



Workforce Innovation Board of Ramsey County 2016-2017 Accomplishments

WIB Vision: The Ramsey County Workforce Investment Board will be the recognized leader in identifying future workforce issues and developing appropriate responses to those issues.

WIB Mission: The Ramsey County Workforce Investment Board will be the catalyst for comprehensive workforce development strategies that address both employer and jobseeker needs.

WIB:

1. Refreshed the WIB Strategic Plan to better align with the priorities of Ramsey County and the mandates of WIOA
2. Convened partners for a discussion about career pathways
3. Analyzed local and regional labor market data to ensure services are meeting the needs of businesses and career seekers
4. Attended the Minnesota Workforce Council Association (MWCA) summer meeting in Duluth
5. Presented Jen Fairbourne with the Vern Vick Memorial Award for her dedication to serving youth
6. Adopted a federated model for the delivery of workforce services across Ramsey County
7. Added Councilmember Chris Tolbert as an at-large member of the Executive Committee
8. Elected Karin McCabe as Chair-Elect
9. Guided Workforce Solutions through the relocation of the North Saint Paul WorkForce Center
10. Held a workshop with the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners to share and confirm alignment of strategic priorities
11. Hosted speakers from the Governor's Workforce Development Board, Greater Metropolitan Workforce Council, County Manager's Office, and DEED

Policy Committee:

1. Created a policy agenda emphasizing the need for alignment of the education system with worker and industry needs, improvement of workforce counseling in schools, development of technical track options in high schools, and increased outreach and program services to out-of-school youth
2. Assessed previous committee goals and established new strategic priorities
3. Created an advocacy plan which includes direct advocacy efforts, participation in the MWCA Day at the Capitol, and long term relationship building with local legislators

Integration Committee:

1. Reviewed outcomes for grant supported programs such as P2P, Project Clover, and Project Mosaic
2. Assessed grant opportunities to ensure alignment with the WIBs targeted sector strategies
3. Analyzed program participant demographics reports
4. Conducted an analysis of industry labor market data to validate the targeted sectors
5. Identified high demand, livable wage and diverse occupations within the targeted sectors
6. Evaluated previous committee goals and established new strategic priorities
7. Reviewed sector initiatives to identify opportunities and gaps
8. Provided input on the community engagement efforts for the new affiliate site



Business Services Committee:

1. Provided input into the design and content of the 2015 Annual Report
2. Assessed previous committee goals and established new strategic priorities
3. Developed an outreach plan to increase awareness and raise the profile of the WIB
4. Provided recommendations on healthcare and hospitality sector initiative brochures
5. Analyzed user activity of the WIB's redesigned website

Youth Committee:

1. Provided input to the selection of youth employment service providers through a competitive RFP process
2. Established priorities and created a Youth Committee Strategic Plan
3. Supported the summer jobs program for youth
4. Expanded the Outreach-to-Schools program to seven schools, serving over 6000 youth in St. Paul and suburban Ramsey County
5. Provided oversight of U LEAD Program performance outcomes
6. Assisted in the development of the 2016 Unified Local Youth Plan
7. Recruited two youth to serve as members of the committee
8. Established the practice of opening each meeting with an equity grounding exercise
9. Laid the foundation for listening sessions with youth to better understand employment and education barriers and learn what youth need to overcome those barriers