

**Workforce Development Board (WDB)
Merced County DWI
Livingston Community Health Center
600 B Street, Building A
Livingston, CA 95334
June 7, 2023, 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**



www.worknetmerced.com

Members Present:

Leslie Abasta-Cummings
Steve Hobbs
Will Kelly
Joshua Lepper
Amie Marchini

Jack Mobley
David Ness
Chudy Nnebe
Tim O'Neill
Joe R. Perez

Jeff Segars
Michelle Skoor
Greg Vincelet
Chris Vitelli
Chirs Winek

Members Absent: Jorge De Nava, Steve Tietjen, Michael Altomare, Mark Hendrickson, Daron McDaniel, Vinton Thengvall

Others Present:

Erick Serrato, Linda Gutierrez, Mario Pena, Valente Huitron, Stacie Tury, Yang Her, Miranda Moreno, Martha Torres, Patricia Hinson, Paola Torres, Anna Santos, Autumn Gardia, Dale Johns, Mary Whited, Becky Lincoln, Stephanie Chavez, Adrian Zamora, Jaylene Cruz

- 1. Call to Order/ Roll Call:** The Board Chairperson, Mrs. Leslie Abasta-Cummings, called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.
- 2. Host Welcome:** The WDB Chair, Mrs. Leslie Abasta-Cummings welcomed the Members to the Livingston Community Health Campus. She stated that the organization was founded since the late 60s and incorporated in 1970. With the desire to have healthcare be a locally driven industry in Livingston. Livingston has always been more of an agricultural base area. Livingston healthcare was established through a partnership with Stanford Medical School, where medical students came out and staffed evening clinics and worked alongside Dr. Wallyhan, who was the only physician in the city of Livingston providing services. He was an alumni from Stanford and he was able to bring the students in and once they established that, it was then when Livingston Community Health services was incorporate and began to provide from a very local healthcare perspective. From 1970 until about 2012 they were a one-site medical services only, and after 2012 they have now just opened their eighth location in Modesto. They offer all medical services to include dental, behavioral health, substance abuse and other community base services. The campus in Livingston stands in an area of seven and a half acres, there is room for a path to build one more building if desired. The current Livingston building has three buildings that provide services for dental, medical, and Administrative back office support. The total employees are about 220 with about 10 to 15 employees who are contracted physicians. She invited members to attend a tour of the Livingston Community Campus following the meeting.
- 3. Public Opportunity to Speak:** None
- 4. Customer Impact:** None

5. **Approval of Minutes (March 31, 2023):** *Vitelli/Skoor* approved the meeting minutes with the following correction; Members Absent: add WDB Member, Steve Hobbs as being absent at the WDB Meeting on March 31, 2023.
6. **Open Announcements:** None
7. **Chair Comments:** The Chair, Mrs. Leslie Abasta-Cummings introduced and welcomed Mr. Dale Johns who is the new President of Dignity Health Hospital in Merced. She thanked him for joining the WDB Meeting.
8. **Director's Comments:** Erick thanked everybody for being present at the WDB Meeting. Following are some of the highlights he shared
 - The Department is working on upgrading to a new Website with focus on easy access to all.
 - Merced Youth Jobs started last summer. Staff have been working on Youth Programs including the Youth Interns who work directly with DWI staff. The Youth Program is doing so well that the City of Merced awarded additional funds to extend the program through 2026. MERCO has partnered with DWI to offer and facilitate banking experience to the Youth.
 - Partnership between MCOE and Juvenile Hall to offer the operation of a coffee cart that will be rotating around the city. The Youth serving the cart will be paid through the Youth program funds.
 - On April 7, 2023, Assemblywoman Soria visited the WDB/DWI Admin office in Atwater. She was impressed with all the programs and work we are doing with CERF and parts of the County. She came to learn more about the services we provide. Her office reached out a few weeks later and would like to develop some programs with us.
 - Attended the San Joaquin Valley Council of Governments there were two presentations, one was from the Workforce Board on the work they are doing in workforce development across the region, and the other was to present a monetary award to Merced County for the planning and work for Castle Commerce Aviation Center.
 - CERF is very important and members were encouraged to serve in an ad-hoc committee. The state's investment in regional development. The region is composed of three counties, Merced, Stanislaus and San Joaquin. Merced College is the fiscal agent and Merced County Workforce Development Board is the convener. CERF has been renamed to 'North Valley Thrive'.
9. **2023-2024 Proposed Budget Review Approval:** Review and approval of the Workforce Development Board Budget, as submitted by Department of Workforce Investment for approval to the Merced County Board of Supervisors on June 27, 2023, with an update to the Board for final budget approval at the Board's September 28, 2023 meeting.

Request for a motion to approve the Workforce Development Board Preliminary Budget as submitted by the Department of Workforce Investment for approval to the Merced County Board of Supervisors on June 27, 2023, with an update to the Board for final budget approval at the Board's September 28, 2023 meeting.

Motion by Tim O'Neill, second by Chris Vitelli to approve the Workforce Development Board Preliminary Budget as submitted by the Department of Workforce Investment for approval to the Merced County Board of Supervisors On June 27, 2023, with an update to the Board for final budget approval at the Board's September 28, 2023 meeting; carried by unanimous roll call vote.

10. Preliminary Project Outlook 2023-2024: Staff provided Board Members with a preliminary look at Quarterly Activities for the 2023-2024 year.

