

Monday, January 29, 2007

4:30 PM – 5:30 PM

Session #1: Understanding Quality Assurance Reviews

Room: Dogwood

Speakers: Fay Malone and Bettye McGlockton

Workshop Summary: To address recent changes to the review process by the return to reviews performed by programmatic persons within the agency. This session would include an overview of the review process, the report and corrective action process, the color coding on the various programmatic tools and the desk review. The presentation would also include information as to how the process will change as a result of the Deficit Reduction Act and Employ Florida.

Session #2: Vet Programs

Room: Live Oak

Speakers: Mitch Collier & Shawn Forehand

Workshop Summary: Roles and Responsibilities; Program expansion and Marketing the program: This session will discuss the Roles and Responsibilities of Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program (DVOP) Specialists/Local Veterans' Employment Representative (LVER) Staff; veterans' priority services in the One-Stop Career Centers; integration of veterans' services in the One-Stop Career Center delivery system; State-level and Regional Workforce Board Veterans' Performance Goals; strategies for enhanced performance and productivity; Recovery and Employment Assistance Lifelines for severely injured disabled veterans and their families; program expansion and marketing the Veterans' Program; and other related topics.

Session #3: Job Corps

Room: Cypress

Speaker: Patty Williams

Workshop Summary: Job Corps—Where Success Lasts a Lifetime

A golden opportunity to learn about one of the original public-private partnerships and one of America's oldest, largest, and most comprehensive residential, educational and job training programs. Learn what it is and what it isn't, the requirements for eligibility and how it benefits employers as well as students. This is a workshop that will offer you valuable information to share. For our youth, it offers opportunity for lifelong success.

Session #4: Florida Rebuilds

Room: Hickory

Speaker: Monica Medlicott

Workshop Summary: An open dialogue forum in which the success of the Florida reBuilds Program is discussed and examined for possible replication across other workforce programs. Panelists include statewide and regional employers, regional coordinators, participants, and the statewide coordinator as the facilitator.

Session #5: Discover the Hidden Power of the Employ Florida Marketplace
Room: Azalea

Speakers: Lucia Fishburne, Communications Director, Workforce Florida, and Paul Toomey, President/CEO of Geographic Solutions, Inc.

Workshop Summary: How can Florida's new tool for workforce professionals, the Employ Florida Marketplace, help our local and state stakeholders and partners? Learn about and share ways to demonstrate to economic developers, industry associations, and our other stakeholders how they can use the Employ Florida Marketplace in their jobs. This interactive session will also explore how we can use the Employ Florida Marketplace to development new partnerships in an effort to better serve common customers.

Session #6: Self-Sufficiency Initiatives

Room: Hawthorne

Speaker: Erica Mott & Trina Dickey

Workshop Summary: Moving participants from welfare to work is only the beginning of the Welfare Transition's program responsibility. Moving families to self-sufficiency requires working with parents once they are employed and cash is closed. Working with employed families to continue training is very challenging. This will be an opportunity for regions to review the facts about Florida's post employment programs and share ideas.

Session #8: Regional Workforce Boards as Conveners

Room: Magnolia

Speaker: Bruce Ferguson, Kim Moore, Wyatt Pope

Workshop Summary: A panel discussion to explore the many ways RWIBs can act as conveners of the workforce development system.

Session #9: Succeed Grants & How They are Providing Just-In Time Training for Youth Who May Not Go To Post Secondary School

Room: Ballroom B

Speaker: Gayle Manley, State Coordinator for Career Academies

Workshop Summary:

Tuesday, January 30, 2007

8:30 – 9:45 AM

Session #13: Advanced Youth Vision Forums – A Collaborative Approach to Prepare Youth for Success in a Global Demand Driven Economy

Room: Ballroom B

Speaker: Evan Rosenberg, USDOL, Division of Youth Services, Unit Chief Youth Policy and Performance and Sharon Whatley, President, General Scientific.

