**California Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities (CCEPD)**

**State Coordination Subcommittee**

# **MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT**

Tuesday, March 22, 2022,

Meeting held through Zoom

**Subcommittee Members:** Jennifer Fischer, Levi Hull, Paula Tobler, and Sarah Turner

**CCEPD Staff:** Maria Aliferis-Gjerde, Margaret Balistreri and Zachariah Ford

**Members of the Public:** Kae Saeteurn, Kayla Prusia Erica Bouris,

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

The meeting began at 2:03 p.m. and quorum was not established.

1. **Approval of February Meeting Minutes**

This item was deferred as there was not quorum.

**3) Overview Strategic Co-Enrollment in WIOA for English Language Learners**

Chair Fisher introduced and welcomed Erica Bouris, Ph.D., Director of Economic Empowerment, Internal Rescue Committee. She discussed the English Language Learner Strategic Co-Enrollment pilot project and provided an overview of lessons learned. The presentation also defined strategic co-enrollment as the simultaneous enrollment in more than one self-sufficiency-oriented program or service. Meaning that two or more titles of Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) were included. It should also expand access to supports and services utilizing a “no wrong door” policy and enable co-case management.

She also provided a framework for Advancing Co-Enrollment:

* Eligibility
* Programs and Services
* Outcomes
* Information & Data

Members asked questions and discussed the following:

* Discussed what recommendations to support strategic co-enrollment and types of structures needed.
* Discussed the need for data to determine populations. Also, one organization should serve as the key partner.
* Discussed challenges of eligibility requirements of the two titles. One challenge was difference in work authorization and how Title II has emphasized education and not necessarily employment.
* Framework should be developed for other systems and can be used.

Members agreed that recommendations would be multi-agency. Some discussion and agreement were to develop policy recommendations that would build capacity, have navigators or coordinators, inclusion of digital skills of the broader upskilling conversation.

**4) Approval of Benefits Planning Recommendations**

This topic was tabled due to no quorum.

Executive Aliferis-Gjerde discussed question from previous meeting on DB101. Members were interested whether other states had pre and post data on how DB101 affected employment. Data does not exist, however, survey data does signal that DB101 has an affect on people’s decisions to seek employment.

1. **Discussion of Virtual Services Survey and Next Steps**

CCEPD staff provided an overview of the survey results:

* There were 21 questions, nine closed-ended and 12 open-ended.
* There were many identical responses among the various questions.
* Most service providers did not offer any virtual services and post pandemic all will continue to offer virtual services.
* Overwhelming theme related to consumer needs was technology and digital skills along with internet access
* All respondents have used Zoom and the majority have used Teams
* Importance of collaboration was a recurring theme.
* Partnerships were more challenging in a virtual environment.
* This survey was focused on virtual services mostly, but other concerns also emerged. Other support services such as housing, transportation and health services were also mentioned as important prior to employment.

There a lot of information gained on what is being done in some of the areas. 34 of 39 participants were willing to be contacted.

Best practices were mainly interpreting virtual services. Concentrate on providing wrap around services with their needs in mind. When not able to help, refer to who can.

Members discussed the need to incorporate hybrid approach to no wrong door policies and how digital skills should be incorporated. Some discussion on lessons learned from conducting the survey and how it should be used for further policy discussions.

**6) Agenda Items for Future Meetings**

Following agenda items were identified:

* No wrong door and virtual services recommendations
* Joint Subcommittee meetings on co-enrollment/no wrong door, partnerships, competitive integrated employment, career pathways and apprenticeships.

Members were reminded of changes to Bagley Keene Open Meeting Act due to Executive Order ending and change in processes.

**7) Public Comment**

There is no public comment.

**8) Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:24 p.m.