

# Philadelphia Vision for Employment 2010 Steering Committee Meeting

April 22, 2009

## Meeting Minutes

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**In Attendance:** Julia Barol, Ann Marie Campbell, Len Kravitz, Michael McAllister, Teresa Myers-Thompson, Jeff Orlin, Shauna Roman, Kathy Sykes

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### I. Video Project Update

Jeff and Julia updated the group on the status of the Video Project: “One City, One Vision”. All filming is now complete. Additional “B” footage was shot at Target, Weaver’s Way Coop, Temple University, United Artist Grant Plaza, and the YMCA. The film is now in the editing stage with the first editing cut expected the first week in May. Vince Hill from KYW 1060 has completed the voice over work. There was discussion about the music to be used in the background of the video with the suggestion of having a known artist donating the music for the video. Teresa offered to contact a friend that could make a connection with Gamble and Huff in Philadelphia. The Video will be premiered on Friday May 22, 2009 at the Employment Supports Symposium.

### II. Employment Supports Symposium

Shauna distributed the updated information about the Conference. The registration numbers have increased significantly. Day One registration is currently at 88, Day Two at 80, Day Three at 88 and 80 people are registered for the Employer Awards Luncheon. Shauna has been sending out the Voucher forms to agencies across the state and currently the projected Voucher Requests for Reimbursement are at \$8,120. There are currently more people from outside of Philadelphia registered for the Conference. Historically, local registration has increased closer to the date of the event. Shauna still needs six (6) more Conference volunteers. Teresa, Ann Marie, Len and Jeff have offered to help with registration and other needs at the Conference.

The Networks Web Page has been updated with a direct link to a one-page Conference Registration sheet. This will greatly simplify the process and eliminate confusion. Shauna will notify Dana Olsen, John Miller and Ed Butler about the improved access for the registration.

The Spotlight on Philadelphia Session will include seven (7) 30-minute presentations. Speakers have been identified.

Michael explained to the group the Round Table Lunch Discussions scheduled for Thursday May 21, 2009, 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM. There will be eight or ten people at four (4) tables accommodating 40 – 50 individuals. Free box lunches will be provided to participants. Detail to sign up for the Round Table Discussion has yet to be decided. Topic ideas include: Customized Employment, Transition, Moving From Workshop to Community Integrated Employment, and Building Employer Relationships. Michael asked members of the Steering Committee to participate as facilitators. The following facilitators were identified: Transition (Julia & Jennifer

Graham), Moving from Workshop to Community Integrated Employment (Teresa & Brian Dague, University of Vermont), Building Employer Relationships (Jeff Orlin), Customized Employment (Michael). Michael suggested we have 2 – 3 questions for each table for discussion.

### **III. Employment Issues and Strategies**

**CIE Services: Base and Waiver Funded Issues.** Kathy announced that as of April 20, 2009, the Waiver cap for PFDSW was increased to \$26,000.00. There was a general discussion about a number of current issues affecting Community Integrated Employment (CIE) Providers. Kathy, Teresa, and Michael met with CIE Providers to review a number of concerns that organizations are struggling with as they plan for next fiscal year and the changeover to ODP funding. Michael distributed a draft response sheet (see attached) that touched on a number of the questions and concerns voice by CIE providers. There was much discussion around the issue of one-to-one funding, facility-based services, and the ending of the IEFS process.

**June 2008 and June 2009 Graduates.** Teresa provided a brief update on the status of June 2008 graduates and efforts to identify June 2009 graduates. Michael provided a description of the planned June 5, 2009 gathering of The *Philadelphia Transition Planning Project*. Invitations will be sent to all past project participants. Participants will include those individuals that have participated in previous Transition Planning Workshops as well as individuals who graduated in 2008 and those due to graduate in June 2009. One of the objectives of the gathering is to promote employment for recent graduates by showing successful transition to work examples from individuals who have participated in the Philadelphia Transition Planning Project. Teresa will draft a letter for Kathy's signature to be sent to identified June 2009 graduates as well as students that graduated June 2008 inviting them to the June 5, 2009 event.

The day will begin with short presentations from five (5) identified Transition Planning Project members who will talk about their employment experiences since participating in the two-day Workshop. Mentors of the five 5 will help support the individuals in putting their talk together. The emphasis will be on the benefits and impact of employment had on the transition process. There will be a poster session as well for individuals to showcase what they have been doing since their participation in the two-day Workshop and Beth Mount will conclude the morning. After lunch, Beth will continue with the discussion creating an opportunity for everyone to participate in a 'Learning Circle' designed to celebrate accomplishments, share ideas, and consider strategies for improving the transition from school to adult life.

### **IV. Steering Committee Reflections: Moving Towards 2010**

The discussion revolved around the activities of Work Groups and possibilities for maintaining and sustaining momentum and re-energizing the work of Vision for Employment 2010. The Public Relations Work Group was discussed in detail highlighting many of the activities and accomplishments of the past several years. One idea that emerged from this conversation was that without a specific start to finish project it is difficult to involve people in the work of the initiative. Jeff suggested that having a definable project would be great for the Public Relations Work Group. Jeff suggested that one role the Public Relations Group could play was to support the other Work Groups to reach their goals. It was suggested that creative "outside the box"

thinking was needed to develop new projects for the Public Relations as well as other Work Groups.

Jeff announced that the next Employment Success Story book would be premiered at the Employment Conference. The booklet is 48 pages, with 80 individuals highlighted. Karen Kenny provided numerous stories for this project and it was pointed out that many of the stories came from sources other than Employment Programs such as residential providers. Len pointed out that the story requirement is now a part of the Quality Management process for agencies.

Michael suggested that at this point in time there may be two inter-related issues facing the Steering Committee: Sustaining the momentum created over the past several years and Re-energizing Steering Committee efforts so the Initiative can move positively into the future. One idea mentioned for sustaining momentum was to identify activities and tasks with fixed time frames and concrete outcomes. Part of sustaining and possibly building new momentum is to engage and include new people into the work of the Initiative.

One idea for re-energizing efforts was to look for projects and activities that fuel our personal passions. Teresa reflected on her interest in the area of converting from facility-based to integrated employment as something that motivated her initial involvement with Philadelphia Vision for Employment. It was suggested that Steering Committee members should think about ideas that they are passionate about as a starting point for developing new ideas and projects designed to promote and support Employment For All in Philadelphia.

**Next meeting:** Kathy will review her schedule with Michael to arrange for time and date for the next Steering Committee meeting. The meeting will occur after the May 20-22, 2009 Employment Supports Symposium.

**Note:** Due to time constraints the following agenda items were not discussed: General updates, Supports Coordination Organization Activities