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A Michigan Works! Agency

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| MEETING: | DESC Corporate Board Annual Meeting | DATE: | August 29, 2023 |
| ATTENDEES: | DESC Corporate Board Members: Alice Thompson, Chris Uhl, Ric Preuss, Maria Woodruff-Wright, Dannis Mitchell DESC Staff: Terri Weems, Dana Williams, Stephanie Nixon, Robert Shimkoski, Tenisha Hooper, Carla Phelps, Misty Evans, Rachel May, Sara Azu, Traci Sassak, Madelyne Bernard-Diab, Robin Johnston, Nancy Jennings, Jocelyn Carr, David Jackson, Shareef Al-Kidani, Carmen Bender, Stephanie Bouzounis, Elizabeth Hennessey | LOCATION: | DESC Corporate Offices |
| | | CALLED TO ORDER: | 9:47 am |
| ABSENT: | Excused: Lena Barkley Unexcused: None | ADJOURNED: | 10:50 am |
| PUBLIC ATTENDEES: | John Allen, Ann Lean, Christina Williams, Darius Dent, Christian Carey, Monique Mansfield | | |
| FACILITATOR: | Alice Thompson, Board Chair | DATE MINUTES APPROVED/ADOPTED: | |

| ITEM | DISCUSSION | OUTCOME/ACTION ITEM(S) |
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| I. Welcome & Introductions | <p>Alice Thompson, Board Chair, called the meeting to order.</p> <p>Ms. Thompson called for a motion to approve the agenda for the meeting:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Motion: Dannis Mitchell Seconded: Chris Uhl Motion Carried – Approved Unanimously</p> <p>Ms. Thompson called for a motion to approve the meeting minute of the June 27, 2023, and August 15, 2023 meeting:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Motion: Chris Uhl Seconded: Dannis Mitchell Motion Carried – Approved Unanimously</p> | |
| II. DESC Board Chair Report | Ms. Thompson stated: | |



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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have some wonderful testimonials coming up today and several agenda items to get through so I will forgo my report for today. | |
| III. DESC President Report / MWDB Update | <p>Terri Weems opened her report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Weems reviewed the annual numbers of job seekers trained, job placements, hourly average wages for Career Center graduates, GDYT youth placements and revenue streams. The Detroit at Work website has had over a million views over the past year, and 90,000 calls to our Detroit at Work call centers, and we are proud of that. Ms. Weems drew the Board's attention to the booklet in the packets, detailing the success the Mayors Workforce Development Board and DESC have had over the past 10 years. We also have had in excess of 50,000 young people in our summer internship programs over 10 years, and 8,000 this year. <p>Board discussion ensued.</p> <p>Ms. Weems presented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each year we require our Board and committee members to sign a conflict of interest and nepotism policy. We present this to you this year for your review and signature. The meeting dates for 2024 are in your packets, and we ask that you review and approve them, we will then call for a motion to approve those dates for next year. | <p>After review, the dates for 2024 meetings included errors. They will be reconfigured and presented for review at the next meeting.</p> |
| IV. Audit & Finance Committee Update | <p>Chris Uhl presented Traci Sassak:</p> <p>Ms. Sassak presented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A chart with the budget breakdown of all the signature programs, as well as supportive services, career center services, as a further drill down into funding. As requested at the recent Audit & Finance Committee meeting, the breakdown of the ARPA funding from the City and how it was distributed. <p>Mr. Uhl provided further clarification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Audit & Finance Committee has been pushing for clarity on the ARPA funding run out and if it is being back filling, funding, or shrinking. We are keeping a focus on cash flow dynamics and learning lessons from previous years. The Committee is being proactive and working with Ms. Sassak monitoring budget to actuals and creating more drilled down reporting. <p>Board discussion ensued.</p> | |

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| | <p>Ms. Sassak presented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The timeline for the audits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Financial & Single Audit – September 25 ○ Plante Moran Field Work ends – October 13 ○ Audit & Finance Committee meeting – December 7 ○ Final report issued – December 15 | |
| <p>V. Program Services Update</p> | <p>Ms. Thompson introduced Stephanie Nixon:</p> <p>Ms. Nixon presented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Pathway Home 4 Grant. We were awarded \$4 million in partnership with SEMCA, Wayne County Sherrif, SER Metro Detroit. • We will be working with four hundred inmates in the new Wayne County facility. • We will be providing training within the facility. We will be providing free release services and post release services to those individuals. And they be work-ready services over 42 months, which includes 12 months of follow-up. <p>Tenisha Hooper provided the overview of the two providers selected to partner with DESC for these services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SERCO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This partnership began in July 2023 ○ Will provide Wayne County jail inmates that reside in the city of Detroit, the services for the pathway home program. But it is designed to forge pathways for better quality of life, to incarcerated individuals, pre and post release services provided for them. ○ Training includes construction, transportation, logistics, manufacturing, information technology, customer services are all different type of trainings that will provide to the individuals and to basically earn a median income of \$6,000 or greater. <p>Board discussion ensued.</p> <p>Ms. Hooper continued:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wayne County Sherriff <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Contract will begin July 1, 2023 through December 31, 2026. ○ They will also provide the location and facilities for the training. | |

Ms. Nixon provided context:

- Because the Sheriff’s office cannot just provide training to Detroiters, we brought in SEMCA as a partner to work with inmates who are not Detroit residents.

