

Brattleboro Core Team Meeting Notes

September 26, 2023

3:45-4:45pm @ WRCC Adult Ed Suite

Present: **Brandy Reynolds**, HireAbility; **Sefakor Komabu Pomeyie**, Youth Transition Coordinator, VCIL; **Bonnie Haug**, HireAbility; **Danielle Southwell**, HCRS, JOBS Program; **Erica Korb**, HCRS, JOBS Program; **Maribeth Cornell**, Adult Ed Coordinator, WRCC; **Gene Woodcock**, JobCorps; **Natana Gill**, HireAbility; **Matthew Meserve**, DOL, Springfield & Brattleboro Job Center; **Brooke Welch**, Guidance Counselor, BUHS; **Dean Matweetcha**, DOL; **Josh Hallock**, VABIR/HireAbility; **Debra Forrett**, DOH, Children with Special Health Needs; **Cody Bain**, DCF; **Alicia Monty**, HCRS, Bridge Coordinator Windham County; **Tricia Hill**, Homelessness Liaison, WSESU; **Jackie Trepanier**, VAL Ed Advisor; **Kathy Thielen**, BUHS Flexible Pathways Coordinator; **Ran Wang**, VSAC; **Tracey Cunningham**, DS Transition Coordinator, HCRS; **Sarah Wood**, Youth Services; **Matt Attesi**, LEAP Housing Coordinator; **Caroline Trevarro**, HireAbility VCAP; **Leigh Marthe**, Coordinator of Student Advising, CCV Brattleboro & Springfield; Notetaker: **Esther Behling**, VABIR/HireAbility

Spotlight: WRCC Adult Education

Maribeth Cornell is entering the third year as the part-time coordinator of the Adult Ed Program of the WRCC. She has just moved into the Adult Ed Suite where she is in person every Tuesday, and is available the rest of the week by appointment and/or email.

WRCC has its own website: wrccvt.com

Vermont Adult Career & Technical Education Association website is also a great resource: vtadultcte.org

Maribeth provided a detailed handout of current courses that is uploaded with these meeting notes to the VT Family Network website.

LNA & Phlebotomy

The LNA program is entering its 8th session currently! It meets T, W, Th 3:45-8:45 for 8-week sessions. There are upcoming LNA sessions in February and May. There is a great need for LNAs in the medical community. In addition, some facilities are establishing LNA as a starting point for all positions that interact with patients.

LNA students do not need a GED or High School diploma. Most clinical sites require students to be 18 years old. There may be work-arounds for 17 year-olds. Students don't need to find their own clinical placements; the program currently works with Thompson House for day and evening shifts.

Maribeth is working on adding Phlebotomy to the training offerings. Maybe as soon as 2024. Bonnie Haug shared that sometimes an LNA plus a Phlebotomy credential are considered equivalent to a Medical Assistant.

Trades

As we all know, the trades are in demand! The Electrician program is always full and is robust. The program teacher also teaches in the Electrician Apprenticeship program, and hosts an “Electricians Talk Shop” meeting to support students in passing their test.

Aviation has completed its first year, and is currently teaching the year 2 curriculum.

Ed2Go has an array of online courses available through the WRCC, and anyone can sign up directly through WRCC’s website. There are many short courses, but the career trainings that have an Industry Recognized Credential are significantly longer and more expensive.

Day Programs

The daytime WRCC programs are available to current high school students, and then to the adult community on a space-available basis. These programs are two hours a day, 5 days a week, for the full school year. If the potential student does not have a high school credential, participation is free. Students with a high school credential (diploma or GED) tuition is currently \$4000/year, and financial aid can often cover this through grants (see below).

Interested adults should apply online on the WRCC website, then will meet with Maribeth in a brief interview, and then will meet with the instructor. Often the available spaces are confirmed close to the program start date, but sometimes an adult enrollment can be confirmed earlier, depending on the number of available spaces in the program. Most programs meet from noon – 2 p.m. for Year 1, and in the morning for Year 2.

All WRCC programs have an Industry Recognized Credential (IRC) and have safety training embedded in the first semester.

Financial Aid

VSAC Advancement grants, the Curtis Training Scholarship, and forgivable loans are three options available, and more information on these is available from Ren Wang at VSAC.

Announcements

Sefakor Komabu Pomeyie shared that she is available to do workshops in schools, for teacher or students, online or in person. Sefakor’s book, *I’m Able* was published this month and is available through local and major book stores.

Matthew Bentley is the new regional director at Vermont Adult Learning. Jackie Trepanier has stayed on at VAL as Educational Advisor.

Nancy Dwyer is retiring from her position as the Regional Director of HireAbility, after 30 years with the organization.

There are several open positions at HireAbility and VABIR in Springfield and Brattleboro.

Terri Ann Walker from HireAbility will now handle JOBS Program cases for Windham County (previously held by Brattleboro Transition Counselor, Brandy Reynolds).

Next Meeting

Please feel free to suggest agenda items or guest speakers. We welcome your input!

Tuesday, October 10, SAVE THE DATE: Interagency Core Team Statewide Meeting with Workshops, 9-3. This event will take the place of our October meeting. (No meeting October 24.) We will also meet in November and December, dates TBA.



October
10th 2023
9 am to 3 pm

Killington Grand Hotel
[228 East Mountain Road](#)
[Killington, Vermont](#)