



South Central
WORKFORCE
Investment Board

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Committee for Inclusion
11:00 AM, Tuesday, July 23, 2024
Twin Pines Conservation Center – Winona, Missouri

Meeting was called to order and roll call was taken.

In attendance: Diana Ball, Robin Thomas, Jennifer Taylor, Lisa Engelhardt, Amanda Turner

Robin Thomas called the meeting to order. Copies of the minutes from the January 23, 2024 meeting were made available. Diana Ball made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. This committee did not meet on April 23, 2024 due to lack of attendance.

Robin Thomas described the services available for individuals with barriers to employment centered around mental health issues. The Systems of Care meetings are a monthly meeting of the whole team working with an individual to address issues as they arise.

SMTS provides transportation in 21 counties including Howell, Oregon, Shannon, Texas, Butler, Wayne, Reynolds in the South Central region. Ripley Count Transit provides bus service in Ripley County. OATS provides bus service in Douglas, Ozark and Wright counties. None of these services run a daily route but can be scheduled by appointment.

Senior Community Service Employment Program assists people ages 55 and older. In the South Central Region MERS Goodwill serves Texas, Howell, Shannon, Oregon, Reynolds, Carter, Ripley, Wayne and Butler Counties and AARP serves Douglas, Ozark and Wright Counties.

Groups focused on the Individuals with Disabilities include Transition Atlas for Youth, Regional Transition Networks, Missouri Youth Leadership Forum.

NEXUS meetings are focused on bringing collaboration partners and employers together.

Steve McCann from the West Plains Job Center covers the South Central Region, with the exception of Butler County which is served from the Kennet Job Center.

Several upcoming conferences were discussed including: Power Up, Missouri Rehabilitation Association, Brain Injury Association, Re-Entry (Dept. of Corrections), Thompson Center for Autism, Department of Mental Health Conference, Mo Behavioral Health Conference, Mo Association of Workforce Development, National Association of Workforce Development, and Missouri Association of Workforce Development.

Copies of the Nondiscrimination Policy and the Harassment and Discrimination Policy were made available for review. Diana Ball made a motion that the Nondiscrimination Policy and the Harassment and Discrimination Policy be approved as presented. Jennifer Taylor seconded the motion and with all present in favor the policies were approved.

With no other business to discuss Jennifer Taylor made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Diana Ball seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM.

Next meeting: 11:00 AM, October 22, 2024 at the Twin Pines Conservation Center – Winona, Missouri.

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