



Minutes of the Chicago Cook Workforce Investment Board– 6/22/21

Present: Haven Allen, Colin Cosgrove, Xochitl Flores, Jennifer Foster, Adam Hecktman, Mary Howard, Dan Lyonsmith, Pam McDonough, Rich Monocchio, Alberto Ortega, Donovan Pepper, Bob Reiter, Jacki Robinson-Ivy, Sarah Lichtenstein for Juan Salgado, Marc Schulman, George Wright. Quorum? Yes.

[Co-chair Jacki Robinson-Ivy called the meeting to order at 9:32am, asked for a roll call attendance, and asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the March board meeting. Pam McDonough made the motion, and Adam Hectman seconded the motion. The votes were taken by roll call; the minutes were unanimously approved; the motion carries.]

Karin Norington-Reaves gave the CEO Update: I'll talk a little bit about the pandemic and economic recovery efforts of the Partnership, talk about business engagements, again an update on our Contact Tracing Corps, and then discuss our value statement with respect to equity. So, as you know the Partnership and the work that we do is really critical to the economic recovery for our region and so towards that end we have a number of different initiatives that we are focused on. I'll talk a little bit about the initiatives for the city and then also with respect to the county.

With respect to the city, as you all know both President Preckwinkle and Mayor Lightfoot participated in the economic recovery task force and the task force came back with a number of recommendations around what a post-pandemic recovery would look like for this region and so towards that end the Partnership has been asked to host what originally 9 the Mayor thought was going to be the mother of all hiring events. We actually felt a more prudent approach would be to have sector-driven events, and so for five weeks beginning in the month of August we will have each week a sector focus on creating opportunity within that sector, not only a hiring event but also just a flurry of events around that particular sector that's being highlighted. So, the sectors are healthcare, manufacturing, transportation, distribution and logistics, IT, and then food service and production. We're doing that in partnership with World Business Chicago and the Mayor's Office, but the Partnership will be driving the workforce development aspect of those events. They will be both virtual and in person.

We are also helping to support the Mayor's billion-dollar capital plan, which is seeking to upgrade the infrastructure within the city of Chicago but also focus on hiring -- local hiring from the hardest hit communities that have left infrastructure for decades. In addition to that, we are amplifying our Opportunity Works initiative, which as you know we began under the leadership of President Preckwinkle where we were asked to actually create some -- originally it was envisioned as a summer youth initiative but went on to become a year-round initiative focused on career exploration and exposure for Opportunity Youth, young people between the ages of 18 and 24 who are both out of school and out of work. We will be amplifying the Opportunity Works initiative with the additional funding in support from Cook County and we'll also be bringing that program to the city of Chicago. This is just a brief update on our business engagement.

Typically this time of year we try and give you an update to let you know what it has looked like during the course of the program year. We have served over 1300 employers. We have posted more than 9300 positions that represent 2200 job titles. We've had 2300 job orders from employers representing those positions and titles. We have delivered as a system more than 5,000 business services so that ranges from are consultation to review of position descriptions to actual engagement for hiring events. We have had over 500 events that we have put on for employers. We've had 20 virtual 11 recruitment events, so hiring events that have now gone virtual because of the pandemic.

This is just an overview of how we've spent some of the grant dollars that we've been able to access for employers. We've had dollars through the fed CARES Act fund from Cook County and we did some business interruption grants to help prevent interruption in service, to help prevent layoffs. We've had incumbent worker training grants and also some of the other dollars from the State 1-E that was specifically a response to COVID-19, and then also other incumbent worker dollars and so you'll see that we've had over 50 applications that were provided by employers. We've had over three and a half million dollars requested by employers, and as of May we've already approved 2.2 million dollars.

One of the other initiatives that we've been a part of through the County CARES Act funding has focused on this early warning network which is really centered on how do we really help an employer before they go out of business, how do we help turn things around, help them with their growth planning, help them 12 with outreach and streamlining their operations and any financial restructuring to make sure that they are able to remain part of the local economy, and so as of May 60 percent of the program outreach has been completed. We've had 18 companies that have expressed interest that are also eligible to receive the services, and this is all again funded by the Cook County CARES Act dollars.

As you might recall from last year when we began at the beginning of the year talking about the changes to the local plan we had our two-day board retreat and we talked about, you know, the focus that you all wanted to see a greater focus around moving out of the ITAs as the primary source of job training and moving into more of the direct business services, and so this is representative of that. These are the number of OJTs. Besides it being a really tough year with the pandemic we were still able to move forward with OJTs, and you'll see the breakdown here by industry sector and then also by the total number. You'll see that we have a planned amount that exceeds just over half a million dollars. Right now what has actually been utilized through May of this year is roughly half of that amount but that still puts us in pretty good shape. We also expect things are going to pick up this year given the economic recovery opportunities, the number of employers that are, you know, reopening and beginning to expand, again, their hiring practices.

This is just demonstrating our laid-off worker services. Both our rapid response -- And you'll see that we have more than 32,000 folks impacted by the notices that we received. This is not representative of the entire volume of people who have been laid off. This is just representative of the ones that we've actually had contact with or that have come to us through the State. Next. Contact tracing. Let me give you a quick update on our Contact Tracing Corps. We are now at the one-year mark for the contracts.

