

SECTOR STRATEGIES & CAREER PATHWAYS COMMITTEE REPORT For WDC Board Meeting: November 12, 2020

The Committee met on September 8, 2020 and November 4, 2020.

A brief overview of the USDOE Education Stabilization Fund – Reimagine Workforce Preparation Grant Program was presented by Tammi Chun, UH and Keala Peters, Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii. The request is in the amount of \$15M. The WDC is a partner in the grant proposal. Update: Hawaii was awarded \$13.3M and the grant will be administered by UH.

The Committee reviewed a proposal to support a nurse residency training program by the Hawaii State Center for Nursing in the amount of \$54,969 by its Director Laura Reichardt. The members voted to approve the proposal and recommended it to the Finance Committee and Executive Committee.

An overview of the new DOE Pathways Advisory Council and 13 pathways were presented by Troy Sueoka and Evangeline Casinas from the DOE.

At the meeting held on November 4, an overview of the Global Seal of Biliteracy program was presented by Dina Yoshimi, Director of the Hawaii Language Roadmap Initiative at the University of Hawaii. The program certifies language proficiency and provides an individually-recorded credential to enhance job opportunities, especially with employers who are documenting employee language skills for hiring or for receiving extra pay. Dr. Yoshimi is working with Oahu Workforce Development Board to provide this program at the Oahu American Job Center.

Jean Isip Schneider gave an update on statewide sector partnerships with industries related to healthcare, engineering, and agriculture, which are actively meeting and conducting projects to fill employer needs.

Evan Nakatsuka and Keala Peters are co-chairs of the Opportunity Population Sub-Group recently formed to focus on people with barriers to employment. The sub-group will be tracking performance measures, identifying opportunities for improvement, as internal advocates for this population and supporting the American Job Centers as conduits between the AJC and WDC committees. The sub-group will report to the Employer Engagement committee, Sector Strategies and Career Pathways committee and Performance Measures and Accountability committee.

The State Office of Career and Technical Education (CTE) reported a new “Hawaii Career Pathways” landing site was recently launched. Working with education and workforce partners, the landing site makes it easier for the general public to navigate and find the many work-based learning and career pathway resources available statewide. Here is the link: <https://hawaiicareerpathways.org/>