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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
January to March 2018

I. WDC BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Congratulations to new Governor's appointees:

Jason Ito, Director of Administration, Labor and Community Relations, Kyo-Ya Management Co., Ltd.

Yvette Gibson, Manager of Talent Acquisition, Hawaii Pacific Health

Michael Kamiya, Sales Director, Kamiya Gold, Inc.

Their confirmation hearing before the Senate Committee on Labor will be held next week, Tuesday, March 13 at 2:45 p.m. at the State Capitol Room 229. WDC will be present and submit testimony in support of the nominees.

Welcome to new designees to the board:

Senator Jill Tokuda to represent Senate President Ron Kouchi, State Senate

Helen Sanpei to represent DOE Superintendent Christina Kishimoto

Aadel Khandaker to represent DLIR Director Leonard Hoshijo (alternate)

Bobby Ayonon to represent Kauai Workforce Development Board as Chair

Tim Wong to represent Oahu Workforce Development Board as Vice Chair (alternate)

II. MODIFICATIONS TO THE WIOA HAWAII UNIFIED STATE PLAN

On January 24, 2018, all states received a federal directive requiring a 2-year modification to the state plan – Hawaii Unified State Plan for 2018 and 2019. The revisions are due by March 15. WDC met with core and mandatory partners on January 31 and they agreed upon a timeline. Partners had until February 21 to update their portions of the plan. The plan went out for public comment for 7 days from February 22 – 28. The partners had allotted time to respond to public comments up to March 5. There was only one public comment relating to career readiness. Adult Education and Career and Technical Education representatives reviewed the comments and agreed to add to the plan. The Executive Committee reviewed the modifications at the March 2, 2018 meeting. Thank you to the core and mandatory partners who submitted revisions to the plan by the deadline. Thank you to Jeanne Ohta, Special Projects Specialist for taking the lead on the modification of the state plan.

III. RESPONSE USDOL FEDERAL MONITOR REPORT

The WDC submitted the state's response to the findings and concerns to the US Department of Labor (USDOL) on February 16, 2018. However, an addendum response specific to findings and concerns related to Kauai will be submitted to USDOL separately. WDC is working with Kauai Workforce Development Board staff on documents and information necessary to address the findings and concerns. USDOL officials have agreed to extending the deadline to submit the addendum by the end of March.

IV. WIOA BULLETINS

During this quarterly period, WDC issued the following policies to guide the county Workforce Development Boards:

- February 6, 2018: WIOA Bulletin No. 02-17 Change 1 – WIOA Nondiscrimination Policy
- February 20, 2018: WIOA Bulletin No. 16-18 – Recording Measurable Skill Gains in HireNet Hawaii
- March 6, 2018: WIOA Bulletin No. 17-18 – 2017 Lower Living Standard Income Level Guidelines

V. WDC STAFFING

WDC is pleased to announce 2 new staff members:

- Elaine “Jiji” Masangkay, Budget Program Analyst started on February 5, 2018 as a temporary 89-day hire to work on program and budget duties.
- Kathy Miyahira, Accountant IV started on February 16, 2018 and is housed in the department’s fiscal service division on the 3rd floor. Kathy transferred from the Department of Transportation and is familiar with the state’s fiscal process.

VI. OUTREACH / TRAINING

On February 15, 2018, USDOL informed WDC of a funding opportunity for technical assistance and training that must be expended by June 30, 2018. The latest version of the training includes training for state and local workforce boards and Pacific Territories to cover program and fiscal matters to be conducted sometime in May. USDOL will contract trainers to develop content and deliver the training in Hawaii. WDC will not need to procure or enter into a contract – the training will be coordinated by USDOL.

Conducted Board orientation for Oahu Workforce Development Board (WDB) on January 16, 2018. WDC staff are available for presentations to all local boards.

Conducted WDC/WIOA overview presentation to House Finance labor analysts on January 22, 2018.

Workforce Information and Data Coordinator Jayson Muraki conducted HireNet presentations to employer groups:

- January 25, 2018: HIRE Best Practices Roundtable Forum. Thank you to Cheryl Cross of Booz Allen Hamilton who serves on the Employer Engagement committee.
- March 7, 2018: Hawaii Employment Services staff. Thank you to board member Sean Knox, who is CEO and President.

The county WDBs have been informed that training and updates on labor market information (LMI) is available through the department’s Research & Statistics Division.

Interesting Note: In 2017, WDC staff coordinated 97+ public meetings which included meetings with the board, committees, core and mandatory partners, and monthly conference calls with the county board staff.

VII. UPCOMING

Per federal directive issued February 16, 2018, negotiations for the state’s performance measures for program year 2018 and 2019 must take place between March 15 through June 30, 2018. The agreed upon performance measures must be entered into the USDOL online portal for the Hawaii Unified State Plan by June 30, 2018. States must complete negotiations with local WDBs no later than September 30, 2018.

March 29, 2018 - Board orientation for Kauai Workforce Development Board

April 4 – 6, 2018 - Advance Career and Technical Education Spring Meeting – Washington, DC

Report respectfully submitted by Allicyn Tasaka, Executive Director