



Workforce Investment Board

Wednesday, November 18, 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The meeting was called to order by Chair Karen Borgert

Board Members Present: Ashworth, Barlow, Collins, D, Collins, E, Cox, Erbaugh, Gee, Hibner, Kennebrew, Knapp, Lieberman, Liu, Lolli, Mitchell-Cook, Rice, Schneider, Walsh, Wegmann, Williams

- Approval of Minutes: Chair Karen Borgert called the motion to approve; First approved: Cassie Barlow, Second Beverly Knapp

Karen Borgert: Karen shared Ohio's defined 10 industry sectors which includes: healthcare, infotech, education, transportation and logistics, manufacturing, aerospace, building and construction, military and services. Karen suggests the WIB have further discussions about the defined industry sectors for Montgomery County and their representation on the WIB.

- Introduction of new member: Carol Bise, head of HR for Miller-Valentine Group
- The current board members gave a short introduction

Announcements: Marvene Mitchell-Cook

- Keep County Administrator Michael Colbert, in our prayers for the passing of his father.
- Congrats to Commissioners Lieberman and Dodge for their win in the recent election.

Area 7: Lori Geary: Did not attend

Workforce: Garth Mclean

- Commissioners have signed the lease for the Westtown Montgomery County Employment Opportunity Center. \$2 million investment in West Dayton. It will house employment and training services, Female and Male Leadership Academy, Community Center, Adult, Youth and Career Services, Job Bank and Resource Room. \$300,000 has been committed by the Workforce Investment Board.
- Workforce Development exceeded their performance in WIOA and CCMEP on the annual report. Re-Employment services were previously run by ODJFS. Federal funding is available with nearly 2000 Montgomery County participants annually. Steve Offord's team will be taking over this service. It is another pipeline to find qualified candidates.
- Montgomery County won a grant, "Reentry Employment Opportunities" under the US Department of Labor. It is a \$1 million award, that transitions those from jail to the community with employment. Through this initiative, up to 90 participants can be served

in three years. This grant allows for wrap-around services including employment services, support services, gas cards, work supplies, and case managers to assist them in being successful in the workforce.

- Technology First- YCS participants learned about careers in technology from association members.

Racism v

Gerri Pegues provided an overview of the county's plan. In June, the Commissioners declared racism as a public health crisis in Montgomery County. It is the root cause of poverty, negative social determinants of health, overall poor health outcomes, persistent discrimination and disparate outcomes. 32.8% of African Americans live below poverty lines. They double the rate of their counterparts in unemployment; 45% of the homeless population is African Americans; black babies die at a rate that's 4x higher than white babies; black men heart disease death rate is more than 1.7x higher; the diabetes death rate is more than 2.3x higher than the overall rates in Montgomery County.

Racial Equity Action Items

Access to services and opportunities- Westown, Mobile unit, Male Leadership, YSC 365 The micro-Enterprise grant program, Hope Center, Arcade, Habitat for Humanity, Gem City Market, CARES Act Mortgage Assistance, Everyone Reach One. \$3.6 million was received in 2019 from the Ohio Department of Medicaid to support community initiatives. 59,324 (39%) African American residents had Medicaid eligibility

- Westown- Spring 2021. It is a 2 million investment with a 10-year facility lease.
- Job Training- 58% African American adults served
- Employment Recruitment- 48% African American and received Job placement referrals
- Youth 365- 83% African American youth served
- Male Leadership Academy opened Fall 2019- 98% of the young men engaged were African American; 90% of the mentors are African American.

Policy and Practices- How to strategically address black lives matter white privilege, and unconscious bias in the workplace

- Training is given during the Onboarding and Orientation
- JFS TANF Assistance- 2502 African American MC residents received assistance in October
- JFS on the MOVE-Community Outreach program to take service assisted 735 individuals in 2019 and 74 at 14 events in 2020
- Preschool Promise has a \$3million multi-year investment for 4-year old. 1800 4-year old received those services.
- Reentry Career Alliance Academy- 545 individuals completed the RCAA (Feb. 2015- Dec. 2019) with a 95% pass rate. 63% of the graduates are African Americans
- Eichelberger In-Reach Program- 27 Ohio Institutions visited through In-Reach (Sept.- Dec), 340 In-Reach visits
- Montgomery County Commissioners- Active CCAO and NACo advocates, Hold Leadership positions within CCAO & NACo

Align Engagement - Montgomery County is an active participant in community-wide equity and anti-racism discussion and planning. County Leadership, Human Services Systems, Business Services Systems, and staff are members of state-level racial equity effort

Board Member Comments

Marvene Mitchell Cook: Talking to Gerri and her team made us realize that we needed to look at some process with our team. It opened a lot of avenues that we hadn't discussed in a while.

County Administrator & Commissioners

Commissioner Lieberman- Stated that in June when they were writing the resolution, they wanted it to have meaning, and through writing, it was realized that there was a lot of work that needed to be done. We appreciate you Gerri for this presentation and we know that poverty is related to racism. Black babies die at a 50% greater rate than non-black babies.

Commissioner Dodge- Thanked Gerri and her team for their hard work on this report. We do have a long way to go but this forces us to hold ourselves accountable.

Meeting adjourned at 9:31 a.m.