You all may recall we had our board meeting last year and we walked through the preliminary budget and I said that that budget we were expecting additional dollars and that budget was not

representative of the ultimate fiscal year would look like and literally the very next day we received word of this contact tracing award. We've now been able to hire roughly 600 individuals as Contact Tracing Corps members, and as we have had to pivot as this pandemic has taken us in many different directions they all started off as contact tracers but they've evolved into a number of different roles which are listed here. So about 200 or so will remain as contact tracers and they will be focused specifically on handling general cases that arise of COVID-19 as well as doing contact tracing for the Chicago Public School system. Another smaller group of roughly about 200 or so have spun off into Promotores de Salud, which are Spanish-speaking community health workers who are focused in heavily Hispanic communities within the city. We also have the Chicago COVID hotline which our teams have been staffing. They've been responsible for the scheduling for vaccines at the United Center. They actually have staffed vaccination pods as well, and now that we have shifted out of that full-on focus on those -- on the actual vaccinating pods they are now vaccination ambassadors and are canvassing the neighborhoods that have been hardest hit and have the greatest statistical representation of vaccine hesitancy or lowest numbers of vaccines. And then we continue staffing the resource coordination hub, which is always the part of the contract where we get called and are able to refer people on for other resources such as access to food. Food insecurity has been the greatest reason people have called that line as well as any other financial assistance or assistance with housing or employment.

And then finally as we talked a bit about earlier this year certainly the murder of George Floyd last year has laid bare a number of inequities as has the pandemic with respect to infrastructure and lack of services and underinvestment in black and brown communities, and so as we reviewed our value statement, we realized what was missing was a statement on equity. I'd like to share with you what the staff has come up with with regard to our equity statement. Just a reminder of our other core values, collaboration, innovation, transparency, financial responsibility and stewardship, quality of our services, and the dignity of work honoring that.

And then finally equity this is our draft statement, which I, of course, cannot see because this is taking up the screen. The intentionally acknowledged systems of oppression when providing the resources and support to people to make sure of fiscal, economic, and human potential. We actively work to eliminate disparity people experience based on race, ethnicity, disability, background, gender, age, or sexual orientation. We partner with employers who share our beliefs and are committed to the idea that all residents of our region can achieve a meaningful career that provides family-sustaining income. I also believe we've added education and economic status to the second paragraph there -- or second sentence. So that concludes my remarks -- my report. I'm happy to take any questions that people might have. (Brief pause.)

CO-CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Okay. Hearing no questions, thanks, Karin, for that CEO report. Really appreciate it. Moving to committee reports, we'll start off with Pam. And this actually will also require that we take action as a board. So, Pam, the floor is yours.

MS. McDONOUGH: Our committee met a couple weeks ago. We reviewed several things, and we're going to have four items that require a vote. We did a review of the WIOA budget plan. Our allocation of 16,941,412 in WIOA adult funds and 16,665,966 in WIOA dislocated worker funds for PY2021. The combination represents a total increase of 1,740,552 between the two funds with the 11.34 percent increase for dislocated workers. We anticipate serving 4,000 adults and 3700 dislocated workers with WIOA throughout Cook County. The first item requiring a vote is the transfer between funding streams. The Partnership is recommending transferring 780,000

of dislocated worker funding to adult funding to address the growing needs of low-income adults. The Partnership also received additional funds through 1-E and national emergency grant funds to address the needs of dislocated workers. Transferring funding from dislocated worker to adult allows the Partnership to maintain service levels at all our delegate agencies.

Pam McDonough asked for a motion to approve the transfer dislocated worker funding to adult funding. Donovan Pepper made the motion. Adam Hectman seconded the motion. All were in favor. (Rich Monoccio had audio issues but confirmed his votes via email after the meeting.) The motion carries.

Pam McDonough asked for a motion to approve continuing funding for sector centers. We did a procurement of the four sector centers a year ago and voted to approve the contracts one year out. We're recommending we continue those contracts at essentially the same funding levels. You can look at the recommendations on page 24 of the board materials if you want to look at it more specifically. George Wright made the motion. Jacki Robinson-Ivy seconded the motion. All were in favor. (Rich Monoccio had audio issues but confirmed his votes via email after the meeting.) The motion carries.

Pam McDonough explained that the Service Delivery Committee is recommending providers at each of the ten American Job Centers are renewed and that two additional AGLs get WIOA youth funding that previously only got adult and dislocated. I'll entertain a motion to approve. George Wright made the motion. Colin Cosgrove seconded the motion. All were in favor. (Rich Monoccio had audio issues but confirmed his votes via email after the meeting.) The motion carries.

Pam McDonough explained that 35 programs are up for recertification, six programs applied and are recommended for certification, including IT, healthcare, and culinary programs. Those are new programs. Three new programs applied but were not recommended for certification because they lacked proper accreditation or did not give us enough information so we may hear more from them. Pam McDonough called for a motion to approve these recommendations. Jacki Robinson -Ivy made the motion. Donovan Pepper Seconded the motion. All were in favor. (Rich Monoccio had audio issues but confirmed his votes via email after the meeting.) The motion carries.

