

## **WORKFORCE ARIZONA COUNCIL – QUALITY WORKFORCE COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Wednesday, October 10, 2018

1 PM – 3 PM

Galvanize-515 E. Grant Street, Agave Conference Room, Phoenix, AZ 85004

1-240-454-0879 Access Code: 280-993-715

### **Members Present**

Mark Gaspers, Chair – Boeing

### **Members Present via Telephone**

Todd Graver – Freeport-McMoRan

Larry Lucero – Tucson Electric Power

### **Members Absent**

Thomas Longstreth – Ventana Medical Systems

Susan Anable – Cox

#### **1. Call to Order**

The Quality Workforce Committee was called to order at 1:04 P.M.

#### **2. Welcome/Introductions**

Welcome was provided by Committee Chair Mark Gaspers.

#### **3. Approval of Minutes**

Larry Lucero moved to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2018 meeting, seconded by Todd Graver. The motion passed.

#### **4. Call to the Public**

There were no comments from the public.

#### **5. Presentation: International Rescue Committee of Arizona**

Azur, Refugee Workforce Development Officer, provided some background on the organization and what they do, including:

1. They have been in Arizona since 1978
2. Placed over 70,000 refugees since 1978
3. 99% of refugees are placed within the first 4 months of arrival
4. Language ability is the greatest challenge for a majority of refugees as only 20% are able to effectively communicate in English when they arrive.

He also stated that they have some current challenges that they are facing as an agency is now only receiving a fraction of what it used because of new policies within the US Immigration system. It is also important to know that Intelligence sharing is crucial at this point in time. Since they opened their doors in 1978 they have worked to fight employer bias and have made great progress with Arizona employers helping them understand the importance, value, knowledge and experience that refugees can bring to the table.

**6. Presentation: ARIZONA@WORK (City of Phoenix)**

Rob Stenson, Business and Workforce Development Supervisor, City of Phoenix, Presented the Regional Business Engagement-Sector Strategies. He gave an overview of the City's On-the-Job, Incumbent Worker, Customized Worker, and Cohort training programs. The training programs that are targeted for a single company are incumbent worker and on-the-job training. The customized training and cohort training programs are industry based. The cohorts they currently have are:

- Series 7 Financial Services
- IT Career Path
- Contact Center
- Pre-Apprenticeship
- Help Desk and Software Developer

**7. Committee Next Steps**

Larry Lucero stated that he would like the Committee to see what other counties/cities are doing with the WIOA funds as discussed by Rob Stenson in his presentation.

**8. Adjournment**

Larry Lucero made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Todd Graver. The meeting adjourned at 2:12 P.M.