

HRIC
Executive Committee
3/21/05

NOTES

- 1) Date and Agenda for the June Full Council Meeting - It was agreed to hold the spring Wednesday June 1 meeting at the Stoweflake the afternoon before the Health Care Partnership Conference. The agenda will include discussion of the Healthcare Workforce Partnership report and the next steps on the Workforce Challenge Statement.
- 2) WIA State Plan update and Report from Recent ETA Conference - Pat McDonald reported on the recent DOL conference she attended that focused on future directions for ETA. One priority area is the improving outreach to employers in order to improve the national average 10% employee usage rate. There was discussion oaf various strategies for accomplishing this, including engaging most DET staff in employer outreach rather than limiting this activity to a few designated staff. It was suggested that this should be coordinated wit other agencies that do similar outreach to business. Another priority is to focus on high growth economic sectors for developing placements and identifying gaps is services. She indicated that she would like to engage the HRIC and WIBs in these initiatives. Finally, she would like to see a shared vision for youth with other State and Federally funded programs. DOL is placing increasing emphasis on service to difficult to serve youth. This will have implications for
- 3) HRIC readers for the Youth RFP - Jerry and Tom agreed to read and evaluate the youth RFPs that are due in at the end of the month.
- 4) Workforce Challenge Rollout Next Steps - It was suggested that we use some of the time at the June 1 Full Council meeting to give the members the opportunity to consider how to move ahead on the four key strategic areas identified in the Workforce Challenge Statement.
- 5) WIB Retreat - Chip suggested that it is time to change the format of the WIB Retreat. The members suggested that we reduce the number of workshops and dedicate the time instead to get the local perspective on the four strategic areas identified in the Challenge Statement.
- 6) Exec. Dir. Evaluation - Tom reported that he had completed a draft of Chips

Evaluation and would circulate it to the Committee for their comments. Chip was asked to get information from personnel on his pay increases over the past several years. This was subsequently provided to Tom. The Committee suggested that we develop a limited number of strategic objectives for Chip to concentrate on over the next year.

7) Vermont Adult Learning, At-Risk Youth and the Education Fund - Chip reported on a Study Committee being proposed by the Legislature to figure out how to make it possible to fund the adult education system for the increasing demand for their services from youth 16 to 21 who have left school without diplomas, and now want assistance in getting a diploma or GED. This number has increased 300% in four years and included 1,500 students in 2004. It is unclear how this committee will be structured, but the Legislature seems eager to develop a plan to address this need.

8) NSF IT Project - Business Focus Group Plans - Chip reported on a plan developed by the NSF partnership organize a business focus group in the Springfield area to give employers an opportunity to learn about and comment on the new IT program under development at VTC with the NSF funds.