

Council of Chief Elected Officials of Northwest Georgia

Thursday, September 21, 2023, 10:00 a.m.
Rome Civic Center
Rome, Georgia

Attendance

CCEOs Present or Represented, County:

Steve Taylor, Bartow
Alex Case, Dade
Ted Rumley, Dade
Jamie Hensley, Fannin (proxy, Ted Rumley)
Allison Watters, Floyd
Charlie Paris, Gilmer
Jimmy Palmer, Gordon (proxy, Ted Rumley)
Ronnie Ridley, Haralson
K. W. Gong, Murray
Greg Hogan, Murray
David Carmichael, Paulding
Steve Lawrence, Pickens (proxy, Kirk Raffield)
Teddy Harris, Walker
Shannon Whitfield, Walker
Ken Gowin, Whitfield
Jevin Jenson, Whitfield

CCEOs Not Present or Represented, County

Al Pallone, Bartow*
Larry Black, Catoosa
Nick Millwood, Catoosa
Blake Elsberry, Chattooga
Harry Harvey, Chattooga
Rhonda Haight, Fannin
Sundai Stevenson, Floyd
Al Hoyle, Gilmer
Bud Owens, Gordon
AJ Scott, Haralson
James Kelly, Paulding
Kris Stancil, Pickens
Hal Floyd, Polk
Jessica Payton, Polk

Guests/Staff:

Boyd Austin
Lesia Lambert
Terri Morgan
Anthony Rucker

*deceased

I. Welcome Ted Rumley

Ted Rumley, Chairman of the Council of Chief Elected Officials called the meeting to order and welcomed those present. It was established that a quorum was present.

II. Consent Agenda Ted Rumley

Mr. Rumley informed those present that a Consent Agenda (containing Minutes from the July 19, 2023 Meeting, Performance Report, and Dislocation Report) had been e-mailed and was also attached for review. Greg Hogan made the motion that the Consent Agenda be approved. Steve Taylor seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

III. Fiscal Report and Funds Transfer Anthony Rucker

Anthony Rucker provided a fiscal report, Northwest Georgia Regional Commission Grant/Actual Analysis, WIOA, 8/30/2023 (attached). This report encompasses the Adult, Dislocated Worker, QUEST, Rapid Response, Youth, and HDCI programs. Alex Case made the motion to approve this report. KW Gong seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rucker also reported that a funds transfer request had been made moving \$1,000,000 from the Dislocated Worker grant to the Adult grant (letter attached). Allison Watters made the motion to approve this request. Greg Hogan seconded.

III. New Providers/Programs. Lesia Lambert

Lesia Lambert informed those present that Angels Touch CNA School, LLC, located in Cartersville, Georgia, had submitted a request to provide training in our area. The training will provide the basic foundation and skills used by nursing assistants in nursing facilities, home health care settings and hospitals. The focus is on basic human needs, cognitive care and hands on care of patients fulfilling the activities of daily living. Nursing Aide skills are acquired through classroom, lab practice and clinical training at a nursing facility.

She stated that Angels Touch offers two ways to receive the same type of training. The Blended On-Line training can be completed in 4 weeks with a total of 105 curriculum hours. The total cost of training is \$1,249. The Traditional In-Person training is the other training program. This program consists of 3 ½ weeks of training and 128 curriculum hours. The total cost of training is \$1,049. She reported that there have been over 300 students enrolled since the school was first started in 2019. Their performance for the past 12 months is as follows:

- Median Earnings After Placement \$580.00 (15 Students)
- Average Wage at Placement \$14.00/hr. (50 Students)
- Attainment of Credential 81% (48 Students)
- Completion Rate 100% (59 students)
- Employment Rate 83% (50 Students)
- Training Related Employment 98% (60 Students)

She stated that it was staff's recommendation to approve adding Angels Touch CNA School and both programs to the Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL) and to provide training at a cost not to exceed \$1,249 for the Blended On-Line Training and approval of the Traditional In-Person program training at a cost not to exceed \$1,049.

Ms. Lambert then presented a request from Legacy Holistic Health Institute, which focuses on the health and well-being of clients. Their Health Coaching training is designed to improve client outcomes and sustainable well-being. They also concentrate on the holistic interconnectedness of physical, psychological, social spiritual, and environmental well-being and integrate aspects of alternative complementary and conventional medicine to alleviate illness and promote, maintain, and optimize wellness.

She stated that Health and Wellness coaches partner with clients looking to enhance their well-being through self-directed lasting changes. There are a vast number of professionals who are trained in becoming a Health and Wellness Coach. The school is accredited by the Georgia Nonpublic Post Secondary Education Commission and has been in operation since 2018. This program leads to a national board certification as a Certified Health Coach. Those who graduate successfully can work directly with the healthcare provider or contracted staff as a solution to their patients. The school is listed on the State's Eligible Training Provider list but has not trained any WIOA students. However, they have trained 203 students in the last 12 months. Their median earnings after placement and average at placement is \$28.85 an hour. The total cost of training is \$5447. The total weeks of training is 26 weeks.

She shared these important facts about Legacy Holistic Health Institute:

- o Attainment of Post-Secondary Credential Rate (187 Students) 92%
- o Completion Rate (187 Students) 92%
- o Employment Rate (162 Students) 80%
- o Training-Related Employment (162 Students) 80%

Ms. Lambert stated that it was staff's recommendation to approve the Health Coach Training at a cost not to exceed \$5,447 and five (5) participant slots/enrollments.

Ms. Lambert informed the Council that Greater Wealth Works is a 24-week business development program that combines business development training, economic literacy training, and entrepreneurial leadership training. The program includes formal classroom training, group coaching, and one and one technical assistance. Participants also learn the necessary skills and discipline to perform essential business functions such as writing a business plan, financial planning, and doing market research.

To qualify for the class, participants must either be in pre-start of a business or have completed the introductory class, Exploring Entrepreneurship, with a defined business concept.

She stated that the provider was asked to provide data on the school's program performance, but none was given. Cobb Works, a local workforce area, was contacted to inquire about Greater Wealth Works since they had worked with them in the past. We were told that it had been several years since they worked with Greater Wealth. They had not had any enrollments with Greater Wealth in 4 years. They are listed on the Eligible Training Provider List.

Ms. Lambert informed the Council that staff's recommendation is not to contract with Greater Wealth Works due to them not providing us with the information we requested.

Ms. Lambert provided a request for an increase of \$300 in tuition from the Dental Assistant School of Atlanta. This request is due to the rising cost of dental material. This request will increase the tuition cost from \$3,500 to \$3,800. They are on the Eligible Training Provider List. Since January 2021 they have trained thirty (30) of our participants as dental assistants. Twenty-six (26) of the thirty (30) are employed with earnings from \$16 to \$22 an hour. She stated that is was staff's recommendation to approve the request for a \$300 increase in tuition cost for the Dental Assistant School of Atlanta from \$3,500 to \$3,800.

Greg Hogan made the motion to approve all staff recommendations. Ken Gowin seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Other

Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.