

East County One Stop Board Meeting
Wednesday, March 28, 2007 – 9 AM to 11:30 AM
PORTLAND HABILITATION CENTER – 5312 NE 148TH

Meeting Notes:

Meeting facilitators: ECOS Co-chairs: JoAnn Espinosa and Catherine Todd

Board members present: Doug Cooper, - Mercy Corps NW, Robert Costello and Connie Foster – OVRs, Laura Bock – JDN, Catherine Todd – Easter Seals Oregon, Anne O’Malley – 3 Communications, Debbie Foote – DHS, Nell Whitman – Human Solutions, Lani Staab – Goodwill Industries, Marina Rikker – Portland Habilitation Center, JoAnn Espinosa – Springdale Job Corps

Project managers: Joan Pasco and Kedma Ough – Avita and Associates

Introductions and welcome: Partner reports – news, events, and announcements

Human Solutions: The Rockwood job training program is seeking participants: over the age of 18 and low-income who live in Gresham. The free program offers computer skill training, one-on-one job counseling, and much more. They are also recruiting for a full time program coordinator. For more information contact them at 503.548.0270. Potential participants may also visit them at the Rockwood Community Center.

Portland Habilitation Center: Construction of their new building is on-going – when completed will almost double their indoor space. They conduct landscape and janitorial training with two sessions each year. New clerical positions are being added to their staff. Persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply for these and other PHC jobs.

DHS – 140 letters have been sent out to Multnomah County TANF participants who have received benefits for over 42 months. They are being reminded that there is now a 60 month limit to receive benefits under the TANF program. DHS has re-engineered their case management process resulting in better use of Case Managers time. This change gives them more time to assist clients and families.

Goodwill Industries Job Connection: Goodwill is in the process of putting Job Connection services - a job developer/employment specialist - in all of their retail facilities. The program is growing astronomically and they are trying to make it as easy as possible for people to get job search assistance. They are also expanding their E-Commerce capacity and are hiring IT specialists.

Easter Seals Oregon: Conducting their annual BloomFest tulip sale and fund raiser – seeking more volunteers to assist; the SCSEP program has been reconfigured with new staff and roles/responsibilities.

OVRs: Internal focus has been on office stabilization. Their service numbers are good, but they do have the capacity to work with more persons with disabilities, as case loads are lower than in the past – referrals are welcome; the office is doing more outreach to strengthen community partnerships with other programs, including those that serve youth. A youth job club is being added to their program roster.

Mercy Corps NW: Provide support for small business and so far have lent over \$1 million to area businesses. They are beginning a new program in Coffee Creek Correctional Facility to assist incarcerated women with plans to start their own businesses after being released. They are currently working with 18 women who receive training and life skills and preparation for starting a business. They will work for one year in a related business before starting their own. They will also participate in the Mercy Corps IDA program. The curriculum is based on the Parenting Inside/Out model that has been reworked to include business skills. Multnomah County is providing transitional housing and DHS will work with the women to get them on TANF or food stamps if eligible. The women chosen to participate are screened for focus and motivation to change.

Springdale Job Corps: Students are seeking volunteer opportunities to fulfill their community service requirements. Transportation is provided. They need to work with non-profit organizations. Their National Leadership Service Day will be celebrated soon.

Gresham Recycling Center: A new computer recycling and education center is open in Gresham. It is similar to Free Geek. They take in old computers and electronics, refurbish them and re-sell them in their retail store. They also donate to non-profits and provide computer training. Location: 2020 East Powell – next to Gresham Ford. Contact them at 503.489.2129

The Board approved the minutes from February 28 board meeting

Old Business:

Action plans for 2007: Volunteers to assist with 3 action teams; meeting format and schedule for each team, team lead selected.

1. Job Retention Team: Deliver training on “30 Ways to Shine As a New Employee – A Guide to Success in the Workplace” Ideas: Collaborate to provide this 6 session (5 issues per session) training at least once a year. The workshops support participants’ ability to keep a job and be successful in the workplace.

Team members: Connie Foster and Robert Costello – OVRS, Tosca Rawls and Nell Whitman – Human Solutions, JoAnn Espinosa – Springdale Job Corps, Laura Bock – JDN, Lani Staab – Goodwill Industries. This Action Team will meet on April 12th at 2:30 at Springdale Job Corps.

2. Enterprise Development Team: Create jobs to support persons from targeted populations such as ex-offenders, older workers, disabled workers. Secondary issue: finding resources to help persons get records expunged.

Team members: Doug Cooper, Kedma Ough, Marian George, Anne O’Malley, Catherine Todd, Sherry Burbach, Joan Pasco,. Anne O’Malley will be the lead for this team. Joan will get out information from past research; Doug will bring research from a national study being conducted by John Jay College as well as information on a few other enterprise projects; Catherine will get more data from the Eugene area St. Vincent DePaul that has several enterprise activities.

