

13 June 2023

Workforce Development Council

Employer Engagement Committee.

Congratulations on being Chair of Employer Engagement Cheryl.

Sorry I am not able to attend your meeting.

Cheryl, as Co-Chair of this committee I know you've identified the purpose of Employer Engagement.

For those new to this committee, I'll point out the difference in the beginning of my Sector Strategies & Career Pathways Committee overview.

Sector Strategies & Career Pathways Committee Overview.

- There are differences between our two committees.
 - First, Employer Engagement approaches issues from an employer side while SS&CP approaches from the worker or employee side.
 - We also work from a fiscal calendar July 1st to June 30th not a calendar year that most businesses work from.
 - Career Pathways and Career and Technical Education (Carl Perkins funding) for example HIDEOE (K-12) and post-secondary and work on a fiscal calendar. We are piloting extending career exploration to elementary and middle schools.

We are currently in talks to create a K-16 model where students have a seamless transition to post-secondary targeting a degree.

- Identified our target groups:
 - Those with barriers to employment.
 - High needs population (SPED, economically disadvantaged, immigrant populations especially those from COFA nations)
 - Ex-offenders
 - Single parents
 - Rehabilitating drug addicts
- We asked four questions:

- What are our desired outcomes?
 - What is the implementation plan?
 - The rationale?
 - How will you access success?
- Once we establish a baseline we will create a SWOT analysis.
- Although the Chamber of Commerce is not servicing the whole state they reach a large number of people. We will assist when asked. Our only interaction is attending Sector presentations. We did get involved with the IT Sector and Natural Resources Sector.
- This past year we were involved in the Welding Competition (Shipbuilding), AI traffic design and Smart Farms with various high schools.
- We look at the needs of the students or potential employees.
Businesses
- You will be able to support our efforts by providing paid internships and hiring those that are successfully trained.
- The population we are targeting are all underserved. There is a high number that don't make it to 9th grade and most of that go on do not graduate. Kaimuki, McKinley and Roosevelt complexes only graduate 8% of the Chuukese students. The percentage is actually lower because they only count those entering 9th grade.
- We have reached out to Osaka, Tokyo and the Palau Community College to support our clientele.