

HIRE

Helping Incorporate Reliable Employees

March 12, 2008

10:30 am

H.I.R.E. (Helping Incorporate Reliable Employees)
Committee Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Jeff Woods, Steve Rogers, Rebecca Frey, John Noriega, Sandy Meeks, Zaena Araneta, Kathy Winans, Kellie Tyndall, Jerry Pounds, Stacy Peyton, Claudette Smith, Carol Bowman, Deborah Plant, Aaron Markovits

Sign In Sheet/Contact List was distributed.

Self Introductions were made.

Upcoming Activities

I. Review of Past Activities:

Job Placement Circle Debbie Plant reported there were 7 employers present with 42 job seekers invited (25 attended, some had already found jobs). The total number of people hired from the event had not been calculated, but at the time of this meeting at least 5 were offered positions. The committee is planning on having the next event in June. It is for clients who are ready to go to work (job ready). The committee would like to focus on job ready clients that are leaving the educational system (graduating high school college, etc...), but it will not be limited to only students. The criteria will remain that all participants must be job ready. See attached for a check list of job readiness.

II Upcoming Activities

a. Luncheon Date had to be rescheduled so the new date that has been confirmed is May 8th. Discussed that the mayor will be focusing on the hotel and media industries as employers to invite. As always the Mayor will invite other employers at the recommendation of the committee if the contact information is provided to Aaron by April 16th.

Now that the date is confirmed we are actively seeking a location. The Westchester Hall, Coconut Joe's (banquet facility), Hodel's, and the remodeled Woolgrowers (banquet room) were suggestions made (from this and previous meetings). Ideally, we would like somewhere centrally located and can handle an audience of 50.

Attendees who work for a HIRE Committee agency will be asked to pay \$15 per person to attend the luncheon. Employers will continue to have their meal(s) paid.

Aaron asked for a volunteer to head up award selection for the luncheon. Kellie Tyndall agreed to handle head this effort for the committee. If you have suggestions for employers we should recognize please contact Kellie at 617-6170 or ktyndall@wtpinc.org by April 16th.

Aaron asked for suggestions for speakers for the event. Kathy offered to talk with Michael Shell from Big Lots to see if he could do it. Carol suggested she may know a person with a disability who works for Big Lots who could speak. Carol Bowman or Kathy Winans will discuss confirm participation and get back to the committee.

III. CHIIP/WID Training on Healthcare and Benefits is scheduled for April 16th and 17th. See attached flyer for more information. It will be held at the Kern High School District Starr Center, 5801 Sundale Ave, Bakersfield, Ca, 93309. Cost for participation is \$30 per person if early bird or \$40 per person if not.

Two day format will be more comprehensive than in the past and use actual examples of how people with disabilities are effected by wages and benefits planning. See attached flyer for registration information.

There are only 40 slots available. Expect it to fill quickly.

IV. Links to website and success stories. The website is able to put links to your organization on it. There is not charge for this service. If you would like to have a link to your organization on your website all we ask is that you put a link to the HIRE Committee website on your current site.

We also continue to seek success stories to put on the website. The two that are up now have been up for a while so it would be good to rotate with a couple of new ones. If you know of someone (an employer or employee) who has benefited from the relationship we have established with HIRE and they are available to share their story with the community, please contact Aaron.

V. Announcements/Other:

Work Training Program suggested putting some information about the ongoing job club on the HIRE Committee website. There was some discussion about how best to promote the job club so that we maximize the effectiveness of it while maintaining the integrity of the site and the job club. Aaron suggested there could be some text written that could be posted on the site, but just not sure what to put there at this point.

Update and CHIIP “Talent Knows No Limits” publicity campaign. CHIIP has been invited to present an update on the campaign to the HIRE committee. There has been a link to the HIRE Committee placed on the “Talent Knows No Limits” website, www.talentknowsnolimits.info. Aaron has discussed with the leaders of the campaign our ongoing interest in collaborating with them to promote local activities of the committee and community at large to improve employment opportunities for people with disabilities. A media buy has taken place. Next steps to the campaign are in discussion now.

Next meeting will be April 10th, Bakersfield College, Renegade Room, at 10:30am. If you would like a parking pass (highly recommended) please contact Denise Crawford at Bakersfield College dcrawfor@bakersfieldcollege.edu, 395-4659.