MONICA HASLIP: Good morning. So we had our committee meeting yesterday. Amy walked us through the funding recommendations for the WIOA youth programs for the year. The Partnership received an allocation of \$17,534,694 in WIOA youth funds for PY2021. This represents an increase of about \$90,039 for approximately .52 percent of last program year. Under WIOA a minimum of 75 percent of total youth funds must be extended on out-of-school youth services, and in addition a minimum of 20 percent of WIOA youth funds must be spent on work experience activities. Given the local imperatives the Partnership's practice has been to expend about 32 80 percent on out-of-school youth services. The program and Partnership anticipate serving about 3,000 to 3200 at-risk youth with WIOA service through Cook -- throughout Cook County. We really discussed two things that we voted on at our committee meeting yesterday. One was extending all the delegate agencies WIOA youth grants. \$8,614,486 to support 26 programs servicing out-of-school youth. 2,070,684 to support seven WIOA programs servicing in-school youth. 134,053 to provide continuation of innovation programs, and 226,300 in support of youth services and business recruitment at our sector centers. The Partnership also recommends awarding an additional 175,000 to the youth job

centers to provide 30 youth with paid work experience during the summer. The YJC will expand their service to at-risk youth in Gage Park through their collaboration with the Southwest organizing project. And the second item that we discussed in our meeting was one that Pam just highlighted and talked about, which was the WIOA youth funding for the American Job Centers. And so we have actually just one item that we need to get a vote on today and that's for 33 the delegate agencies, but I did want to highlight a couple of things regarding the American Job Centers. The youth committee reviewed the recommendations that we spend \$2,980,000 of out-of-school youth services at the job centers. This reflects an increase of about \$720,000 from last year -- last program year. Comprehensive youth programming through business center services in SERCO are re-funded at all the current levels and based upon the approval we just got for the job centers. This will be the first time out-of-school youth will be -- or services will be available at the Near West AJC in Pilsen and the South Suburban Job Center at Prairie State College. If you want a little more detail on those issues you can find them on page 27 of our board materials. So I'd like to kind of go back to the vote, which is a vote on extending all delegate agency WIOA youth grants. So I'd like to get a motion to approve extending all delegate agencies WIOA youth grants.

[Pam McDonough made the motion. George Wright seconded the motion. All were in favor. (Rich Monoccio had audio issues but confirmed his votes via email after the meeting.) The motion carries.

MS. NORINGTON-REAVES: Jose is going to give a brief overview of the WIOA budget. I just want to provide a little bit of background and context if you don't mind just briefly to lift up that we have retained the services of Quattro, which is a financial services organization that has helped us with our restructuring and also the creation of the WIOA budget and the operational budget for the Partnership as well.

MR. MOTA: Okay. Hello, everyone. So the work for the year for PY21 is 37 a little bit over 51 million as you can see the total column on the first row. One thing that I do want to bring to your attention is these are two-year grants so for our PY20 grant last year we're estimating a carry-in of about 8 million so that those funds will be used in helping award all these agencies and that's why you see a balanced budget on the bottom. As Pam said we're re-classing 780,000 from dislocated worker to the adult funding stream this year as you can see on line 2. And after that, you know, we cover the cost of the Partnership employees and operating costs and then we take into consideration the program costs for, you know, the staff is considered program and the program costs related to the staff and that leaves us 49 million for the delegates. And as you can see this is how the awards are distributing this year's funds for ITAs, OJTs, the American Job Centers, the One-Stop Operator. And one thing to keep in mind is 50 percent of these funds have to go to direct training, which is ITAs; OJTs; customized training; and incumbent workers. 38 To recover it from the State we have to meet June 30th the first year of the grant. That's basically about it. That's the overall overview. If there's any questions I'm happy to answer them. And, Karin, feel free to jump in if I missed anything.

MS. NORINGTON-REAVES: Thank you. So I think Marisa is highlighting there the Chatham renewal expressly set out but thank you, Jose, for that overview. Does anyone have any questions around, you know, sort of how we track all of this and account for our costs and for the awards -- the amount to be distributed Any questions about carry-in?

CO-CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Are we also including the Chatham Center as part of the overall budget -- MS. NORINGTON-REAVES: Yeah. We have the contract and we just want to renew for the subsequent year. George Wright made a motion to approve, Jacki Robinson-Ivy seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion carries.

CO-CHAIRWOMAN ROBINSON-IVY: It is 10:16 and we will now move to the communications update with Susan.

