

The Workforce Development Board for the Pittsburgh Area



Building a thriving workforce for the Pittsburgh region.

Board of Directors' Briefing Book

April 17, 2020



David Malone Chair





BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Chairman and CEO, Gateway Financial

Acklin, Kevin

Vice President and Chief Counsel Pittsburgh Penguins

Allen, Will

Managing Partner Nascent Group Holdings

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Executive Director Constructors Association of Western PA

Belechak, Joseph

Principal Accenture

Bell. Natalie

Director, Talent Acquisition-Recruitment Service Delivery UPMC

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President Community College of Allegheny County

Camino, Chris

Americas Leader, Strategic Customer Engagements Amazon

Caplan, Debra

Executive in Residence The Forbes Funds

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Allegheny County
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Ellsworth, Laura

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Representative United Steelworkers

Harris, Carey

Chief Executive Officer Literacy Pittsburgh

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District Administrator
Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

Kelly, Darrin

Partner4Work Secretary
President
Allegheny/Fayette Central Labor
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Lane, Majestic

Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of Mayor William Peduto City of Pittsburgh

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Executive Vice President, Director of Talent Lifecycle PNC

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Business Manager Pittsburgh Regional Building Trades Council

Mendoza, Brandon

Executive Director NAIOP Pittsburgh

Nobers, Jeff

Executive Director Builders Guild of Western PA

Pipitone, Scott

President and CEO Pipitone Group

Pollard, Joshua

President and CEO

Omicelo

Rendulic, Mark

Market President Citizens Bank

Rupert, Duke

Chief Operating Officer Allegheny General Hospital

Staszko, Frank

Assistant Regional Director PA Department of Labor and Industry, Bureau of Workforce Partnerships and Operations

Thomas, John

Chief Financial Officer ECHO Realty

Topoleski, Linda

Vice President, Workforce Operations and Programs Allegheny Conference on Community Development

Washington, Dr. Nancy

Director, Allegheny Housing Rehabilitation Corporation

Williamson, Sam

Union

Chair Urban Redevelopment Authority Western PA Area Leader, 32BJ Service Employees International

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PARTNER4WORK (P4W) Board of Directors' Meeting 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. April 17, 2020

Via Zoom Conferencing: https://zoom.us/j/309648736

1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Dave Malone, Chair

2. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Dave Malone

- APPROVE: Minutes from the April 3, 2020, Board of Directors meeting
- 3. COMMUNITY INTELLIGENCE, IMPACT, ADVOCACY, AND DECISION-MAKING AMID COVID-19 CRISIS
 - Dave Roger, Hillman Foundation
 - Dave Coplan, Human Service Center Corp.
 - Susie Puskar and Frank Staszko, Partner4Work and Labor & Industry
- 4. WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC PLANNING
- 5. OTHER BOARD BUSINESS
- 6. OPEN FORUM AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD Individual speakers limited to three (3) minutes
- 7. ADJOURNMENT



Minutes of Partner4Work Board of Directors' Meeting

Zoom Meeting 8:30 a.m. April 3, 2020

Board Members Present

Board Members Absent

Barcaskey, Rich Camino, Chris Caplan, Debra Casoli, Rich Cooper, Mary Frances Coplan, David Gittlen, Ike Harris, Carev Kelly, Darrin Lane, Majestic Malone, David Massaro, Steve McLaughlin, Caitlin Mendoza, Brandon Pipitone, Scott Rendulic, Mark

Rupert, Duke

Staszko, Frank

Thomas, John

Topoleski, Linda

Washington, Dr. Nancy

Acklin, Kevin
Allen, Will
Belechak, Joseph
Bell, Natalie
Bullock, Dr. Quinton B.
Cherna, Marc
Croft, Tom
Ellsworth, Laura
Katona, Marci
Melcher, Tom
Nobers, Jeff
Pollard, Joshua
Williamson, Sam

Guests Present

Acosta, Richard (Grant Associates)
Burstein, Joel (Keep It Simple Workforce Development)
Haggerty, Ryan (Work Hard Pittsburgh)
Higgins, Kiara (Dynamic Workforce Solutions)
Lucas, Josh (Work Hard Pittsburgh)
Nestor, Jennifer (Labor and Industry, Oversight Services)
Sljva-Blystone, Amy (PA CareerLink Allegheny County)
Stanboro, Sean (PA CareerLink/ResCare)

Staff Present

Buford, Earl Herrera, Jasmine Kramer, Kristin Moore, Dillon Mills, Jack Pajewski, Jennifer Puskar, Susie



Board Meeting Minutes (continued)

The meeting opened at 8:33 a.m. with roll call. A quorum was present. Staff and guests were asked to acknowledge their participation in the chat feature.

BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE, IMPACT, ADVOCACY, AND DECISION-MAKING AMID COVID-19 CRISIS

Board Chair Dave Malone turned the floor to Linda Topoleski of the Allegheny Conference on Community Development for a conversation on intelligence gathered from the business community and the activities of the Conference during the pandemic.

Ms. Topoleski discussed:

The Conference produced a workforce vulnerability index with four criteria: businesses or groups of businesses considered life-sustaining; life-sustaining businesses with which employees must be onsite; of those, do they have an above-average workforce over the age of 55 that work with the public; and the overall number of workers over the age of 55. If Industry scored four out of four, the Conference scored it as having the most vulnerability during the crisis. Subsequent scores were ranked accordingly.

The most vulnerable industries include healthcare with a disproportionate number of older workers. Grocery and retail workers also are considered highly vulnerable with 143,000 workers in those front-line jobs. High-vulnerable industries include manufacturing, airlines, transportation and logistics and others with 366,863 workers in those industries. Moderately vulnerable industries, with 464,700 workers, are colleges, legal firms, telecommunications, and so on. Dave Malone added that in the Pittsburgh MSA, 29,000 businesses have closed completely with 401,000 people out of work; 4,200 businesses are partially closed; and 27,400 businesses, with 519,000 workers, are still open and include the vulnerable workers previously mentioned. He also referenced data on individuals earning less than \$75,000 annually. While not most physically at risk, these workers are most economically vulnerable with many unable to withstand more than two weeks without income. On average, small businesses have about \$12,100, or about 27 days of cash available.

A series of webinars hosted by the Conference including sessions with FNB and Bridgeway Capital, and Huntington Bank and the Small Business Administration will be held to help small businesses learn how to access paycheck protection program loans provided in the CARES Act. Advance questions received reveal tones of desperation, frustration with the difficulties in attempting to reach individuals for help, and skepticism about whether assistance will be available in time.

A survey of about 200 Conference members was conducted to assess the current and future impact on business. The survey was conducted between March 17 and March 25. Of 250 businesses, 60 percent reported significant disruption; 15 percent reported an expectation of being able to conduct business as usual. Seventy-five percent of respondents expected the situation to worsen within a month. Critical needs expressed included access to relevant information, access to capital and resources, and coordination of supports for employees such as childcare for those unable to work remotely. The latter point was demonstrated as a significant need for industries such as manufacturing where parents are unable to work from home and might be unwilling to report due to the risk of exposure.

With a research firm, the Conference conducted a consumer confidence survey of about 600 consumers between March 24 and March 26. Respondents expressed confidence that Pittsburgh would weather the crises better than cities of similar size; however, they also expressed the belief that the region would not



recover as quickly as the nation. Most respondents said they would not make large-ticket purchases, such as a car or home, soon; however, more than half said they planned to take a road trip within the next six months.

Dr. Nancy Washington asked about efforts to address the effects on minority communities, particularly for minority and women-owned businesses. The Conference invited minority and women-owned businesses to participate in webinars via the African-American Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Topoleski also said that while not designated as an agency to distribute funds through the paycheck protection program, Bridgeway Capital assists by helping small businesses understand and develop virtual front doors, conduct business online, providing advertising assistance, etc. The Conference also connected with Pittsburgh Public Schools to source and distribute equipment and train teachers for virtual learning.

Brandon Mendoza asked if the Conference strategizes with the Governors' office to mobilize efforts to quickly and effectively reopen the economy post-pandemic and encourage businesses to retain workers to quicken ramp-up efforts. Longer-term planning and calls with economic partners in the region are ongoing. The Conference continues to disseminate information, collect intelligence, and work with regional Chamber partners to plan for the future.

Surveys and reports from the Conference and information about NAIOP Pittsburgh's Economic and Workforce panel on April 9 would be sent to the group following the meeting.

Jack Mills, chief strategy officer, briefly discussed P4W's Industry Partnership work. He referred to multiple charts provided in the Briefing Book and discussed successes of IPs before the crisis. Successes included progress made on the priorities identified in some of the eight active IPs, including Transportation and Logistics and Healthcare. The priorities include training, upskilling, recruitment, and retention.

Since the crisis, P4W's IP team interviews 56 employers and labor representatives about current issues and needs relative to layoffs, surge hiring, and expected transitional training needs. Mr. Mills asked the Board to encourage other employers to partner and expand and extend the services available. Mr. Buford discussed work underway in IT and also encouraged employers to develop and articulate signature programs and services.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Two items considered under consent: Minutes from March 27, 2020, and accepting \$500,000 from Hillman to support Industry Partnerships and other work.

