Education and Workforce – Meeting Notes
June 19, 2020 9:00 AM


Audience Attendees: 7

[meeting begins]

[Presentation from Dan Belyea, Chief Workforce Development Officer, Maine Community College System]

- Operates quality centers across the state of ME
  - ~85 current programs, plans to grow to 100 programs in coming months
    - Trained ~900 people last year,
      - Aspirations to reach 3000 workers this year
    - Currently operating 43 online training programs
      - ~850 people currently enrolled
  - Plans to increase active training programs

- Keys to transitioning to demands of pandemic
  - Close communication with employers, and leading healthcare providers to identify current workforce demand
  - Innovative models
    - Stipend Model
      - Employer subsidized stipend for enrollee’s dramatically increased program completion rates
    - Hospitality Maine
      - Worked to develop micro-credentials program on COVID readiness
        - 1.5 week planning process
        - Within 4 weeks, trained 1,700 workers
  - Traditional Programs
    - Maintaining and adapting through pandemic
  - Engagement with foundation partners
    - Accelerated grant cycle to allow for rapid expansion of re-training efforts
  - Micro-credentials
    - Drawing demand for rapid reskilling
    - Providing pathways to further certificates and advanced education
    - Expanding stack-ability and credit-bearing programs

- Cost of training an individual ~$2000-3000
  - Most effective aid is unrestricted money for direct training programs
• Additional Needs
  o Matching funds for training program enrollment
  o Broadband to expand remote training
  o Childcare for trainers and trainees
  o Programs to support workforce leaving correctional facilities
  o Mobile equipment
    ▪ Training labs for electrical, plumbing
  o Funds to train more trainers
  o Funds to expand stipend programs for trainees
    ▪ This will become increasingly important as federal UI enhancements end

• Subcommittee staff is working to coordinate a presentation with the Maine Educators Association
  o This meeting will help clarify the experience and needs of individuals within the education system

[meeting adjourns]