Workshop Summary: USDOL will provide an overview of the efforts of the Interagency Shared Youth Vision Federal Partnership including a background

of how the vision was formed, what the vision has accomplished to date, and the direction for the shared youth vision. The presentation will focus on the importance of collaborating across agencies to serve the youth most in need.

8:30 – 12:00 PM

Session #11: Internal Controls and Fraud Protection

Room: Dogwood

Speaker: Gary Zack & Janet Johnson, WIPFLI

Workshop Summary: Hands on workshop covering fraud protection and fraud auditing.

8:30 – 10:15 AM

Session #12: Partnerships Between DOC & Workforce Boards

Room: Hawthorne;

Speaker: Dr. Laura Bedard

Workshop Summary: During fiscal year 2004-05, more than 31,000 offenders returned to Florida's communities after their release from the State of Florida correctional system. A partnership between the FDOC and AWI has been forged to deliver a coordinated, focused and collaborative workforce development program to current FDOC inmates. This project allows for the implementation of a highly focused and targeted program that will identify and deliver transitional services to a specific target population. By drawing on each partners' strength, this public-private partnership provides the desperately needed transitional services currently unavailable to offenders who every day are returning to communities all over the State of Florida.

9:45 – 10:45 AM

Session #10: High School Reform & the A++ Legislation

Room: Ballroom B

Speaker: Chancellor Cheri Yecke

Workshop Summary: This presentation will focus on what the A++ Plan and supporting legislation means to schools and their business partners. Thanks to Governor Bush's A-Plus Plan, the hard work of our Florida teachers and the philosophy that every child has the God-given ability to learn, remarkable progress has been made in Florida's schools during the past eight years. The A-Plus Plan is a plan based on high standards and expectations, clear measurement and accountability, and rewards and consequences for results.

However, because more work must also be done in our high schools, the A++ Plan and supporting legislation was passed in 2006. Beginning school year 2006-2007, high schools will have the guidance and supports they need to fulfill the initiatives of the A++ legislation – legislation which aims to make high school a more relevant and interesting place for students, a place that prepares them for post secondary education and employment.

10:15 – 12:00 AM

Session #14: Wired Wits

Room: Live Oak

Speaker: Chuck Branch

Workshop Summary: This session will present the new WITS GIS software solution being made available for the WIRED regions by the USDOL ETA. This unique and highly innovative toolkit will facilitate access to the latest knowledge and information in support of WIRED project development and implementation plans. WITS will provides access to comprehensive economic, census, workforce, and economic development data to assist decisions for policy-making, resource allocation, cluster analysis, and capacity building

10:15 AM – 12:00 PM

Session #15: Florida's Job Market & LIM

Room: Cypress

Speaker: Rebecca Rust & Bill Dobson

Workshop Summary: This session will present the latest labor statistics comparing regions within Florida to the state and the nation. Important services for business, like obtaining information on "where are the available workers" will be discussed. Industry and occupational highlights will be presented with emphasis given to learning about the factors impacting emerging workforce trends.

10:15 AM – 12:00 PM

Session #16: WTP Allowance; WT Program; Federal Participation Rate TANF

Room: Hickory

Speaker: Erica Mott, Fred Dietrich and Fay Malone

Workshop Summary: Allowable activities and the federal participation rate. A down and dirty recap of each allowable activity with real world application to include innovative approaches to fulfilling documentation and monitoring requirements for the federal participation rate. Will also include the federal Participation Rate calculation methodology and present a look at how the regions have performed over the past several years. Information will also be included about basic work activity requirements.

10:15 AM – 12:00 PM

Session #17: Employ Florida Marketplace Hands on Workshop

Room: Azalea

Speaker: Geographic Solutions

Workshop Summary: Geographic Solutions will provide a live in depth overview of Employ Florida Marketplace

10:45 AM – 12:00 PM

Session #19: Best Practices

Room: Cedar

Speaker(s); Panel Discussion

Workshop Summary: How do we really become employer driven, developing partnerships? How do we operate the new local Incumbent Worker Program?

