



## Iowa Sector Connect – Health Care Group Call Notes

Dial-In Number: 1-866-685-1580, Conference Code: 5152813866

Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup> 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM

Purpose: Opportunity for Health Care sector partnership teams from across the state to network and share updates about their programs, offer recommendations/best practices, and ask questions of one another so that each program continues to grow and thrive.

Attendance: Julie Jevne (NICC), Judy Stoffel (KCC), Amy Meyer (CIHW), Joe Collins (IDOE).

### Team/Program Updates

Kirkwood – The group is currently planning a series of mock interviews and job fairs in March and April with three regional high school career academies. This is a great way for local employers and health care providers to build relationships with students and have a direct impact on their future workforce.

A shared landing page across all local sector boards is also in the works to make it easier for students, educators, parents, job seekers, and others to find career information that matches their career interest type. Currently not every industry sector has an online portal and those that do are separate from one another based on industry. The planning team is leveraging the Opportunities in Health Science career pathways materials with some of the design and content of this new online resource.

The group continues to partner with the local IowaWORKS center to offer work-based learning assistance for adult job seekers who may be unemployed, underemployed, or looking for a career transition. This role would be similar to the one filled for middle and high school students by the local Iowa Intermediary Network member, [Workplace Learning Connection](#). Employers fill out a survey to identify their needs and availability to offer tours for job seekers in two health care areas of either direct practice or support practice. A meeting has been scheduled to pull in additional public/private project partners like [JAG](#).

Kirkwood received some funding to help expand Registered Apprenticeship programs in health care. Currently working on expanding a program within CNA to also include a certification in Geriatrics. Four employers are currently ready to accept apprentices, but now waiting for applicants.

Northeast Iowa – The Long-Term Care sector board is meeting next in February in Calmar. The last meeting was in Dubuque in December. The local Iowa Intermediary Network resource, [Northeast Iowa Career Learning Link](#), spoke to the group about high school engagement strategies and resources. It went so well that the group was invited to attend the next meeting also. One specific question remains, however, of what happens to high school students after an experience?

- Joe mentioned that the Iowa Intermediary Network is aware of the need for better performance measurement and reporting to better gauge value, return on investment, etc... A series of pre- and post-surveys are being implemented by some Intermediaries, to measure impact. Work will continue to develop templates, recommendations, and other best practices or statewide measurement goals.

Employers across their broad region continue to experience staffing shortages and have been relying heavily on staffing agencies to fill immediate needs. CNA class enrollments are down, along with applications for work with local employers. Seeing a general decline in population that is likely contributing to these shortages.

- Joe mentioned that the Department is continuing a partnership with the Iowa Department of Public Health to better track student outcomes and employment trends through the collection and analysis of licensing and certification data from across the state. This new effort would supplement what is already being run and available with student program outcomes [reporting](#) and [interactive charts](#). A tentative goal of having findings available by September 2020 for some entry-level positions like CNA, CMA, EMT, and various Tech positions within health science. Joe will keep the group involved in that conversation.

Central Iowa Health Works – The current grant funding the CIW Health Works program is set to end in 2020, so focusing on wrapping things up and securing additional funding to continue this important work, with a specific goal of increasing the number of minority populations represented within health care in central Iowa. There is a consistent need for greater diversity within this industry and region, as reflected by the over 450 clients they have helped compared to their original goal of 380. Most of this count is CNA's, but about 100 RN's and some smaller groups of surg tech, med lab tech, and sterile lab groups also. One interesting finding has been that employment applications sometimes create a barrier for their participants. Longer term relationships and tracking can be difficult, however, since CIW is not the actual training provider.

## **General/State/Misc Updates**

Build My Future Events (March-April 2020): Following a successful series of statewide events last year, the Iowa Skilled Trades Alliance is again planning *Build My Future* events for 2020. Visit [www.iowaSkilledTrades.com](http://www.iowaSkilledTrades.com) to learn more and see pictures, videos, and testimonials from last year. The event in Des Moines was the biggest of the four hosted in the Quad Cities, Cedar Rapids, Des Moines, and Sioux City last year with over 3,000 students. They are expanding this year to include more industries like transportation, health care, and automotive maintenance. Great opportunity to bring your students or to partner with the group on a local event in the future.

2019/2020 Career Pathways Projects: The two industries chosen for career pathway development in 2019 were the [Building Trades](#) and [Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics](#) (TDL). A final Building Trades product released in August and TDL in December. Target industries for 2020 are Business & Financial Services and a refresh/reboot for Information Technology.

Industry-Specific Work-Based Learning Toolkits: The IDOE is working on a series of industry-themed work-based learning toolkits aimed at helping to build out more work-based learning opportunities across the state for employers. This is often the next step for students interested in a field, such as classroom speakers, job shadows, or internships, but employers and educators often struggle with connecting the dots to put something in place. Toolkits for were released in August for [Health Science](#) and October for [Advanced Manufacturing](#). Similar guides will be produced going forward in the building trades, TDL, and other industries.

Clearinghouse for Work-Based Learning: One aspect of Future Ready Iowa initiative that relates closely with many of the goals of sector partnership teams is a new web site that will act as a clearinghouse for work-based learning opportunities across the state. Employers will be able to post projects online for students from across the state to apply for and begin working on to earn valuable work-skills and experience. The full site and project board are now live at [Clearinghouse.FutureReadyIowa.gov](http://Clearinghouse.FutureReadyIowa.gov). Contact Joe to learn more and to brainstorm idea of how to get local employers more involved.

AmeriCorps Sector Partnership Support: Funding has been secured to assist sector partnership teams with support for their local initiatives surrounding employer engagement, marketing/outreach, and career pathway development. An informative webinar was held in October and can be viewed <https://youtu.be/o7CAOChM9do> online and groups are asked to have [applications](#) completed and submitted by the end of November.

## **2020 Call Schedule**

\*All calls are scheduled for 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM, unless otherwise noted

2020 – 01/08, 03/11, 05/13, 07/08, 09/09, 11/11