On a motion by Deb Caplan, seconded by Scott Pipitone, the consent agenda was approved as presented. There were no additions, corrections, objections, or abstentions.

AGENDA SETTING FOR APRIL 17, 2020

With the discussion focused on the demand, Mr. Buford proposed a supply-side conversation for April 17. He recommended a discussion to develop a crisis and post-pandemic plan and presentation on the partnerships that have formed or are forming to coordinate the pipeline.

Mr. Malone discussed daycare and the fragility of the workforce relative to the lack of stable childcare. He emphasized the need for P4W to focus its efforts on where it can be most effective. Chief Program Officer Susie Puskar discussed Allegheny County's Department of Human Services' work to make available surge-



related childcare. She reported several slots available; however, if a segment of the population is missed, Ms. Puskar recommended connecting it to DHS.

The April 17 meeting would focus on the supply side with a discussion with key partners including labor, and a continued conversation on unemployment compensation.

OTHER BOARD DISCUSSION

Mr. Malone reiterated that P4W must prioritize its agenda for the foreseeable future to make an impact.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

On a motion by Dave Coplan, seconded by Deb Caplan, the meeting adjourned at 9:26 a.m.

Earl Buford

Chief Executive Officer

Matt Aelmore

Program Evaluation Manager

Jack Bailey

Database Specialist

Crystaline Barger

Manager of Youth Work Experience

Mayada Christiansen

Director of Youth Programs

David Conway

Apprenticeship Manager

Dillon Corbridge

Data Coordinator

John Crowe

Program Coordinator, EARN Work Ready

Kayleigh Del Cotto

Learn & Earn Manager

Ryan Dodson

Junior Accountant

Bonnie Evans

PULSE Fellow

Carolyn Ford

Contract Administrator

Nancy Frederick

Assistant Grants Manager

Julia Gagosian

Youth Program Coordintor

Markie Harrison

Youth Program Coordintor

Jasmine Herrera

Executive Assistant

Kristen Hochreiter

Compliance Specialist

Raihan Izimbetova

TANF Program Manager

Nic Jaramillo

Operations Manager

Katrina Kadisevskis

Adult Workforce Programs
Coordinator

Dylan Knutson

Manager of Strategic Initiatives

Kristin Kramer

Sr. Director of Fiscal

Erin Kucic

Program Manager, Adult Workforce Services

Edgar Largaespada

Industry Partnership Manager

Sophia Leissa

PULSE Fellow

Markese Long

Community Relations Manager

Kristine Masta

Director of Development

Cory Matz

IT Specialist.

Kelly McGuire

Communications Coordinator

Jesse McLean

Youth Program Coordinator

Jack Mills

Chief Strategy and Innovation
Officer

Prriscilla Montoya

Compliance Specialist

Dillon Moore

Director of Policy

Franklin Mosley

Receptionist

Sarah Owen

Grant Writer

Jennifer Pajewski

Sr. Director of Special Relationships

Susie Puskar

Chief Program Officer

Katy Rittle

Director of Workforce Innovation

Kris Roper

Accounting Supersvisor

Jonathan Ross

Compliance Specialist

Andy Smith

Director of Adult Workforce Programs

Sandy Stuhlfire

Financial Consultant

Tony Townsend

Industry Partnership Developer

Rebecca Varo

Compliance Specialist

Sharon Watkins

MUS Compliance Manager

Wendy Weiskircher

Director of Human Resources

Spencer Witt

Accounting Clerk

Eva Wright

Grants Management Specialist

PA CAREERLINK® PITTSBURGH/ALLEGHENY COUNTY SYSTEM

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REGIONAL CENTERS	Alle-Kiski 1150 5th Avenue, Suite 200 New Kensington, PA 15068 724-334-8600 TTY 724-334-8713	Mon Valley Regional 570 Galiffa Drive Donora, PA 15033 724-379-4750 TTY 724-379-5981

Partner4Work, formerly 3 Rivers Workforce Investment Board, leads the development, integration and implementation of a world-class workforce development system in Pittsburgh and Allegheny County.

Mission

Lead the development, integration, and implementation of a world-class workforce development system in Pittsburgh and Allegheny County.

Vision

We will be a community leader, an innovator, a strong partner, inclusive, a bridge builder between human services and workforce development systems, a model workplace.

Values

We will lead with integrity; treat individuals respectfully and support all individuals in their quest for meaningful employment; be inclusive in recognizing diversity; be excellent stewards of public resources; respect employers' diverse talent needs.

Partner4Work

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