MS. MASSEL: Hi, everybody. I'm Susan Massel, chief of communications and external affairs. Nice to see everybody this morning. I will try to keep us at a good clip here. This is just reminding who we are. We are three, but we are mighty. We cover a lot of territory. And Jesus and Sarah, who are my colleagues, are also listening here. If they have anything to add or anything you want to ask them they are definitely online with us. We have continued to promote through our own work, through delegate agencies' work, through partner work a lot of hiring fairs virtual still largely at this point, but since we last met we have had some really interesting media interactions. A lot of media has knocked on our door. Here and Now, which is a national NPR show you may or may not be familiar with, called us because they were looking for some good manufacturing training stories. Even though the story wasn't, per se, about us, it was terrific to be identified as the place to find good training opportunities and we sent them to two manufacturing delegates and it was really, really a terrific story. So we were happy to be thought of.

Odette Yousef of WBEZ reached out to Karin specifically to talk about women and the pandemic and what's been going on with that drastically changing workforce. So overall we've had some great media opportunities and, of course, not to be at all left to the end Karin wrote a really important opinion piece that was published in the Tribune. You can see the reference to it in the bottom right corner of the slide about the reasons for the labor shortage and what people are saying and why they're saying it. It was one of the most reacted to and -- and interacted with social media posts on our platforms, but, Karin, feel free to come off mute if you'd like. I know when she posted it on her own personal and professional platforms the reaction was unbelievable. Her voice and thoughts really resonated very well. I'll pause here, Karin. Do you want to say something about it?

MS. NORINGTON-REAVES: No, but thank you. I guess she wanted me to share the LinkedIn views. On my LinkedIn page alone we had 10,000 views of that -- of that piece and it led to a keynote invitation, some other writing opportunities, some other op-ed requests, panels that we'll be participating on. It's just an example of what happens when we lift our voice and talk about the issues that we know so well in the context of our work. But thank you, Susan.

MS. MASSEL: Yeah, of course. Of course. And then, of course, we're still being asked to stand with the Mayor, to stand with the County President, to stand with the leaders of CDPH for a variety of press conferences whether it be tied to the mayor's capital work or contact tracing. CDPH had a press conference a few weeks ago, a hyper-local as they called it press conference, to reach out regarding vaccinations in the communities that have the lowest vaccination rates to try to if possible turn those numbers around. And we were included -- Yesterday, actually, we were at Kennedy-King. I know Chancellor Salgado is not on but Sarah is on representing him. When they launched a tech launch pad of course as would you think from the name a curriculum specifically aimed at increasing the skilled workforce 46 especially, especially around black and brown men and women that talent pipeline in the tech industry, and

they mentioned -- I think I feel it's important to say because we're involved Kennedy-King has had quite a week. They got recently a million dollars from SDI, a private sector donor who had long -- this is not new, they had long supported this work. They also got 5 million dollars from MacKenzie Scott, and they didn't seek it. They got it and it's not just for tech; it's for the entire curriculum there. Chancellor Salgado said Englewood is rising, we are downtown Englewood here at Kennedy-King. He was so emotional. It was a terrific press conference and it was great to be a part of it. Okay. I promised to keep us going, and I'm not doing that.

I'm sure all of you are aware that we've done important work in the re-entry sector, and in April we had a largely virtual event that had many different elements to it, but the bottom line is that we partnered with Jeff Korzenik, who's a banker by trade but has become a real passionate advocate for second-chance hiring, and David Snyder of the Economic Club was our MC and we put together a video that is online now on our website as is the entire program that had returning residents, it had CEOs from around the country who have successfully tapped into this workforce, and it's called The Road Home. I would say to everybody here this is really the second unbelievable video that we've produced since I've been here. If you're ever asked as board members to speak in your professional life outside of this and it is relevant to what you're speaking about I would encourage you please ask me. I'm happy to give you -- It's on our YouTube and on our website. I'm happy to give you a link to both Chatham Rising and The Road Home. They are unbelievable videos and candidly say it better than anybody else can the people interviewed. Not only did we have returning residents and CEOs from around the country, we'd share Dart to somebody from the system saying, you know, hiring these men and women is the right thing to do. So, anyway, it was a very successful event. We also had a panel also made up of local and national CEOs and returning residents. Some of the returning residents are employees who were just outstanding men. So as you can see we were excited that it was attended by 300 viewers but from 21 states and that really checked a box for us because as I said to Karin when we were planning this this is Chicago born but this is nationwide. It was clear to us that this was a message that resonated throughout the country and that we could tap into something here not to do a kind of talent but just to present it. Anyway, it was a wonderful event. It is -- As I said the whole event is on our website as is the video, and I would encourage you if you want to watch it and ask again if you ever think it's relevant to share the videos in your other professional situations we'd love it.

So one of the things that Karin and I had always talked about -- I've been here almost a year and pretty much that whole time we had talked about wanting to start a podcast, and we just decided let's just do this and so we have. It's called Hire Frequency, Empower -- pardon me -- Employ, Empower, Elevate. We held an internal contest for the name and Phaedra 49 Leslie, who I know many of you know, won and suggested this winning title. And we've done our first episode -- recorded our first episode already. We're about to record our second. I'll talk about what the episodes are very quickly in just a minute, but the most important thing to know it is now available. This podcast is available wherever you can get podcasts. And the first episode actually was so robust we made it a two-parter. It's called Women At Work, Not Your Mother's Workforce, and it would be about what you think it would be about, the changes that have happened in the workforce and the labor shortage and what has happened generationally, how is it different to be Karin versus Karin's mother, how is it different to be Karin's colleague versus Karin's colleague's daughter. It happened to be four women of color. Very diverse, professional, and personal experiences. It was really cool to hear. And then we're recording one later this week with Hospitality Hires Chicago anchor event -- anchor participant, our main partners, to

talk about what's happened in the hospitality industry and what will happen, so I encourage you to subscribe.