Ms. Thompson called for a motion to approve the Pathway home four contracts:

For Motion:

- SERCO

Motion: Chris Uhl
Seconded: Ric Preuss
Motion Carried – Approved Unanimously

For Motion:

- Wayne County Sheriff

Motion: Ric Preuss
Seconded: Chris Uhl
Motion Carried – Approved Unanimously

Ms. Nixon reported:

- This is our WIOA Year-round Youth Subrecipient Contract for SER Metro.
- They will be providing year-round WIOA work readiness services for youth 14 to 24 in and out of school.
- Their contract period is July 1 23 through June 30 2024 and will be serving 393 individuals. The funding recommendation is within the budget that has been approved.

Ms. Thompson called for a motion to approve the WIOA Year-round Youth Subrecipient Provider contract:

For Motion:

- SER Metro:

Motion: Maria Woodruff-Wright
Seconded: Chris Uhl
Motion Carried – Approved Unanimously

Board discussion ensued.

Board members asked follow up questions. It was agreed the information be brought to the Program Services Committee meetings in 2024:

How many WIOA providers are there and what are the award amounts for them?

What are the performance numbers with youth through this program?

Can you provide 2024 outcomes data to this Board for review in 2024?

VI. Program Testimonials

Ms. Thompson introduced the testimonials:

Ms. Weems provided context:

- We are presenting four phenomenal Detroiters, who were part of our programs this year, which include CHC, Friends and Family and Jumpstart.

Robin Johnston presented:

- We have four great Detroiters here, Christina Williams, Darius Dent, Christian Geary, and Monique Mansfield

Carmen Bender presented Christina Williams.

Ms. Williams detailed:

- Her therapist and referred her to the Jumpstart program.
- She participated in the Learn to Earn Program
- The programs were supportive and collaborative. She was able to achieve her GED and got her commercial driver's license without having to pay out of pocket. It was a dream come true for her.

Mr. Johnston introduced Darius Dent:

- I faced a lack of job opportunity, lack of resources, poverty, and unfortunate conditions that tailored a mindset led me to incarceration. Before incarceration. I graduated from Detroit City High. I had a thing for the skills trade. Here I am now pursuing electrical apprenticeship.
- I ran across a post for hiring fair for returning citizens and thought gaining the trade and working would be a great opportunity, not just me, but for others like my brother.
- Working with Detroit Employment Solutions, Skills for Life, EITI has been a great opportunity. It has provided me with a platform to shine a positive light upon the citizens and return to citizens of Detroit. I received nothing but encouragement.

Mr. Johnston introduced Christian Geary:

- I come from a single parent home, my mother raised three of us, I am the baby.
- I was incarcerated several times and now am involved in a serious federal case, but Friends and Family I have been involved with for a long time. I call Ms. Phelps Mamma Carla. She has helped me every inch of the way and asked me to enter the EITI program as a favor to her. I did it and have been so grateful to her ever since.
- I am a supervisor now and I make \$18 an hour. I would never have dreamed I could make that on a legitimate job.
- The program helped my sister get housing for her and her kids. We are so fortunate to have found and joined into this set of people, wanting to help us help ourselves.

Mr. Johnston introduced Monique Mansfield:

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monique is a native Detroiter who has experience working in Washington DC and Lansing. I am delighted to reveal she has agreed to come and work for me on the Communications team. <p>Ms. Mansfield elaborated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both of her parents worked for the City. • I moved to DC and worked there for a few years. I returned home one holiday season and had a terrible accident and due to injuries was not able to return to my work in DC. I found opportunities difficult to find in the Detroit area. • My mentor asked me to look at the Jumpstart program and I applied the same day. The DAW website was so helpful, and I found a wealth of resources there. <p>Mr. Johnston called the four individuals to the front of the room to answer questions from the Board.</p> <p>Lively Board discussion ensued.</p> | |
| VII. Public Comments | There was no public comment. | |
| VIII. Adjournment | <p>Ms. Thompson called for a Motion to Adjourn the meeting:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Motion: Ric Preuss Seconded: Chris Uhl Motion Carried – Approved Unanimously</p> | <p>A Board Member requested that the meeting materials be sent out a week in advance, so there could be ample time to review the materials before the meeting.</p> <p>The answer was that every effort would be made to get materials to the Board members well ahead of the meetings.</p> |

DRAFT SUBMITTED BY:

Printed Name: Elizabeth Hennessey

Title: Project Coordinator, Human Resources

Signature: /s/ E Hennessey

Date: 9/19/2023

DATE MINUTES APPROVED/ADOPTED: _____ **Initials:** _____

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, October 24, 2023 @ 9:45 AM

