



## **Program Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes**

**May 18, 2023**

**9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**

### **Zoom Meeting**

- Members Present:** Mike Hesketh, Christine Tarquinio, Caitlin Blair, Jenny Lampton, Leslie Martin, Patricia Williams
- Staff:** Michael Gritton, Alicia Pardo, Chris Locke, Angella Wilson, Bailey Preston, Brian Luerman, Dana Moorer, Evelyn Woock, Katie Elliott, Patrick Garvey, Aleece Smith, Stacy Roderick, Tara Ferguson, Jaime Disney, Latricia Swope, Regina Phillips, Darrius Brooks
- Contractors/Guests:** Kimberly Boyd-Lane, Yvonne Jones, Renee Walters, Rosell Hamilton, Rena Sharpe, Eric Hicks, Sherry Wade, Ashley Janicki, Sara Dodeci, Rodney Cross, Lynn Rippy, Martha Stephenson, Ray Mansfield

#### **Welcome and Greetings:** *Mike Hesketh*

Chairman Hesketh was delighted to welcome the Program Oversight Committee, staff, and guests to the meeting.

#### **Review & Approve Minutes from April Meeting 2023 Minutes – *Mike Hesketh***

A motion to approve the April minutes was made by Caitlin Blair and seconded by Jennifer Lampton. The motion passed without opposition.

#### **Vote Needed: Contract Amounts for Several Funding Streams that Support the Work of The Spot – Part 1 - *Michael Gritton, Evelyn Woock***

Michael shared a brief overview of the budget cycle for the contracts that are approved and utilized to run the programs and then turned it over to Evelyn Woock.

##### **-Youth ShelterWorks**

Evelyn stated that the game plan was to continue contracting with Goodwill. She pointed out that for the past year, Goodwill has assisted 83 (332% of the proposed metric) homeless young adults in obtaining and securing housing, employment, supportive services, human services, training, internships, and more. All other set metrics have been similarly exceeded to include a <3% recidivism back into emergency housing for active participants.

KentuckianaWorks sought approval to renew a contract with Goodwill Industries of Kentucky in an amount not to exceed \$89,411.00 to provide services at the Spot (NIA and JCTC Campus) from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024. The contract amount may vary based on final determinations of funding allocation for the 2023-2024 program year. A motion to approve was made by Patricia Williams and seconded by Caitlin Blair. The motion passed without opposition.

#### **Vote Needed: Board Committee Recommendation to Award a New Contract to Serve as the One-Stop Operator to Equus Workforce Solutions – *Angella Wilson***

Angella thanked everyone for their time and flexibility, and she provided background on the One-Stop

Operator. This function is required by WIOA and is separate from the running of the Career Centers. WIOA requires it to be bid every four years, so we issued an RFP earlier this year since Equus's four-year contract would expire in June 2023. A bidder's conference was held on Friday, March 17, with one service provider in attendance. A single proposal was received in response to the RFP. A committee of two KentuckianaWorks Board members reviewed and scored the proposal. Based on the committee reviews of the proposal and supporting documents, the selection committee declined to interview the bidders due to having all the information needed to make a recommendation. After finalizing their scoring, the committee recommended that Equus Workforce Solutions be awarded the contract. Angella requested that the Committee accept the recommendation of the OSO RFP review committee to select Equus Workforce Solutions as the OSO contract service provider. She also sought approval to enter into contract negotiations with Equus Workforce Solutions to be the service provider for the OSO contract for the seven-county region starting in the program year 2023 with three one-year renewal contracts. The PY23 budget will not exceed \$202,000 from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. A motion to approve the new contract was made by Christine Tarquinio and seconded by Patricia Williams and Leslie Martin. The motion was passed without opposition.

**Vote Needed: Staff Recommendation for Contract Renewal with the Louisville Urban League to Staff and Lead the Kentuckiana Builds Construction Training Programs – Angella Wilson**

Angella stated that KentuckianaWorks requests approval to enter into contract negotiations with Louisville Urban League to continue services as the provider for the Kentuckiana Builds program. The budget will not exceed \$380,000 for the next program year starting July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024.

She talked about how the Louisville Urban League has recruited, trained, and placed individuals in Kentuckiana Builds since 2016. Over 200 employers have recruited employees from Kentuckiana Builds, and graduates have been placed on important regional revitalization projects in housing, infrastructure, and commercial development. Angella highlighted that this program has received national attention for its work to help close the wage gap for women and people of color in the construction trade field. The League continues to strengthen partnerships that help impact the program. This year, the Louisville Electrical Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee (LEJATC) announced its plans for increased involvement by hosting classes for hands-on learning at the Electrical JATC Training facility, mirroring the commitment of the Indiana/Kentucky/Ohio/Regional Council of Carpenters (IKORCC) and their highly impactful power tools/hand tools training at their apprenticeship facility. Nearly 10% of program graduates have been placed in union apprenticeships. Michael pointed out to the committee members that half of the funds are coming from the Governor's office and the other half is being provided out of the Board's WIOA funding. A motion to approve the contract renewal was made by Caitlin Blair and seconded by Leslie Martin. The motion was passed without opposition.