As you can see our platforms continue to grow. Some of them by 10 percent. Some of them by more than 30 percent. The numbers still are not huge, but they are tracking in the right direction. And I think it's important to remember that social media is only one way that we communicate. We have a monthly newsletter that's very well subscribed to, really about 30,000 people, and then of course our website and now our podcast so -- but this is done -- we continue to be very proud of social media platforms and really see them grow.

This is interesting because it does show continued growth. If you look at the numbers the number of users are going up. The number of page views and sessions has gone down a little bit but that doesn't concern me because that really shows that people may not be going to as many different pages. Users is how many devices are looking at it. So people are more directed in what they need from us and they come to one place. The number of people doing that, 51 the number of pages they go to may not be as large, but I think we're still doing really well. And the most important thing that I find, and Karin asked us and I'm glad she did, the vast majority of these users are new users. People don't necessarily come back to our website. They come for what they need and then they keep going whether it is an AJC or a delegate agency or whatever -- or an employer looking to get involved with Phaedra's group, but the vast majority is the first time they've been here which is kind of exciting. If anybody has any questions I'm happy to answer them. If not, I appreciate your attention.

CO-CHAIRWOMAN ROBINSON-IVY: So does anyone have any questions? Thank you, Susan, for the update. Hearing none and I don't see any in the chat -- MR. PEPPER: Hey, Jacki, it's Donovan. I don't have a question. I just really have a comment. I want to congratulate Susan for the great work that you've done elevating the profile and the performance of the Partnership. Clearly just that last chart you just showed with the increases versus last year really reflect what I've seen too in the media, you know, with some of the articles that you referenced and highlighted. So really kudos to you and the team there for really elevating, you know, the work -- the great work that you guys do there and what the whole focus and purpose of the Partnership is for, especially during this last year which has been very challenging for the workforce employees. It's really great so congratulations. MS. MASSEL: Thank you, Donovan. That's very, very kind. It's absolutely a team effort, but I know all three of us really appreciate it. Thank you. MR. PEPPER: You're welcome.

CO-CHAIRWOMAN ROBINSON-IVY: -- it better. So I remember -- I want to think I remember maybe -- I don't remember who it was, but someone early on had gone on an asked all of us to make sure that we ourselves follow. I think we need to set good examples so actually I just followed on LinkedIn because I was not following on LinkedIn. So if everybody could, you know, kind of make sure that you are on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn would help our numbers because each one can be reached. Very well said, Donovan. If there's nothing else -- I still don't see anything in the chat, nor do I hear anything -- let's move on. It is 10:28 and we will now move to Marisa. Marisa, where are you? Why am I not seeing you, there you are. Okay. Marisa will provide a legislative update from her group. MS. LEWIS: Thank you, Jacki. All right. So this is sort of a follow-up to the last time we -- you all met in March where Karin and I were pleased to unveil the Partnership's new policy division and get the WIB feedback on our policy agenda. We expressed a desire at the time that this group be able to present to the WIB every quarter and that we would share the data that we were pulling that was helping to drive internal

decisions or that was being made available to the public and to our stakeholders to share the reports and the research that we're working on that all align with the agenda that we shared with you or we're asking for your feedback and support of our policy recommendations. So this time though we would like to talk to you about workforce legislation because it is a hot topic. And so though I'll be speaking for us, this is a team effort. I know last time we were happy to introduce both Kit White and Jasmine Williams to our senior policy analysts at the Partnership, and they have helped pull this information together and, you know, again just every time we meet with you we're hoping to provide more interesting and exciting policy team updates.

So on to the legislation. So we are going to talk about the things listed here on this slide. The American Rescue Plan has a workforce component. Other WIBs and ourselves are trying to position ourselves and advocate to be included in the upcoming infrastructure bill, also known the American Jobs Plan. We'll talk about that as well as the American Families Plan and then WIOA is actually -- the reauthorization is on the table for next year so we'll discuss some of the conversations we've been having. And finally we'll talk about some Illinois legislation. A list of kind of what governs WIOA is federal, obviously, but we want to look a little bit what's going on in our state for next year as well. So please interrupt me at any time if you have any questions. And also, Kit and Jasmine, I know that you all are on and if you have anything to add at any time please just jump in. We have been invited very recently like in the past month to weigh in on some of these items of legislation in both formal and informal ways. So we've been part of national skills coalition focus groups. We have done legislator visits. We have spoken with the OMB, Office of Management and Budget. And we through Midwest Urban Strategies that you heard from in March they've hired a consultant -- a Washington-based consultant who is providing written feedback from us and from other UMS members to help committees. So we will look -- talk to you a little bit about kind of what's going on and what sort of feedback we've been able to provide. 56 All right. Back to our slides. So this we talked about in March because it has just been signed into law. It was signed into law in March. You know what, since I'm also driving I have to stop and check the chat to make sure -- Okay. Good. No one is saying anything to me. MS. NORINGTON-REAVES: No. You're fine. You're fine. I'll let you know. CO-CHAIRWOMAN ROBINSON-IVY: I'm watching the chat, Marisa. MS. LEWIS: Okay. Perfect. Thank you. Okay.

