



# One-Stop Partner Meeting Minutes

Wednesday

April 03, 2024

12:00PM-2:00PM

\*This Meeting was held at: The Huntington WV Housing Authority Building\*

**Meeting Facilitator:** Melissa Bias, Executive Director, Region 2 Workforce Investment Board

**Core Partners:** Present: Melissa Bias: ED-Region 2 and David Felinton: Workforce WV. (Not Present: Chandra Perry: Dept. of Education and Teresa Swecker: DRS)

**Present:** Brian Hankins and Nancy Burks (DHHR), Tali Gaydosz (COTRAIC), Jill Goheen (MAMC), Heather Merritt and Malissa Dishman (Region 2 WIB), Brenda Archer (SCACWV), Jenifer Prit (First Choice Services), Olivia Bird and Katlan Maynard (MCTC), Kaitlyn Blankenship (DHS-YS), George New (W.C.B.O.E.), Amanda Brubaker (Job Corps), Gwen Blankenship (FSC), Devon Hayes (Coalfield Development), Lauren Luther (The Point Café), Stephanie Ahart and Bradlee Jordan (HRDF), Cynthia Lemaster, Jeff Plymale, and Tammy Quinonez (HWVHA), and Stephanie Crozier (Juvenile Services).

## Welcome and Introductions:

- Melissa Bias, E.D., R2WIB, is the One-Stop Coordinator for this month.
- Introductions around the room were conducted to tell who they were and what organization they represented.
- Melissa Bias thanked Tammy Quinonez and the HWVHA for hosting our One-Stop Meeting today and the HWVHA for providing our lunch.

### Minutes:

- There was a motion to approve minutes from our last session on March 05, 2024, by David Felinton and Brian Hankins seconded the motion.

### Guest Speakers:

- **Jenifer Pritt (First Choice Services)** – Jenifer passed out information to us and explained each of the resources/brochures offered by First Choice Services. You will find the brochures, located behind the minutes, in the One-Stop book.
- **Jeff Plymale (Huntington WV Housing Authority)** – Mr. Plymale informed us of the various housing programs they offer. A few of the programs are: Section 8 Housing Program, Housing for Vets, Public Housing, a Resource Center at Marcum Terrace, a food box offered once/month for appx. 100 families, a clothing pantry, free tax preparation until April 15<sup>th</sup> for low income, a baby pantry, and many others. Donations can be made for the pantries at: 816 St. Louis Ave. Huntington, WV 25704 in the gymnasium.

### Updates:

- Lauren Luther informed everyone that all members of The Point Café can receive bus passes to get to any of our events.
- Olivia Bird informed us that MCTC has an Open House/Open Enrollment Event on April 11<sup>th</sup> from 3pm-6pm.
- Spring Valley High School has a Career Fair on April 11<sup>th</sup> from 9AM-12PM.
- Wayne High School has a Career Fair on April 18<sup>th</sup> from 9AM-12PM.
- Brenda with Southwestern Community Action Council informed us of the Social Security Seminar Event on April 10<sup>th</sup> from 10AM-12PM at our Cabell Office.

### Region 2 WIB Update:

- Melissa Bias thanked all of the vendors who attended/participated in our Resource Fair at our Cabell Huntington One-Stop building. It was a success!
- Melissa Bias announced and explained that the state has brought to our attention that “we need to show we are a proud partner of the American Job Center” on each flyer/brochure we create.

- Region 2 WIB is trying to develop Apprenticeship Programs for jobs for our youth in the month of May.
- Melissa Bias reported that appx. 35/40 youth we enrolled recently need a High School Diploma; Mingo County has the highest poverty rate in our 7 counties.

**One-Stop Updates/Discussion:**

- Discussions were held deciding the location and times we could have more Resource Fairs. We discussed that the Resource Fairs help show our youth the reason why and how these resources will help them. Melissa Bias explained, "...with assistance and time, it will come... we are here to help you to grow... we are here to expose people to more opportunities...".
- Brian Hankins, Wayne Co. DHHR, will be hosting the next One-Stop Meeting on: Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, from 12:00PM-2:00PM, at the Wayne County DHHR Building.

**Adjourned at 1:15 pm**

**Respectfully Submitted by: Malissa Dishman**