10:45 AM – 12:00 PM

Session #20: Balanced Score Card

Room: Hawthorne

Speakers: Duane Whitfield & Richard Meik

Workshop Summary: Workforce Florida, Inc.'s newly adopted Balanced Scorecard" for Florida's Workforce System will be discussed and reviewed with workshop participants. The various measures and how they will be calculated, various potential means to display the results, the release cycle of the new report, the timeframes associated with each measure's cohort, the potential ranking for comparison purposes and coloring of the new report and other issues will be presented.

10:45 AM – 12:00 PM

Session #21: Employ Florida Banner Centers

Room: Magnolia

Speaker: Panel, Tom Shiner moderator

Workshop Summary: The competitive edge of Florida businesses relies heavily on the skills and productivity of their employees. Workforce Florida, Inc. has set aside up to \$6.2 million to establish leading programs that focus on creating and providing up-to-date training for workers in industries that are critical to sustaining and growing Florida's diverse economy.

Employ Florida Banner Centers engage educational institutions, businesses, and workforce and economic development partners, among others, to provide a focal point for industry-specific skills training. They serve as clearinghouses for companies needing training, create relevant and rigorous new curricula for entry-level and advanced workers who need to upgrade their skills, and ensure training and education offered in Florida meets industry standards. Find out how the Employ Florida Banner Centers can help you create stronger partnerships with businesses in these industries within your region.

10:45 AM – 12:00 PM

Session #22: Connecting Business with Education - The Time Is Now!

Room: Ballroom B

Speaker: Jennifer Groves

Workshop Summary: In this presentation, Jennifer Groves will cover the utility industry and Gulf Power Company's experience in connecting with education to produce their future workforce. Jennifer will highlight two of their flagship partnerships - the Gulf Power Academy at West Florida High School of Advanced Technology in Pensacola and the Gulf Power CHOICE Institutes for Electrical and Welding Applications at Laurel Hill School in

Laurel Hill. Jennifer will discuss key success factors and continuing challenges for business and education partnerships.

1:30 – 5:00 PM

Session #23: Advanced Job Search Hands-on Workshop

Room: Dogwood

Speaker: Dick Gaither

Workshop Summary: The Wizard of Work - Nearly a million job hunters have used Dick Gaither's job-search methods. This workshop will show you how to quickly put the job seeker on the right track. Geared especially to entry-level or skilled-labor sorts, this workshop is a practical guide based on a gifted trainer's fifteen years of experience helping thousands of people in every walk of life to find the kind of job they want and to find it quickly.

1:30 – 3:30 PM

Session #24: Serving the Employed Worker

Room: Live Oak

Speaker: Debbie Tharpe & Jerry Copeland

Workshop Summary: Serving the Employed Worker – Thinking Upside Down
In order to increase Florida's competitiveness, employed workers must have access to skills upgrade training. The Workforce Investment Act offers this opportunity through customized training to employers who identify individuals who are in need of training in order to maintain their current employment or receive an upgrade in employment. Regional Workforce Boards must be proactive in developing plans to attract employers to take advantage of the training opportunities and provide employers with the needed support and advice to assist them in the retention of staff and management of skill requirements. Today's industry requires more than the traditional "thinking outside of the box" - - - businesses and communities must embrace the concept of "Thinking Upside Down". This workshop will focus on engaging the audience in an "information sharing forum" so that RWBs/providers can share "innovative practices" from Employed Worker initiatives in their regional area, as well as entertain questions and answers.

3:30 to 5:00

Session #26: Data Validation & Monitoring

Room: Cypress

Speaker(s); Bettye McGlockton & Mershal Noble

Workshop Summary: Provides updated changes in the new guidance for data validation for WIA, WP and TAA. Clarify the modified data elements, acceptable documentation and the regions role in the data validation process. This workshop will also show the relationship between monitoring reviews and data validation elements.

1:30 – 5:00 PM

Session #27: Interim Work Activity Definitions

Room: Hickory

Speaker: Erica Mott & Mary Rankin

Workshop Summary: Under the Personal Responsibility Work and Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA), states defined work activities. With the reauthorization of TANF, the Deficit Reduction Act required the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to define the twelve work activities listed in the original statute. Once the Interim Final Regulations were published, states were provided detailed explanations of work activity requirements and required to submit a Work Verification Plan. Currently Florida is operating under both federal and State definitions. This session will provide a comprehensive definition for each work activity, coding information and details about other plan elements (e.g. holiday hours, excused absences, etc.).