So though it was signed into law in March and we spoke about it at the board meeting, the final rule from the treasury department came down in May and so what you see here is how much money is going to flow directly to the state of Illinois. These are separate amounts. The city of Chicago -- Cook County itself is going to get one billion, and then there are several Cook County municipalities. There are I think 17. They're large enough to get their own allocations as well and those total 262 million. So none of that funding is coming directly to the Partnership or directly to the public workforce system, but we are -- you know, state and local funding does have allowable 57 uses that do make it relevant to us, and so you'll see the allowable uses for funding here. The one in bold is the one that most aligns with the type of work that we do and where we can position ourselves to be able to utilize some of this ARPA funding to serve our city and our county and the residents who have had to weather this pandemic. So in bold I just said addressing the negative economic impacts of the pandemic, and so we have really been seeking with the City and the County to talk about programming that we could propose or that we could support that would fall under this heading. So we will --

MS. NORINGTON-REAVES: I'm sorry. We'll keep you abreast, but also Marisa will be sending out my formal written report. And just FYI we have been in some robust discussions with the City and the County, both of which are still creating their framework for determining how they will utilize our ARPA funding and to whom they will provide those dollars but just know that we are having discussions there, and I would expect that at our September board meeting I will be able to give you an update around our discussions. I prefer not to speak about things right now just because we're still 58 putting meat on the bone and everything is still very preliminary. Thanks, Marisa.

MS. LEWIS: Sure. So also just to point out everything on this slide here is part of the act that falls under the state and local aid portion, but there are also other portions of ARPA that will affect our customers and our work. So under the benefits to individuals there is senior spending on the table, there's unemployment extension which has been funded, and there's money for SNAP and other individual programs. And then under pandemic response there are funds earmarked for vaccination and protecting so that will directly affect our work as well. Okay. So next we have the American Jobs Plan, and this is sometimes known as the infrastructure plan. So this is less baked. This is just a blueprint at this point, and this is where some of the advocacy that I mentioned earlier and our opportunity weigh in has come into play because congressional committees and staffers who are responsible for drafting this have been reaching out and, you know -- or have also been 59 receptive to others who are reaching out and trying to speak with them about the need for funding for the workforce system. The -- as you can see here what is talked about right now and hopefully this will stay in was \$100 billion of direct investment in workforce development. We -- So we wanted to highlight that here. It may be removed from the final bill. There's no guarantee that this portion will pass or that any of the bill will pass. We're following that, and like I mentioned we're engaged in advocacy around that. So here is how it breaks out, how that 100 billion would look with funding for dislocated workers and the sector training and some 12 billion dollars for underserved communities, and then registered apprenticeship is another big one. It calls for specifically for apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship to help women and people of color access apprenticeship opportunities, and it does call out some increased investment in Title II, adult literacy, as well. So that's the jobs plan.

The American Families Plan is another just a blueprint. Some of the highlights that could 60 significantly impact our system and the people we serve include free universal pre-K, free community college, investing in early childhood education or early childcare workforce, national paid family and medical leave, and unemployment insurance reform. There's limited detail on the UI reforms, but the plan does call for working with Congress to adjust the length and amount of UI benefits that unemployed workers can receive depending on the economic conditions. It would be a bit more of a responsive program than it is now, and it would enable permanent reform to provide the safety net that workers deserve in the hardest of times. Okay. All right. I mentioned early on that WIOA reauthorization is on the table as well, and so there are some opportunities to weigh in and to advocate for the changes we'd like to see. So we have been not only providing our own feedback but inviting our -- some of our delegate agencies to participate in some of these conversations and collecting their input and what kind of portions of the WIOA legislation as written throw up a road block to serving customers and throw up road blocks to being responsive and getting the outcomes quickly that we need to see in a -- in a 61 situation that we likely are in right now so that's going to include things like increased flexibility for local areas. A lot of what we do is dictated by either the federal government or the state when we are a -- unique within the state, so sometimes we would like a little bit of flexibility as a local area to

be able to structure our programs a certain way or to be able to allocate spending a certain way that makes sense for the population that we serve. We are advocating for this local control and flexibility. We also are providing as much sort of stories from the field as kind of any justification that we can to call for increased spending for WIOA. So rather than just kind of a blanket like we need more money, we're trying to craft messages and working with other WIBs kind of in our region in the State and midwest to craft very specific acts for why we need more funding and how specifically it would help us. I've been in this job just for a short time, but I'm very excited about the opportunities allowed to us to be able to weigh in on some of these things and provide 62 this sort of advocacy. And so now that we have presented all of this to you as the WIB we are looking for ways to get you engaged if you would like. So we are -- You know, this is all happening, you know, very quickly, but we are looking for ways to -- if there is a specific opportunity to weigh in we hope to get you talking points so that if you're in a conversation you can talk about, you know, why these -- why this reauthorization is important and what changes you'd like to see and what -- you know, what you'd like to see in the upcoming American Jobs Plan and making sure that workforce development is included in the final legislation -- or in the final bill so that will be coming next before the next meeting obviously so please look for further communications from our team and updates because like I said things are just happening at a very rapid clip.

