

Q2030 21st Century Workforce Priority Workgroup

CREATIVE PEOPLE PILLAR

FIRST VOLUNTEER MEETING

Thursday, September 15, 2016 from 7:30-9 a.m.

EICC District Office, 306 W. River Dr., Davenport, IA 52801 | Ellis Vetter Board Room

Workgroup:

Present: Greg Aguilar, Paula Arends, Maureen Baldwin, Timothy Cottle, Cassandra Daly, Dr. Don Doucette, David Ford, Tishly Herrington, Alex Kolker, Dr. Ellen Kabat Lensch, Kirk Marske, Michael O'Brien, Erin Snyder, Dr. Karen Vickers, LaDrina Wilson

Absent: Rene Gellerman, Amy Nimmer

Others Present: Lindsey Kennedy

Proceedings:

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 a.m. by Don Doucette.

Welcome and Introduction

Doucette welcomed the group and clarified the purpose of the workgroup: to blend together progress made from the QC Lumina grant and the QC2030 Regional Vision. Kabat Lensch added that those in the room rose to the top as leaders for raising post-secondary certification and degree completion rates of Quad Citizens to 60% by 2030. Introductions followed.

The order of the agenda was rearranged to discuss Q2030 first and then the Lumina Foundation.

Q2030 Background and Introduction to Creative Pillar Priority 21st Century Workforce

A 1-page handout and PowerPoint presentation were provided. Doucette stressed that Q2030 is a regional plan- larger than just the Quad Cities. Elaborating that now is an ideal time to pool resources and talents to move forward with the alignment of ALL agendas. There is a cultural shift in education, where students can't go from high school to a high-paying industrial job any more. It is no longer acceptable to either plan to go to college or plan to not do anything. Doucette said that EICC adopted the Chamber's Regional Vision at an early state 2-3 years ago, because it made great sense and fit into a number of EICC objectives and efforts.

Aguilar asked the group what they thought cities outside of the Quad Cities likely thought about the plan? Daly asked if it was Iowa-specific. Doucette explained that it crossed rivers and included both states- but that was very important to keep top-of-mind. Kolker also added that the Data Warehouse project includes both Iowa and Illinois. Vickers recommended that the Regional Vision representatives have conversations with those community sooner rather than later to make them a part of the plan.

Doucette summarized that at its core, the efforts require an alignment of goals to develop talent and attract and retain a qualified workforce. To do that, we must figure out what we do well and where there are gaps.

QC Lumina Grant Background

Kabat Lensch presented information on the Lumina Foundation Community Partnership for Attainment grant. A 4-page handout and PowerPoint presentation were shared. Over the last three years, Lumina has invited 75 communities to join the cohort of the Lumina Community Partnership for Attainment. Partnership opportunities are offered to organizations focused on post-secondary attainment, especially established and growing multi-sector community efforts.

3 years ago the Quad Cities received a 3-year grant aimed to increase college and credential attainment to 60% by the year 2025. Lumina essentially put the seed money out there for this work to begin in the Quad Cities, but Q2030 will push progress forward and sustain momentum.

Efforts are supported with state and federal efforts through:

- Future Ready Iowa (70% attainment by 2025 from the Branstad-Reynolds Administration)
- Reach Higher/North Star initiatives (First Lady's/President's initiatives to have the highest proportion of college graduates in the world by 2020).

Although there's a variance on *WHAT* the goal is for the Quad Cities because it does cross Iowa and Illinois, the 60% mark will be used by the Q2030 21st Century Workforce Priority Workgroup. Ford added that it is difficult to pinpoint exact data because of the two states- he expressed that neither state does a good job reflecting rates for post-secondary attainment, whether that's a degree or credential.

Kabat Lensch then shared about the Quad Cities Stakeholder Convening held in April as part of the Lumina grant. Many people and programs are already doing good work for this initiative, but most are operating independently of one another- some are even duplicating services. The convening was intended to become a yearly day of reporting out and redefining priorities. 23 business and industry representative, 38 non-profit service organization representatives, 34 K-12 representatives, and 62 non-profit college and university representatives participated. Their consensus was that:

- High school is not enough!
- Moving the needle on this goal will require funding and coordination among multiple community organizations
- A lot of good work is happening, but there needs to be an alignment of community efforts and services provided for elementary, middle, high school and postsecondary education students to achieve improved results.
- Efforts need to address achievement gaps related to race, ethnicity, gender, income or other demographic variable.

5 focal groups came out of the convening and a summary for each was provided:

1. Attracting and Retaining Talent

2. College Planning (financial aid- everything to get ready to begin)
3. Career Awareness
4. Up-skilling and Re-skilling our Workforce
5. Credential Completion and Success

The overview of the workgroup goals and expectations were reviewed next, then the Iowa College Aid Collective Impact Planning Grant opportunity.

Q2030 21st Century Workforce Priority Workgroup Goals and Expectations

Snyder reviewed each group individually and charged the co-chairs to solicit, confirm, and convene with 10-13 volunteer Talents to fill out their sub-workgroup. Each Talent would be committing 2 years of service to the effort of raising post-secondary certification and degree completion rates of Quad Citizens to 60% by 2030.

Subgroups should meet to:

1. Define the mission for the sub-workgroup.
2. Identify 4-5 goals or long-term strategies to achieve or implement by the end of 2018 to fulfill the Sub-workgroup mission.
3. Identify 3-4 action short-term strategies to accomplish by 2017 that work towards sub-workgroup goals and strategies (b).

Each subgroup was provided with a few short-term and long-term strategies that had been suggested during the April convening.

Additional meeting dates and assistance requested from this workgroup:

1. Attend quarterly meetings.
2. Assist with the planning of the spring 2017 Quad Cities Stakeholder Convening.
3. Assist with an Asset Map for the Iowa College Aid Collective Impact Planning Grant.

Iowa College Aid Collective Impact Planning Grant Opportunity

Kabat Lensch shared that since the Lumina grant ends in December of this year, it is necessary to look to other sources to ignite this work. Iowa College Aid approached her to complete an application to build a Local College Access Network (LCAN) here in the Quad Cities. A 1-page summary was provided about the opportunity. The program includes a \$10,000 grant to conduct a strategic planning process to organize and initiate a community-based (LCAN). In addition to the financial grant, Iowa College Aid will provide training and technical assistance to grant recipients. While the guidebook was written for Michigan, it was underwritten by the Lumina Foundation with the intent of providing a replicate framework for other states and communities. After the planning grant has been completed, a \$50,000 grant is available to support continued work going forward. Muscatine, IA already has their own LCAN. Clinton, IA school representatives did not seem interested in beginning one there.

A confirmation of Commitment needed to complete the application was passed around the room for signatures. Kabat Lensch hopes to have been approved for the grant by the next meeting in November.

Questions and Feedback from the Group

Kabat Lensch stated that there will likely be some overlap of ideas between groups and encouraged the co-chairs to communicate with one another. Alex Kolker will oversee coordination of these five sub-workgroups with the Q2030 Cradle-through-Career Development Priority Workgroup.

A summary for potential sub-workgroups was requested as they go out and solicit Talent. This will be sent in an email by Lindsey Kennedy. If their invitation is declined, co-chairs were asked to inquire if something is already happening or if they need assistance with what they are doing. Groups will assess:

- Where are the gaps?
- What needs enhancement?
- What connections need to be strengthened?
- What is not effective and should be discontinued?

Kabat Lensch thanked everyone again for their time and commitment.

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 a.m.

Submitted by Lindsey Kennedy.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

November 10 from 7:30-9 a.m. at the EICC District Office