Economic Development Strategic Plan Monthly Report

Work Group Goal # and Letter: __4A_____ Date of Report___September 13, 2013_____
Group Title:__Expand Business and Educational Partnerships_____ _____
Leader(s): __Julia Renfro
Attending: Brad Gillespie, Tamika Ledbetter, Kim Ford_____
Person Making the Report__Julia Renfro_____
Frequency of Meeting___Monthly _____
Last meeting date: __August 5, 2013_____
Next meeting date: __TBD_____

Tasks Accomplished__Brad Gillespie, Southcentral Regional Manager for Employment and Training Services, explained that ACT is looking to start another round for the Certified Work Ready Communities in January 2014. Brad and Tamika began work on the application for Mat-Su to be recognized as a Certified Work Ready Community. Previously this was only available at the State level. The application requires by in at 3 levels: Primary level of support - Allow us to list you as a participant/supporter on application and attend future meetings if possible; Secondary level of support - Provide input to questions on application; and the Highest level of support - Financially support an individual from your agency/company to represent Mat-Su at ACT training in Atlanta. We must have two representatives from Mat-Su attend the ACT training in Atlanta in order to meet CWRC requirements.
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Tasks "on Deck"___Members are invited and are attending the following events:

- Thursday, 19 September, 7-9 pm. Common Core Curriculum Discussion at Jack White Vista Realty on Seward Meridian in Wasilla.
- **Friday, 20 September**, 9 am-1:30 pm Quarterly EDAC Meeting at Evangelo's Restaurant (downstairs) in conjunction with the MSBA lunch meeting. RSVP to Borough Invite = Breakfast and Lunch provided. Julia Renfro and Brad Gillepsie speaking about 4A Work Group and Work Keys/Certified Work Ready Community. **NEEDED:** Someone to man the 4A Information Table to answer questions about what the Expand Business and Education Partnerships work group has been working on since the last quarterly meeting.
- Monday, 14 October, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm Economic Development Advisory Council at Mat-Su Regional Hospital (3rd Floor Conference Room). Lunch provided by Mat-Su Regional Hospital. Brad Gillespie and Tamika Ledbetter speaking about and answering questions about Work Keys and Certified Work Ready Community.

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Requested Feedback or Input from the Advisory Council_ 4A is awaiting the formal results and information from the survey 1C conducted. We are asking the Advisory Council to encourage and help get the word out asking employers start requesting, and continue to request, the Work Keys Levels for their open/hiring positions. We ask that the Economic Development Department continue to support Work Group 4A in applying to become the first Certified Work Ready Community in Alaska._____

Requested Feedback or Input from the Mat-Su Borough Economic Development Department_____

__We ask that employers start requesting, and continue to request, the Work Keys Levels for their open/hiring positions. We ask that the Economic Development Department continue to support Work Group 4A in applying to become the first Certified Work Ready Community in Alaska.

Please submit this report to Kim Ford, Chairwoman for Economic Development Advisory Council, at kford@chartercollege.edu by the first Monday of the month. Kim will compile these reports monthly and give an overview to the council on the 2nd Monday of the month. Thanks so much for all your work!