

## **Career Services Committee Minutes - 9/19/24**

*In attendance: Nathan Andary, STCC, Linda Candage, Dept. of VA, Melanie Herzig, MassHire Berkshire, Gloria Penagos, HCC, Cindy Ray, MassHire Franklin/Hampshire, Pamela Schwartz, WMNEH, Elizabeth Veillette, CHD*

### **Discussion:**

- a request to coordinate calendars for workforce opportunities - noted there is not one comprehensive calendar - Cindy volunteered to send to this group the list of each masshire website - so all masshire websites are in one spot
- Pamela is happy to utilize the Network blog (835 subscribers!) to get the word out on various job fairs. Please email her - [pschwartz@westernmasshousingfirst.org](mailto:pschwartz@westernmasshousingfirst.org) - a blurb exactly as it should appear on the blog (so she can copy and paste). She can collate and make a blog post every month or however frequently happenings dictate.
- Elizabeth will reach out to the new Hampden County Workforce Director Peter Farkas to explore the possibility of the workforce board managing a comprehensive calendar (at least for their service area)
- Gloria stressed the the need for more immigrant job fairs - MassHire Springfield held one that was tremendously successful and we need more!

### **Announcements:**

- MassHire Franklin/Hampshire job fair on 10/3 at Hampshire Mall - 25 employers in manufacturing
- Veterans employment support group is expanding to Northampton starting on 10/25, every 4th Friday of the month, 11:30 am - 12:45 pm, Building 1 at the VA in Leeds. Currently offering this group in Springfield on Bond St - 2nd Friday 11:30-12:45 pm (to date about 30 veterans in Springfield have been served)
- STCC - MassRecharge festival - Oct. 19 - focusing on electric vehicles and green energy; Thursday, 10/24, college transfer and veterans services career fair; Social justice and civic engagement career fair - Wed., Nov. 20, 10-1 pm.

**Next quarterly meeting - Dec. 16, 11 am - 12 noon**