correction (“Women Work” not “Women’s Work”). The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

V. Election of Chairperson: Ms. Helton was nominated by Mary Hausch and elected to serve as chairperson by unanimous acclaim as there were no further nominations.

VI. Update – DH Program Revenues and Expenditures: Harvey Lee reviewed the financial reports. More funds are now available for service to the Northeast area of Nevada.

VII. Review of Grantee Reports:

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

Ms. Twitchell presented the Center report. The agency has been in the process of implementing a new database. It was not fully implemented at the time of the last meeting. The Re-entry Center recomputed the data and included a revised first quarter report with their second quarter report. The Center had articles published in several magazines. *Northern Nevada Business Report* featured Sidney Sullivan in an article about the job search process. *Women Work* had an article on the new Nevada Chapter and will have an article featuring DH program participant Ms. Gephardt who is now a nursing student at TMCC. The Center is assisting clients in the scholarship process. Local foundations have contributed \$55,000 for education assistance for Center clients.

The Center is conducting outreach with several agencies including Hosanna House, Casa de Vida (young mothers), Planned Parenthood, Rivendale (battered and abused clients), the American Association of University Women (mentoring), and area high schools (Wooster, Hug, and Sparks). Center staff are also attending training at other agencies. Ms. Sheldon completed a three-day leadership seminar with Women Work and briefed the Board on the program.

Mr. Lee and Ms. Moen congratulated staff on their activities and for approaching well targeted agencies for aiding DH potential clients. Ms. Helton asked about the sharing of informational materials between the Centers and was assured that communications are ongoing and will continue.

HELP of Southern Nevada
Denise Gee, Center Coordinator

Ms. Gee presented the report of HELP of Southern Nevada, which has been participating with State Corrections in their re-employment/re-entry program several women have participated in the DH program including one veteran. The Center is also conducting outreach with employers holding a series of working breakfasts. The next one is with construction employers at the Nevada Partners Training Center. Mirage Resorts provided professional work clothing (several hundred suits and other items). This contact enabled the Center to make several contacts with corporate management. The UNLV Center for Academic Outreach is partnering with HELP in providing training the online application system. Ms. Twitchell informed HELP that a new member of the Nevada Women Work

Board is an executive with Mirage Resorts and that she might be a good resource for the DH Program.

JOIN Inc.

Kathy McKnight, JOIN Inc. Fallon Center

Ms. McKnight presented the JOIN Inc. report. They have opened the Fernley Office so they will now be able to assist clients in that area half-days five days a week. They have partnered with Lyon County social services. They have also begun working with the transitional housing programs in Lyon and Churchill Counties in providing client assistance. Through the JobConnect Offices they have begun working with Horizon Truck Driving School. It has received grant funding for providing truck driving and construction equipment training for women. The Center is continuing with the rural initiative to end poverty and working with the anti-methamphetamine consortium in the rural counties. The Board asked about their reporting format as JOIN was not providing the same demographic information as the HELP and the Re-Entry Center. Ms. McKnight stated that their report would be brought into alignment.

VIII. Suggested Agenda Items for Next Meeting: The Board asked that the Center Directors review the financial report format. Harvey will also schedule a follow-up with the Center directors to last year's planning meeting. The Board agreed to hold the next meeting on Friday, June 1, 2007, at 9:30 a.m. The Board will review its scheduling to accommodate all Board members equally.

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

X. Adjournment: The Board adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

**Ronald Hilke, ESD Program Specialist II
Workforce Investment Support Services**

**Louise Helton, Chairperson
Board for the Education and Counseling of Displaced Homemakers**

Date of Board Approval