1:30 – 5:00 PM

Session #28: Employ Florida Marketplace Systems

Room: Azalea

Speaker: Joan Losiewicz, Barbara Walker, Cliff Atkinson & Lucia Fishburne

Workshop: To address data entry issues from a case management perspective. Areas will include registering participants and employers; recording services (referrals, placements, job developments, etc.) and activities for job seekers, employers and training participants (recording credential, goals, employment, follow-up services, special projects, TAA dual enrollment, etc.)

1:30 – 5:00 PM

Session #29: Workforce Central Florida Developing Partnerships

Room: Hawthorne

Speaker: Gary Earl

Workshop Summary:

1:30 – 3:30 PM

Session #30: Moving from Job Development to Employer Development

Room: Magnolia

Speaker: Eric Nakamura

Workshop Summary: Case Study: Building the System on the needs of the community. Region 21, Palm Beach County, consists of an Urban Coastal Area and the rural Glades area. The Coastal area Business Service Unit operates in one way and the Glades area operates in a completely different way. The results are the same but the system is built on the needs of the community served.

3:30 – 5:00 PM

Session #31: Quick Response Training – Incumbent Worker Training – Employed Worker Training

Speakers: Debbie McMullian, QRT Program Manager and Catherine Kennedy, IWT Program Manager

Workshop Summary: How can these three programs operate together? This session will provide overviews of the three programs and how the three can

work seamlessly together for the benefit of the companies we are serving. A company will be highlighted.

3:30 – 5:00 PM

Session #32: One-Stop Fee for Services

Room: Live Oak

Speaker: Panel

Workshop Summary: This session will present several fee for service concepts from local boards and lead an open discussion on what's working and what's not in the Fee for Service businesses of Workforce Boards.

1:30 – 2:30 PM

Session: #33: When Foster Care Ends

Room: Ballroom B

Speaker: Diane Zambito

Workshop Summary: Blending Funding to Help Foster Youth Successfully Transition to Independence.

2:30 – 3:30 PM

Session: #34: Transition for Youth with Disabilities

Room: Ballroom B

Speaker: Alex Penn Williams, Cynthia Byrd & Donna Mundy

Workshop Summary: Due to delayed interagency collaboration and planning, too many students experience a "black hole" at the end of their school careers. Much of the progress many students make during their school-based work experiences in the community is interrupted at the time of transition. This presentation will highlight one county's solutions to this problem. Leon County, Florida administers several evidence-based practices including the launching of a pilot program in which service is structured by sharing responsibility and redirecting joint resources into an integrated short term one-stop system which unifies the efforts of all three service systems (local education authority, vocational rehabilitation and developmental disabilities program) that are equally but independently responsible for transition. Additional programs include High School High Tech and Customized Employment.

3:30 – 4:30 PM

Session #35: Career Training Partnerships for Youth Offenders

Room: Ballroom B

Speaker: Rod Miller & Terri Eggers

Workshop Summary: Juvenile Justice involved youth are receiving expanded transitional support and career education due to increased information, resources, technology and partnerships. An overview of current and prior programs in place and new opportunities will be shared with examples from throughout Florida as a result of federal, state and community-based supports with a focus on Volusia student business skill acquisition.

4:30 – 5:30 PM

Session #36: Florida's Initiative to Reduce Under Age Drinking

Room: Ballroom B

Speaker: Chris Osborne

Workshop Summary: Florida was the first state in the nation to have a 'strategy paper' on the issue of underage drinking. Since being published, *CAN (Changing Alcohol Norms) Florida's Initiative to Reduce Underage Drinking - A White Paper*, Florida has moved into an even broader area of raising awareness to the dangers of underage drinking. Come hear what is happening at the national, state and community level and how you can join to fight to reduce youth alcohol use.