

ES Mentor Advisory Group minutes

Dec 13, 2013

- ISEEK.org presentation/demo by Sheila Cunningham McComb. ISEEK is an online tool that assists with exploring careers, looking for jobs, showing career pathways, exploring education options, information on job searching for participants with a criminal history, and it connects to MNWorks.
- Sheila and Teri asked how ISEEK can better assist our participants. Group feedback included: information on how to complete the fafsa, goal setting, cost per credit information, funding sources for education, and career paths.
- Sue Seidl discussed future trainings that will be offered, such as: FSS, Sanctions, FVW and ORP. Sue also inquired about the preferred training methods, online, webinars or traveling to St. Paul. Sue stated that if areas collaborate and bring groups together she may be able to travel to their location, depending on budget.
- Lynn Dahn recapped the last meeting. WF1 rewrite and Annie Teitema, TANF waiver update from Deb Schlick, and childcare with Stacia Rosas.
- Christine Smith discussed Motivational Interviewing, it will be offered outstate in April 2014. There will be 5 cohorts, email or call Christine with concerns or feedback.
- Christine reviewed the Occupational research packet draft with the group. Group suggested Informational Interviews be added, they are seen as a very useful tool and it needs to be required (not optional). Make sure school is accredited, include section on school cost/credit, explore benefits offered in job field, and explore demand and future demand for field. Also, what to do if person is already in school? Revise packet to address people who are already in school. Christine stated the packet should be finalized in January 2014.
- Deb Schlick stated that the Waiver is a hot topic; she is hoping to have a draft in January. Deb stated that she came to get info from the group. What will we as a state report? What activities make a difference for our participants? Which activities correlate with good outcomes? If we get the waiver we will still need to show that we are engaging our participants, how can we do that most effectively? Deb collected the feedback provided by the group. Deb stated a request will be coming for ECs to help determine what a file audit would look like without TANF file reviews.
- Stacia Rosas presented information on In-Home childcare and the rules around it. In-Home Childcare can be approved; however DHS 6475 needs to be completed. There are steps that need to be followed to have In-home childcare approved. Questions regarding childcare were asked: Can a parent have more than 1 childcare provider?

Yes, but there is a maximum of 120 hours per 2 week period of childcare hours allowed. How is the address verified for in-home childcare? The worker verifies the address based on the forms provided. Questions about childcare providers who employ parents, there have been policy clarifications around parents who work at childcare centers. There is a change in the law taking place in July. Stacia stated there are issues around childcare that are being worked on, however she cannot talk about it at this time. Stacia will provide DHS Childcare contact person for questions. Stacia will also forward information on flexible work schedules and authorizing childcare to Christine, who will send it out.