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Training for Upward Mobility and Labor Market Value Action Team

June 12th, 2018 11:30 A.M.

Agenda

Attendees: Verna P. Best, Cathey Ector-Cox, Vielka Maria Gabriel, Jessie Hathcock, Anthony S. Harris, Ursula Jolly, Clif Lavenhouse, Deidre McCullers, Richard B. Moore, Tamara Perkins, Iman-n-lah Rasheed, Hannah Taylor, Christal T. Toodle

Welcome and Introductions

Survey Review and Discussion

- Few responses
- Need to give structure to pilot project
- Need baseline information for current opportunities available to families

Working lunch to fill out surveys

Potential Target Population

- Families in Crosby – 4-H Youth Services, Middle Class Express, Family Services Caseload, Learning Together, Head Start
- Serve broadly, outside of Crosby, because of changing demographics
- Review service consumption trends from Wake County Long Range Planning to locate where families are who need services.
- Targeted # of individuals/families to serve? Idea to start small and grow from there
- Overview of Middle Class Express program working with Wake Tech and the Food Bank
- Possibility of choosing a specific industry that is growing and provide training
- Reparations have not been a part of any of the CAG or CAG subcommittee conversations, could eliminate the need for all of the programs and initiatives from service providers like Wake County and other nonprofits that constantly work to address poverty but, according to some, have made little impact
- Need to address challenges and barriers of people to participating in programs (childcare, domestic violence, homelessness, transportation, etc.)

Role of this committee: Create a new program? Already many programs in existence like Middle Class Express, Jobs for Life, and Step Up Ministry

- Need to create a funnel of resources for job skills and opportunities for upward mobility
- Wake Network of Care – make sure opportunities are there and help people learn how to utilize this resource because it is not always user-friendly

Original goals of the committee:

- Be forward thinking about opportunities to provide higher wages to families to move out of poverty, work together on training supports, coordinated referrals, etc. to help families develop “labor market value”
- Services in coordination held either at Crosby, Passage Home Safety Club, Pathways Center, or other service hubs and work to avoid creating gaps and duplications of services

Upward Mobility – how to get people jobs that will get them out of poverty – need training (free or low cost) to increase wages instead of finding low wage jobs that keep them in poverty

- Look at labor trends for Wake County (transportation, construction, to name a few)
- Upward mobility doesn’t mean people are at the bottom, meet people where they are, connect them with resources to achieve their career goals that already exist while we as organizations work together to coordinate better and plan for industry changes
- What are the best ways to engage people? Outside of job or resource fairs, need to come up with innovative recruitment and information sharing strategies with those in need

Opportunity to repair relationships between Wake County government, organizational partners, and the community

Crosby Grand Reopening on June 22nd from 4-8 – opportunities for advertising and engagement

Tentative Schedule of upcoming activities at Crosby such as EFNEP, Jobs for Life, and KCSSU

Announcements

- Jobs for Life program at Crosby on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-8:30 July 10-August 30 (for more information contact jhathcock@jobsforlife.org)
- Passage Home: Hospitality Job Skills program with the Stateview Hotel from July 16-August 6 (Mon-Fir 9am-1pm), as well as a job skills program in partnership with the NC Department of Transportation (for more info contact irasheed@passagehome.org)
- Step Up Ministry: Jobs Week June 18th-22nd, Tuesday June 19th starts new life skills job program (for more information contact aharris@stepupministry.org)

Next meeting: Tuesday, July 10th at 11:30 am