

Metro South/West Workforce Board, Inc.
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WIOA Partners Quarterly Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday, September 12, 2025

Time: 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81794024321?pwd=Jo02rpiw4bpASuVXUE5whBAiCx2NiZ.1>

Meeting ID: 817 9402 4321

Passcode: 938541

Welcome and Introductions

- Facilitator: Tammy MacDonald
- Attendance: Amanda Moore-Owens, Greg Bunn, Henry Bryson, Jason Ruschioni, John Afonso, John McKenna, John Oliveira, Kimberly Rowe-Cummings, Kerri Sandberg, Mary Walsh, Patricia Lucier, Rosemary Alexander, Rute Vales, Sandra Maiuri, Susan Medeiros, Zoie Jaklitsch

Partner Updates

MassHire Department of Career Services (Title I Adult & Dislocated Worker, Wagner-Peyser, TAA, JVSG)

- Rosemary Alexander highlighted the EMT project and ongoing State Workforce Board modernization efforts to replace MOSES.
- Local areas are reviewing adaptive technology needs and website accessibility compliance.
- Zoie Jaklitsch noted MassHire staff are available to present at local staff meetings; Chris from Blue Hills will meet with them later this month, working with MassAbility to set a date to present.

WIOA Youth Program

- Greg Bunn reported that all youth career education programming is consolidated under Youth Connections, providing a full spectrum of career education from intensive case management to supporting educators. This includes WIOA Youth, Youth Connections (Comm Corp), and DESE Connecting Activities.

MA Department of Unemployment Assistance (DUA)

- John Saulnier shared that the new “One UI for All” system has been postponed.
- DUA is fully staffed but facing a 5% budget reduction.
- Explained customer intake scoring process leading to three service pathways.

Hudson-Maynard Adult Learning Center

- Sandra Maiuri reported program is fully enrolled in ESOL and ABE.
- Noted a decrease in the waitlist.

Blue Hills Adult Education

- Collaborating with new Framingham Adult ESL outstationing specialist, Chris, who focuses on Norwood Career Center outreach.
- Lower-level ESOL classes have a waitlist; upper-level ESOL and ABE students can be enrolled quickly. Best contact method to register: adulthood.bluehills.org

MassAbility

- Susan Medeiros reported funding cuts have increased wait times. Coordination ongoing to schedule staff presentation.

MA Commission for the Blind

- Jay Oliveira shared the Metro West Regional Office moved to 40 Broad St., Boston; staffing is level-funded.

MA Department of Transitional Assistance (TANF & SNAP)

- Mary Walsh noted that only critical positions are being hired.
- Mary shared that if anyone reports that money has been taken from the funds for return to school or other programs, they should report it. This has been an issue, and although they are not able to replace the money at this time, any reported issues will be addressed if that changes.
- Reviewed changes for customer requirements to look for work is able bodied and that some areas are not able to assist with this.

Job Corps – Shriver Job Corps Center

- Zoie Jaklitsch noted that centers are now allowed to bring in new students and are working to build their enrollment back up.

MA Department of Corrections

- John Afonso highlighted success in creating email accounts for customers before release to facilitate MassHire registration.
- Upcoming “Behind the Wall” fall resource events are scheduled in the next few weeks.

FY26 Meeting Schedule:

- Q1: September 12, 2025 – 10:00 AM
- Q2: December 12, 2025 – 10:00 AM
- Q3: March 13, 2026 – 10:00 AM
- Q4: June 12, 2026 – 10:00 AM