

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Priority Populations Committee Meeting Minutes
SC Works Clemson Comprehensive Center at East Park
Tuesday, March 3, 2020
3:00 – 4:00 pm

Members Present

Patrick Pruitt	Margaret Camp	Emily Hodge
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Members Absent

Stephanie Collins	Billy Gibson	Lisa Gillespie, Chair
Edgar Brown	Emily Hodge	Susan Stockton

Staff Present

Windy Graham	Meredith Durham
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Guests

Cornell Richardson	Karen Hamrick
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I. **Welcome and Introductions**

Mr. Patrick Pruitt, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order. Mr. Pruitt announced that the meeting will be recorded in order to process the minutes. Mr. Pruitt welcomed everyone and stated that the meeting is informational only.

II. **Approval of the January 7, 2020 Minutes**

The minutes from the 1/7/2020 meeting were emailed with the meeting notice and included in the meeting packet. A vote was electronically approved.

III. **Committee Education – Family Promise of Anderson County**

Mr. Cornell Richardson, from Family Promise of Anderson County, presented to the group. Family Promise is a national organization that has existed for approximately 15 years. In order to get into the Family Promise program, a participant must have children. Mr. Richardson is the Director of Development for Family Promise of Anderson County. The Anderson County shelter is mobile because Family Promise is set up to have church congregations turn Sunday school rooms into motel rooms for a week each quarter. Participants rotate through different churches each week. The congregations provide shelter and food for participants. Family Promise allows participants to stay in the program for up to 90 days or until they can be placed into a more permanent situation (i.e. transitional housing). Mr. Richardson stated that one of the largest unrecognized populations in this country is homeless children. The school system in Anderson County reported 1,079 children enrolled who were considered homeless in the last year. One main emphasis of Family Promise is to keep families together. Family Promise staff works with participants on budgeting, job training, resumes, and referrals out during their time in the shelter; so that when participants leave they are more prepared to live a sustainable life. So far, 8 congregations have committed to being host shelters in Anderson County. If SC Works

staff encounters homeless individuals, they can be referred to Family Promise of Anderson. The majority of families helped do not have full-time jobs. Family Promise has a day center that is available for families to do laundry and provide a landing point for students to be picked up to and from school.

Ms. Windy Graham, staff to the WorkLink Board, referenced reports in the packet.

Our targeted population WIOA data is found on page 4. Aggregate information is given for July to January 2020. No individual has indicated homelessness since July 2019. 65% (173) of individuals are basic skills deficient. Four youth are currently in the foster care system. Nineteen pregnant and parenting youth are being served currently.

The Community Profile was also available in the packet, beginning on page 8. Ms. Graham stated that the Community Profile shows economic, demographic, industry, occupation, and education data for the Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens area. The report can be revised to show individual counties and is updated approximately every 6 weeks.

WorkLink's unemployment rate is 2.3% statewide, and the population of those with disabilities is higher at 7.8%. The percentage of our labor force with a disability is 21.3% (data from US Department of Labor).

WorkLink will be having staff training on April 3, 2020 from 1-5 p.m. Staff, partners, and Board members are welcome to attend. Sensitivity and etiquette of individuals with disabilities, Nursing Mothers Act, sexual harassment training, labor market information, and human trafficking will be topics discussed.

IV. **Adjourn**

The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 5, 2020.

Respectfully submitted by Meredith Durham