And then -- Oh, I just mentioned, yes, we will also talk about really briefly the State of Illinois budget and so what is on table is 50 million for the JTED program, which is a workforce program, 60 million for grants to community providers and local governments for youth employment, and then increased funding for MAP grants and YouthBuild. YouthBuild is a 63 partner of ours on the MOU, the memorandum of understanding, so they often provide services through our AJCs. The JTED just what I talked about above is a DCEO program that is more flexible than WIOA so it provides target training and goes to smaller community-based organizations. And then the 60 million in youth programming is for community providers and local governments. It's possible that local WIBs could end up being good candidates for this funding, but it's not clear yet how that is going to be distributed from the State.

MS. NORINGTON-REAVES: I would just lift up that we have a weekly meeting with the State and so I think we'll have that next meeting Thursday after and we may be able to get additional information on this. JTED is something that's been around for a long time and then they stopped funding it a couple years ago and so there's been a demand to have those dollars become available to folks again. I would also just lift up in terms of the -- I won't call it advocacy work, but the exposure and for the opportunity to have our voice amplified we have actually been invited to a number of sessions with fill staffers, one of which was chief of staff for 64 Senator Schumer and because of the decision-making power there it has just been really nice that people are coming to us and asking us to have a seat at those tables and listening to our voice and asking for our voice as they begin to shape new policy and to think about the creation of new policy as well. We were also approached by Congressman Chuy Garcia for a bill that he's putting in, and we've been -- actually been convening the Illinois Delegation and their staff members have reached out to us to learn more about the work that we're doing and to understand our needs. So we've -- I think we've earned our spot at the table, you know, over the last nine years of really speaking out there and being vocal and doing good work. So kudos to Marisa and the team for keeping that effort going and for bringing that information back to us as an agency. Thank you.

MR. COSGROVE: I guess I'm wondering if there's outreach to Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky's office and Dan Davis's office. They were both on a call yesterday with the Chicago Manufacturing Renaissance Council. We were having a dialogue and discussion. They were both advancing -- They both seemed to be engaged in workforce development specifically within manufacturing, but I'm sure more broadly than that and are both looking to advance into legislative committees currently about funding and about workforce funding and making sure that that's in the upcoming text. So if those two offices have not been contacted it would seem like that's a good place to go.

MS. NORINGTON-REAVES: We have regular interaction with both of those offices. I was unaware that either one were advancing anything with respect to workforce development so happy to follow up with them. MR. COSGROVE: Okay. The other thing I wanted to mention is that as -- because of being on this board I 66 was asked by I think maybe Marisa -- I'm not sure -- to participate in the business engagement committee of the IWIB and so we've been meeting for last year or so and there's some activities which are coming out of that around, which I hope you guys are aware of from the IWIB, you know, the state meetings about how to engage businesses and that seems like that would be an area that would be something that could be leveraged in texts going forward and hey, this is an area where we can get more businesses engaged in the workforce development that, you know, businesses are not involved enough in some might argue so that business engagement committee work might be relevant within the context of the outreach over the next couple of months so that would be something to maybe look further into. MS. LEWIS: Thank you. Could we connect with you, Colin, and hopefully get a connection to that group -- that business engagement committee? MR. COSGROVE: Yes. I'm on it. Sure. MS. NORINGTON-REAVES: Yeah. I think we'll definitely have Phaedra follow up with you just around that work and see what we can do. The other thing is we really -- we have 67 tried and failed, frankly, to stand up a business engagement counselor committee of this board and would like to really see that happen to have -- have it serve as sort of an advisory group that could help to inform and also bring additional employer partners to the table. So I think there's still room for growth there for us. Thank you, Colin. MR. COSGROVE: Thank you.

CO-CHAIRWOMAN ROBINSON-IVY: Thank you, Colin. Are there any other members who would like to have comment? (Brief pause.) CO-CHAIRWOMAN ROBINSON-IVY: Okay. It is now 10:46 so we are well -- sorry about that noise -- we are well behind schedule at this point, but I am going to -- uh-oh. Okay. So Marisa is changing the screen over so we can hear from Becky Raymond, the executive director of Chicago Citywide Literacy Coalition. I don't know if Karin or Marisa is going to do the presentation, but I pass the floor to them at this point. It is 10:46. MS. NORINGTON-REAVES: Thank you. So Becky Raymond has actually addressed this board before. Becky is the executive director at Chicago Citywide Literacy Coalition where they have the contract to service our One-Stop Operator. Pam earlier at the top of this meeting talked a bit about the presentation that Becky gave last week to the service delivery committee. We really have just a great deal of respect for the work they're doing in trying to create greater consistency and uniformity within all our American Job Centers, so, Becky, I'll turn it over to you cognizant of our need to move forward with the time. Thank you. Becky?

