



# MONTGOMERY C O U N T Y

## Workforce Investment Board

Wednesday, May 12, 2021 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

### **Board Members Present:**

Linda Ashworth, Cassie Barlow, Carol Bise, Karen Borgert, Patty Buddlemeyer, Dave Collins, Erik Collins, Shannon Cox, , Angela Erbaugh, Jamie Gee, Walt Hibner, Sara Hackenbracht, John Hayes, Carl Kennebrew, Beverly Knapp, Debbie Lieberman, Jeff Liu, Elizabeth Lolli, Marvene Mitchell Cook, Carolyn Rice, Courtney Schneider, Diane Walsh, Nick Weldy, Chris Williams, Jacqueline Williams

### **Call to Order, Introductions and Announcements:**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Karen Borgert.

**Approval of minutes:** Chair Karen Borgert called the motion to approve: First approved Diane Walsh, Second Approved (name unknown)  
Minutes were approved without discussion.

### **Cares Act Update:** Co-Chair Marvene Mitchell Cook

- Currently working on closeout reports. There was a total of 1001 received and they have touched a little over 300 reports. She has been working with four counties detailing Montgomery County Cares Act processes.
- Garth Mclean and his wife have welcomed a baby boy!

### **Greater Ohio Workforce Board:** Lori Geary

We see businesses are hiring but they are struggling to find workers. They are currently working on how they can make good investments in assisting those businesses.

### **Workforce Development:** Jacqueline Williams

- Adult Career Services: We remain on a hybrid schedule providing full service to all customers eligible/appropriate/interested in training in demand training sectors. They have spent over \$700,000 in training opportunities.
- Talent Services: They just hosted the first Virtual Construction Job Fair. 40 job seekers register and 20 attended, with one potential hire. They plan to have a more robust Job Fair, which will include all industries in June 2021.

Currently recruiting for 59 employers with over 360 positions available in all sectors including healthcare, manufacturing, finance, professional and scientific, food services, retail, transportation, and warehouse.

- RESEA Program- Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessments, was launched March 1, 2021, assisting, and providing training opportunities and employment opportunities. Pathway Home was launched April 1, 2021.
- Youth career services work experience will begin June 1, 2021 and go through August 7, 2021. We have 81 employers with 426 positions available. Currently placed students in construction tech, day camp counselor, teacher aid, sales associate, production, office assistance, janitorial and etc.
- Westown construction is moving as scheduled. The tentative opening date is mid July 2021 or early August.

Communication team is doing a great job keeping the website up to date. [thejobcenter.org](http://thejobcenter.org)

### **Manufacturing & Logistics Forum:** Jeff Lui

They are currently short 300 employees and because of this they have many employees working overtime. Their goal is to build the most friendly and safe working environment and aim to become a VPP.

**Karen Bogert:** Everyone was very optimistic in the continued growth and the logistical growth around the airport.

**Chris Williams:** The area is open to current construction and more potential construction. Amazon is beginning with 1500 employees and will end up with approximately 3000. There are many jobs available and small business are complaining because they are unable to find people to fill those positions. With larger companies coming into Dayton many smaller business is finding it difficult to compete and retain employees.

**Erik Collins:** They have been meeting with companies like Crocs, Chewy, and Energizer, to see and locate their challenges and needs. They found that transportation, childcare, and healthcare are concerns for the companies. They have been meeting with RTA and have started the dialogue to see what they can to help with retention in the workforce.

**Debbie Lieberman:** Is it still an issue for employers to find people that can pass the drug test?

**Marvene Mitchell Cook:** We were finding during the Cares Act that ppl had problems finding and keeping people because of the increased use of drugs.

**Debbie Lieberman:** We are seeing that hourly wages are going up and Amazon just announced that they will be paying full benefits and starting pay at \$15.00 an hour. We are excited to see that businesses are excited to be in the Dayton area.

**Michael Colbert:** (Video played)

Montgomery County is the hub for workforce training. We provide up to \$15,000 in any in demand sector, manufacturing or medical to name a few. They have partnered with Ohio Business and created the first Truck driving schools in Trotwood in 2019. Tuition, safety, any

equipment is covered by Montgomery County. 1.5 million has been paid out with 280 individuals being trained.

Recruitment services are also offered to companies that need to do on the job training. Project Hire is a program offered that will allow them to train those currently holding a position in a company and Montgomery county subsidizes the payroll up to \$8000-\$9000

We have a Workforce Mobile unit that will be taken to neighborhoods and recruit people into the workforce.

**Community of Excellence overview:** Karen Bogart presented PowerPoint (power point was emailed following the meeting)

### **Board Member Comments**

**Commissioner Liberman:** Montgomery county received a grant to help those exiting jail

Learn to earn has been such an incredible program in the community.

Some of the real challenges to get people back to work is childcare. Something has done to help with this growing issue.

**Meeting adjourns**-10:29am

Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 8, 2021