Preliminary Project Outlook 2023-2024

Q1 (Jul-Sep)	Q2 (Oct-Dec)	Q3 (Jan-Mar)	Q4 (Apr-Jun)
Launch of Healthcare Sector Initiatives	2023 Workforce Statistics Poster and Virtual Event	Healthcare Job Fair	Career Services Strategies Implementation
Launch of Worknet Community Interns	Human Resource Managers' Event	Industry Council Launch – Additional Sector of Focus (ex: Ag/Food Production)	CERF Project Submission
Launch of Storm Response Employment Program	Library Pod Installation	CA Workforce Association. Presentation - Youth	Healthcare Industry Report and Analysis
Merced Youth Jobs Summer Program	Healthcare Sector Meetings/Industry Convenings	National Association of Workforce Presentation	Los Banos Worknet Center Re-Opening
Completion of Part 1 of CERF Program	Additional location	Opening of Castle Worknet Center	
Jobs that Move – 3 rd Annual Event	Childcare Provider Cohorts - Implementation		
Launch of Probation Partnership Programs			
Career Services Systems events			

11. Board Appointments, Recent Resignations, Recruitment Activity and Board Committee Membership:

Board Appointments:

The following members have the option of renewing their membership on the Workforce Development Board by accepting a new four-year term. Their appointment would be advanced to the Board of Supervisor if approved by the Workforce Development Board, terms ending June 30, 2023. Members Mobley, Marchini, Vitelli, Nnebe, and Tietjen.

Request for a motion to nominate and re-elect members Jack Mobley, Amie Marchini, Chris Vitelli, Chudy Nnebe, and Steve Tietjen to a new four-year term to the Workforce Development Board, terms ending June 30, 2023. Their appointment would be advanced to the BOS if approved by the WDB.

Motion by Joshua Lepper, second by Steve Hobbs to nominate and re-elect members to a new four-year term to the Workforce Development Board, Mobley, Marchini, Vitelli, Nnebe and Tietjen; carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Resignations:

The Workforce Development Board received notification of the resignation of Satvir Arias, Dignity Health, effective April 12, 2023.

Request for a motion to accept the resignation letter from Satvir Arias, Dignity Health, effective April 12, 2023.

Motion by Steve Hobbs, second by Michelle Skoor to accept the resignation letter from Satvir Arias, Dignity Health, effective April 12, 2023; carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Recruitment Activity and Board Committee Membership:

At the most recent meeting of the Executive Committee, Board Composition and recruitment efforts were discussed. It was suggested that the Board consider adding Board Members in Healthcare, and Logistics sector. The addition of two members would add an additional seat in Labor Representation. Formation of Board Committees (Executive Committee, Youth Committee, Performance Committee, and Healthcare Sector/CACHI Committee). If you would like more information about the committees or interested in joining one, please reach out to Erick.

12. Health Sector Initiatives: Merced County will receive \$1.3M in grants for Healthcare for Merced County. The following grants will provide specific targets and goals:

CalGROWS: \$515K grant is a workforce training and stipends program to incentivize, support and fund career pathways for the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) workforce (non-IHSS).

Community Care Expansion (CCE): Operating Subsidy Payments (OSP) \$286K grant will focus on providing eligible adult-senior care facilities with financial support that house residents who receive SSI/SSP or CAPI benefits from facing possible closures or residents being displaced from care to homelessness.

Public Health: \$200K grant from Merced County Public Health to study on public health workforce environment.

CA Accountable Community for Health Initiative (CACHI): \$300K grant designed for the healthcare industry council to make lasting and transformational changes in the health of community and forwarding the goal of health equity.

Erick asked members, what strategic priority in the healthcare space is most important to you?

13. Major Layoff Events and Response: Staff shared with Members the following information in regards to layoffs and responses

Quad Graphics	Centurion	Bitwise
Onsite Sessions		Onsite Session
240 Workers	40 Workers	10 Workers (local)
12 Enrolled	No concrete information, or opportunity to serve on-site	
26 Pre-Enrolled		
130 Attended job fair		
46 Hired directly		

14. Career Services Revisioning: Staff invited all members to attend an event called “Valentine’s in July.” The purpose for the event is to serve as a platform to foster relationship development, improvement, and fortification. The objective of establishing an extensive network of community partnerships, the plan entails co-case management of referred participants in conjunction with local community-based organizations and partner agencies. The aim is to construct a robust support network, dedicated to supporting and guiding our customers on their transformative journey.

Content of the event will focus on Systems Thinking practices and partnership models to -reenvision the way in which the career system may better support and welcome the contributions of its subcontractors, community organizations, County departments, and other stakeholders. An invitation will be sent to you via email. Save the date for Friday, July 14, 2023, from 9:00am to 11:00am. Location will be at 301 E 13th Street, Auditorium C219, 2nd. Floor. Please RSVP to Paola.torresortiz@countyofmerced or Stacie.tury@countyofmerced.com.

15. Sponsorship of Workforce Training Program to the ETPL: Nurture: Staff has been working with Nurture, Inc. on the deployment of an assisted, on-line training program to prepare childcare entrepreneurs to open and maintain home-based childcare centers. Nurture has now successfully served 36 individuals across the State including childcare providers in Merced County. The plan utilizes a virtual-hybrid approach. It is largely self-paced and online but includes live virtual coaching and communication with a local liaison to help participants complete the work and prepare for licensure.

Content includes some of the following modules:

Business Exploration

- Explore Child Care Ownership
- Learn About Nurture
- State Licensing
- Learn About Licensing
- Child Environment Essentials
- Parent Partner Essentials
- Business Essentials
- Marketing Essentials
- Plan Your Business Launch

Request for a motion to approve Nurture Home-based Childcare Training Program and nomination to the State Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL)

Motion by Chris Winek, second by Tim O’Neill to approve Nurture Home-based Childcare Training Program and nomination to the State Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL); carried by unanimous roll call vote.

16. Future Agendas & Meetings: The next WDB Meeting is scheduled for September 28, 2023. The location TBD.

17. Adjournment:

The Chair, Mrs. Leslie Abasta-Cummings, adjourned the meeting at 3:43 pm.