MS. RAYMOND: Thank you, Karin, and I will be brief. This is just a recap of what I presented last week to the service delivery committee. I'm here with the One-Stop Operator Director Robert Guzman stopped in to come in and say hello. And, Marisa, if you could just advance the slide. The main activity of the past quarter for the One-Stop team has been around

recertification for the American Job Centers are certified and fully 69 comprehensive so we've been working to recertify those four. We've had a lot of monthly partner engagement, and we've launched working groups around some of the key areas that we want to tackle in terms of creating systemic uniformity across the system. This shows the steps that we took in the recertification process and the slide after that just highlights which centers are up for recertification. I want to thank the committee members who volunteered their time at the end of April to go through recertification. The final recertification steps will happen in September because they will need to be done in person so we're just waiting for the centers to be fully reopened and we will finalize the recertification process.

As I mentioned last time monthly partner engagement is a core feature of what the One-Stop team is doing and this just shows how the chain is growing its engagement with core partners on a monthly basis. There's a QR code. In addition to the monthly partner meetings we send out a newsletter that shows all the resources available at the ten centers so if you'd like to see what the newsletters looks like you can use the QR code. And on the it just shows that the monthly partner meetings are all stored on the Partnership's Zendesk and if you're ever curious about the content of the monthly partner meeting feel free visit that website, but as I mentioned before the monthly partner engagement is the foundation for these collaborative projects the team is leading and I'm just feeling really encouraged by the cross-title, cross-center participation in our working groups and the team is working very diligently to ensure that everything is rolled out in a human center design framework. The first ones that are underway right now are around orientation, customer satisfaction surveying, and cross-training, and then you can see what the other areas are that we will start next month.

This is again just really emphasizing that we're bringing in subject matter experts with literacy works, their language lab, Virginia Hamilton making sure we are bringing in the highest quality expertise to help us in rolling out these cross-title, cross-center projects. And the first project was orientation. It is nearly done. Robert is taking it on a bit of a dog and pony show to get people's input, we're socializing it with the partners, and I look forward to sharing that with you very soon but just to give you a sense that we're not leading the orientation with a lot of jargon around titles and that we're focusing on, you know, a human-centered approach making sure it's relatable, you know, case studies, personas, this is Tony, this is how it will work for you as an individual at AJCs. And so I'm just feeling really great about the fresh take that the team has put on it not just the team, but again the volunteers from all of the centers and the engagement across the system. Our next area is going to be on the dashboard, which I think is -- to me it's really the Holy Grail of our work as a One-Stop Operator what are we looking for in terms of deliverables. We'll be building off the center level operations team report, and we're starting to engage a working group in this area. We advanced the dashboard at all of the ten centers. There's kind of a more addendum piece in the slide after this that drills down deeper into how we are accomplishing our goals and our scope. And, yeah, open for questions or any other comments from anyone.

MS. NORINGTON-REAVES: I do just want to lift up the innovation of the QR code. Marisa, can you go back to it? So if you all have your phones handy you can actually take the picture of it now on your screen and you can see it will actually scan in and you can -- you can actually utilize it now. It's pretty cool. And so it opens right up into their newsletter, and you can just -- yeah, it -- it's just awesome and just very, very well done, Becky. So I just encourage board members if you can take the picture now to scan now. CO-CHAIRWOMAN ROBINSON-IVY:

That's pretty cool though, Becky. It pulls up American Job Center resources so that's very cool. Again, Board, if you have not done so let's support. We have to -- We can't be -- We can't share what we're not willing to be so let's take some time and make sure that you scan the QR code. It is 10:54. I do not see any questions in the chat or hands raised. Does anyone have any questions at all for Becky? (Brief pause.) CO-CHAIRWOMAN ROBINSON-IVY: Thank you, Becky. That information is extremely helpful and informative. It is now time for public comment. I'm just looking. It's probably just easier if I just ask because there's a lot of pages here. Do we have anybody for public comment at this time? It's 10:55. (Brief pause.) CO-CHAIRWOMAN ROBINSON-IVY: Okay. I don't want to miss any public comment, but I'm not hearing any.

MS. NORINGTON-REAVES: The only thing is, you know, I -- typically if we were in person I would have had all of our staff from the Partnership stand up and be acknowledged. I just want to lift up the fact that as you all know, you know, these have been times unlike any other and our staff has gone above and beyond to 75 continue to steer the ship and make sure the ship stays completely afloat, and I want to just acknowledge all of the senior staff members who are on this call right now and just publicly acknowledge all of the hard work and energy that you all have put into ensuring that our programs not just do well but exceed all expectations. So it's truly my pleasure to continue to work with you all so thank you.

Jacki Robinson Ivy asked for a motion to adjourn. George Wright made the motion. Colin Cosgrove seconds the motion. All approved. Motion carries. [Meeting adjourned at 11:33 am]