**Vote Needed: Staff Recommendation for Contract Renewal with Goodwill of Kentucky to Staff and Lead the Power of Work Program – Angella Wilson**

Angella expressed her excitement that KentuckianaWorks is entering its second year of a two-year contract with the Kentucky State Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS) to oversee the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) "welfare to work" program as well as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Employment and Training program that together fall under The Power of Work effort run by Goodwill. Angella noted that since 2007, CHFS has contracted with KentuckianaWorks to oversee the TANF program, and more recently added the SNAP program to our portfolio as well. Goodwill is a non-profit organization that helps Kentuckians escape poverty each year

by utilizing a self-sufficiency matrix that guides them toward better living conditions. They provided wrap-around services to Power of Work participants, such as transportation, education, and expungement assistance, among others. Angella highlighted that the TANF program is funded by CHFS at \$1,026,687 yearly, and SNAP is funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture at \$163,553 annually. The Power of Work completed the initial relocation of its program in March 2023. Almost half of the TANF staff has moved to the new South Louisville Goodwill Opportunity Campus off Preston Hwy. The second and final phase of the relocation process is scheduled for February 2024, when the remaining staff will relocate to the Goodwill Opportunity Campus located at the intersection of 28th and Broadway.

She stated that KentuckianaWorks closely monitors the outcomes of its programs due to its contract with CHFS, with monthly meetings held with Goodwill to ensure program progress and address facility requests. However, the pandemic caused a decrease in enrollment and unattainable program goals due to participants being granted a "Good Cause" exemption for 2.5 years. Fortunately, in October 2022, the rules reverted to those before the pandemic, and the program has been working hard to catch up on programmatic goals for the year. Furthermore, limited English proficiency participants were offered the opportunity to attend ESL classes instead of participating in the program.

KentuckianaWorks requested approval to renew the two contracts with Goodwill, with the TANF amount not to exceed \$1,026,687 annually, and the SNAP amount not to exceed \$163,553 annually. A motion to approve was made by Christine Tarquinio and seconded by Jennifer Lampton, and the motion was passed without opposition.

**Vote Needed: Contract Amounts for Several Funding Streams that Support the Work of The Spot – Part 2 – Michael Gritton, Evelyn Woock**

Michael thanked Angella and reminded the committee that they just approved about \$2 million in expenditures for the upcoming fiscal year 2024, as a reminder of their important role as the Program Oversight Committee. Chair Hesketh brought it back to Evelyn to finish her contracts for approval.

**-Office of Safe and Healthy Neighborhoods -**

Evelyn stated that the \$400,000 given by the city's Office of Safe and Healthy Neighborhoods (OSHN) from the city's American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding will be used to increase the number of young adults Goodwill can serve at the Spot, and will include holistic, wrap-around services such as career coaching, training, mental health services, behavioral health services, leadership development, paid internships, placement, assessment of ACEs (168 completed), and more. From July 1, 2022, until April 30th, 2023, Goodwill has assisted 81 (105%) participants with holistic services. Other set metrics are exceeded, such as an 80% placement in employment and post-secondary education, and an average wage of \$16.05. Goodwill continues to support participants in utilizing mental health services provided at the Spot. Evelyn highlighted that one-on-one counseling services are heavily utilized. Goodwill has been struggling with Behavioral Health Group enrollment but continues to evaluate internal systems and ways to encourage participant enrollment.

KentuckianaWorks sought approval to negotiate a contract with Goodwill Industries of Kentucky in an amount not to exceed \$400,000 total, with a maximum of \$120,000 for Mental and Behavioral Health Services, and \$280,000 for OSHN programming for at-risk, targeted youth and Young adults to provide services at the Spot (NIA and JCTC Campus) from July 1, 2023, to June

30, 2024. The contract amount may vary based on the final determinations of our funding allocation for the 2023-2024 program year. A motion to approve was made by Leslie Martin and seconded by Caitlin Blair, and the motion was passed without opposition.

**-Growth Opportunities (GO!) Grant –**

Evelyn talked about the funding overview for the Grow Opportunities contract for the fiscal year 2024. She stated that funding was awarded through a competitive federal grant process with FHI 360 and the Department of Labor for programming for at-risk/high-risk justice-involved, opportunity youth and young adults ages 18-24. FHI 360 kicked off the GO! Grant in late November 2022. Implementation and staff training finished in December 2022. On January 1, 2023, they began enrolling participants. Data reflected a partial year beginning January 1 through April 30th, 2023, Goodwill has assisted 14 (46%) participants with holistic services. Other set metrics are struggling to be met due to evolving data systems from the Department of Labor and a lack of steady referrals from justice-involved youth providers.

KentuckianaWorks sought approval to negotiate a contract with Goodwill Industries of Kentucky in an amount not to exceed \$175,000 total, with additional funds for employment training and programming of at-risk, targeted youth and young adults to provide services at the Spot (NIA and JCTC Campus) from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024. The contract amount may vary based on final determinations of our funding allocation for the 2023-2024 program year. A motion to approve was made by Caitlin Blair and seconded by Patricia Williams, the motion was passed without opposition.

**Executive Director's Report – Michael Gritton**

Michael started his report by announcing that Mayor Greenberg's Budget Address recommended \$2 million in additional funding for KentuckianaWorks to the Metro Council. If it does get approved by the Metro Council, this will represent the largest amount of city funding KentuckianaWorks has ever received. Michael concluded by announcing to the committee that Aleece Smith is the Site Director with the National Fund Workforce Solutions, and she worked with Tony Waterson from Southern Indiana Works on a grant that KentuckianaWorks will be receiving involving human-centered design work. We hope to use this grant to explore ways we can improve our adult Career Center services across the region.

**Adjourn - Mike Hesketh**

Chairman Hesketh thanked everyone for participating. The Program Oversight Committee will be meeting on Thursday, June 22, 2023, at 9 am. With there being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned.