



425 Old Kersey Road • Kersey PA 15846

## Future's Committee Tuesday, September 14, 2021 10:15 am – 10:45am

**Members Present:** Board Members (Chair), Jeff Miller, IBEW non-board members Amy Goode, Community Education Center (CEC), Bob Wicker, Potter County Education Council, Jill Martin-Rend, BC3

**Staff Present:** Pam Streich, Colleen Precht, Jocelyn Bash and Terry Hinton

**Topics Discussed** –Committee changes, Grant Updates, New Grant Opportunities - PA SMART, Business Education Partnership, PA Six Initiative, Regional Labor Market Information

**Committee Purpose:** To explore opportunities that will assist the board in accomplishing its goals for the future; including grant opportunities; To ensure that Industry/Sector Partnerships, Business and Education Connect activities (regional) and other ideas as identified by the board are meeting the goals and objectives of the board; and to provide quarterly reports on each activity to the board at each of the quarterly meetings and upon request of the board.

**Committee Changes:** Pam and Jeff informed members that the Future's Committee will be restructured with changes to the committee's name and purpose. Possible new committees of the board include a Policy and Oversight Committee as well as "special projects/grant" committee. Pam asked Amy Goode and Bob Wicker if they would be willing to serve on the Youth Committee and they agreed. Colleen Precht and Jocelyn Bash would also participate on the Youth Committee. The integration of the Business Education Partnership partners with the WIOA and TANF Youth Development programs (PA CareerLink®/EQUUS would increase the collaboration between the entities. Jill Martin-Rend is interested in participating on a committee of the board as well - discussion will continue. Changes will be effective in December 2021.

**Grant Updates and New Grant Opportunities including Business Education Partnership:** Pam informed the members that the Business Education Partnership grant should be coming out in October and they will be applying for funding to support the Workforce Solutions Career Counselors as well as the programs offered by the Community Education Centers. We are still waiting to hear if the ARC INSPIRE grant proposal will be awarded. Waivers were approved for the Next Gen and Registered Apprenticeship grants which extends these grants through June 30, 2022. Staff will be applying for a new PA SMART grant to build a Registered Apprenticeship ambassador network with the Business Service Consultants in the PA CareerLink® centers.

**PA SIX Initiative** - the website [www.discoverpasix.com](http://www.discoverpasix.com) was officially launched on August 31, 2021. Rack cards are available at the Workforce Solutions office and staff are distributing them throughout the region.

**Regional Labor Market Discussion** - Members discussed the need for workers by employers from all industries. The need to bring people to the region as well as retain our current workforce and population continues. Concern was expressed regarding the availability of workers as needs increase. The increase in solar farms was also discussed - it is not known how this will impact the workforce - discussion will continue.

**Action Items for the board:** The current Future's Committee recommends the disbanding of the Future's Committee effective October 6, 2021 with current members joining other committees. Additional committees will be discussed and implemented over the next few months.