3. Senior services/cadre of volunteers established: Develop a network of retired persons to comprise a cadre of volunteers to support several project areas: Seniors, youth, social services, self-employment etc.: brainstorm options to pair up individuals that can provide living support for each other; match able-bodied seniors with those with cognitive problems. Model: Come Back Kids concept developed by Child Care Development Services. This is a

grant opportunity for a collaborative project.

Team Members: Karen Hubbard, Marian George, Caroline Morrison, Joan Pasco – This team will meet after spring break. Most members were out of town this week.

Other Project reports

Rockwood Weed and Seed – Funding for the Rockwood project stops in September. This is the end of the five-year project and no other application for a weed and seed community designation is being considered for East County at this time. There is an active W & S group in the Clackamas/Mt. Hood area. Their VITA (volunteer income tax assistance) project has served over 180 people resulting in thousands of dollars of tax refunds that have come back to the community.

SSP – Senior Safety Pin Project – The United Way site visit was held in March. This project is serving the maximum 48 seniors and has a wait list in case there is an opening. The project is seeking sustaining funds to keep it going beyond July when United Way funds cease.

SCSEP – Senior Community Service Experience Project – collaboration with Easter Seals – Catherine Todd Project Manager – staff has been reconfigured, they are serving over 95 persons in the volunteer experience program; performance requirements call for job placement of 33 persons by the end of May. Current focus is moving people into jobs.

MIPO – Inventor project –Kedma Ough – Project Manager: current focus is on the April 21st Oregon Inventor's Showcase to be held in the Smith Ballroom at PSU from 10 to 3 PM. Sponsors are needed. Format will include a show and tell session in the AM and free workshops in the afternoon. Kedma is working with the Portland Inventor's Group to generate interest in beginning a local inventor's TV show. She is seeking a part time work study/intern to assist with the office.

DBA – Differently-Abled Business Association –Kedma Ough Project Manager: United Way site visit was held in early March. UW has a concern about accessibility of restrooms in their building, but a process is being worked out with the landlord. The building has two ramped entrances that lead to restrooms and appears to be in ADA compliance. Their training and workshops are going well, with a recent workshop on selling on eBay. A new service is called the Biz Edge Network which offers mentoring and networking to DBA members.

OECD MVIP – Market Vendor Incubator Project – Joan Pasco, Project Manager. This project sunsets in June. Workshops are scheduled from April to June in Grants Pass, Southern Oregon, Albany, Corvallis, and several with Portland area markets. The last 10 session workshop series will be held from May 15 to June 16th 2007. The twice-weekly workshops will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 to 8 PM. A flyer and registration form will be sent out soon. The workshops have a marketplace flavor, but are appropriate for anyone wanting to start their own small retail business.

JDN Jobs Network – Laura Bock - the new website is operational: www.jobdevelopers.net. Laura is available as a contract job developer to assist other organizations if needed. They are seeking a grant writer and fundraiser to work on a commission/percentage basis. Colorado and Arizona are starting similar networks and have turned to Oregon for advice and assistance. Over 167 organizations are represented in the JDN. Over 240 individual job developers participate in the network. A chapter is being formed in Vancouver WA in coordination with Worksource

Vancouver.

Budget/finance report – refer to finance report – attached, separate excel doc.

2007 ECOS partner contributions are now being solicited –your support is needed to cover the 501 c3 obligations for our organization. There are certain expenses that cannot be covered from grant funded projects. Thank you all for your support with this.

Partnership contributions received in March – THANK YOU!!

- **Springdale Job Corps**
- **Mercy Corps**
- **Goodwill Industries**
- **Portland Habilitation Center**
- **OVRs**

United Way designated donations total \$359 to date for 2006-2007. (Donors are given the option of designating their gift to a specific organization rather than into the general program fund)

Grant update: The board approved making application for the Murdock and Key Bank applications defined below.

Murdock Charitable Trust has invited ECOS to make full application for funding. The letter of inquiry was submitted in February. The application is for \$103,500 for the MIPO project.

MMT: Letter of Inquiry has been submitted for \$103,400 for the MIPO project. No word yet on if an invitation for full application will be received.

Key Bank - \$50,000 for DBA – grant is in process, not yet submitted

US Bank Foundation – \$50,000 for DBA – submitted and US Bank is doing research and contacting references.

RWJ – SSP and United Way – exploring the potential partnership with UW and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to support the Senior Safety Pin Project.

New Business:

Board Meetings: Change from 4th Wednesday to 3rd Wednesday discussion and approval. Finance will move to the 2nd Monday

ECOS Board Meeting schedule for spring

Finance and Management Team: Monday, April 9th 11:30 AM at Newport Bay – Mall 205

April 18 – OVRs

May 16 – Multnomah Building (?)

June 20 – location TBD