

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**NYC WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**  
**QUARTERLY MEETING**

Tuesday, September 12, 2023  
9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

**Board Members Present:**

Laura Anderson (Designee)	Maureen Anderson	Scott Berger
Adda Birnir	David Bolotsky	Saudia Davis
Laura James	Angie Kamath	Joseph McDermott
Eliana Palmay	Adria Powell	Jocelynn Rainey
Edgar Romney	Daphne Sanchez	Shehila Stephens (Designee)

**Board Members Participating Remotely:**

Les Bluestone	Colleen Galvin	Mark Elliot
George Ntim		

**Guests Present:**

Paula Bailey	David Berman	Megan Keenan-Berryman
Stephanie Birmingham	Michelle Clark	Christina Curry (virtual)
Nicole Dais	David Fischer (virtual)	Justin Gale
Dynishal Gross	Martha Jackson (virtual)	Je'Nean Jones-Seo
Bernadette Kelley	Yurij Pawluk	Robert Taylor (Virtual)

**Staff Present:**

Tim Currier	Deepa Dhawan	Doug Lipari
Elizabeth Murtin	Chris Neale	Abby Jo Sigal
Jayson Swain	Matthew Walker	Grant Yanney

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Board member Maureen Anderson, acting on behalf of Board Chair Adria Powell, began the meeting by welcoming attendees, then introducing the speakers and agenda items.

### **Director's Report**

WDB Director Chris Neale started his Board update by announcing the departure of and paying homage to two Board Members, Maureen Anderson from ACCES-VR (New York State Education Department / Vocational Rehabilitation) and Les Bluestone (Blue Sea Development Company).

Director Neale also summarized the proposed funding transfer resolution, which would move Dislocated Worker funding to Adult funding, simply as a way to align the type of funding with the proportion of customers served. However, the Board did not have an in-person quorum, so they were not able to vote on the resolution. There were 15 Board members in attendance out of 31. For the quorum there needs to be 16 in-person voting members. In addition, many of the Board Members voiced their concerns about the lack of quorum for the past several meetings, which in turn makes it difficult for the full Board to do their job. Everyone agreed that the next quarterly meeting on December 8<sup>th</sup> should be well attended so that the business of the Board can be conducted properly.

### **Update on Youth Programs**

Board Chair Adria Powell then introduced Megan Keenan-Berryman, Assistant Commissioner from the Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD), who provided updates for youth workforce activities at DYCD.

The Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP), which ended on August 19<sup>th</sup>, was able to serve more than 100,000 young people. This included a record number of youth from target populations with barriers to employment. There was also a record number of youth interns hosted by City agencies. DYCD will release its annual report on SYEP in the next couple of months, breaking down the different relevant statistics from this summer. It was also announced that the DYCD WIOA Youth Concept papers were released on September 12, 2023, with a focus on opportunities in growth occupations and employment for in school and out of school youth. DYCD also mentioned that they are looking for feedback on the recently released [Learn & Earn](#) and [Train & Earn](#) concept papers. DYCD is focusing on holistic program models that will strengthen New York City's (City) workforce development system and help young people gain the support, educational credentials and skills needed to succeed in today's economy.

The deadline for providing feedback is October 25, 2023. This feedback will be used to assist DYCD with the development of two upcoming request for proposals. DYCD is responsible for implementing the City's federally funded WIOA Youth funding. Funds are allocated toward two programs: Train & Earn for out-of-school youth ages 16 to 24, and Learn & Earn for in-school youth, currently focused on high school juniors and seniors.

### Update on Adult WIOA Programs

New Deputy Commissioner of the Workforce Development Division Yuriy Pawluk introduced himself to the Board and reviewed his background as a workforce development professional.

Commissioner Pawluk then provided highlights from SBS' Commissioner memo.

<b>Workforce1 Career Centers</b>	<b>FY23</b>	<b>FY22</b>	<b>FY23 vs 22</b>
Individuals Served	87,395	81,338	+7%
Openings Developed with Businesses	45,988	34,448	+33%
Jobs Directly Connected	11,730	12,644	-7%
Total Hires	23,599	25,098	-6%
Average Wage	\$18.61	\$18.04	+3%
% Full-Time	91%	88%	+3%

<b>Training Programs</b>	<b>FY23 Enrollments</b>	<b>FY23 Completions</b>	<b>Hires or Promotions</b>
Bridge Training			
Healthcare	26	44	n/a
Tech	0	0	n/a
Industrial/Construction	0	0	n/a
Food Service	0	0	n/a
Media and Entertainment	20	20	n/a
<i>Bridge Training Subtotal</i>	46	64	n/a
Sector-Based Occupational Training			
Healthcare	73	34	37
Tech	393	219	107
Industrial/Construction	374	311	80
Food Service	104	72	108
Media and Entertainment	46	44	48
<i>Occupational Training Subtotal</i>	990	680	380
Pre-Apprenticeship Training	126	116	15
Individual Training Grants	380	304	63
Customized Trainings	589	541	240
Other: Site Safety, Health Worker	5,028	4,672	n/a
<b>FY23 Training Total</b>	<b>7,159</b>	<b>6,377</b>	<b>698</b>
FY22 Training Total	6,948	4,806	765
FY23 vs FY22	+3%	+33%	-9%

The Workforce1 Career Centers helped connect nearly 24,000 individuals to jobs during Fiscal Year 2023. Additionally, full-time hires increased to 91% and average wages soared to \$18.61 per hour on average. The vast majority (91%) of Workforce 1 hires were full-time.

Commissioner Pawluk highlighted training programs in the healthcare industry, including at LaGuardia and Lehman college; and in the tech industry, where there have been over 50 new CUNY tech graduates, and 31 Tech Talent Pipeline Residency graduates. Commissioner Pawluk highlighted training programs in the healthcare industry like NCLEX-RN Training Program cohorts across LaGuardia and Lehman college; and in the tech industry, where there have been over 50 new CUNY tech graduates at CUNY Tech Prep, and 31 graduates from the TTP Residency at Brooklyn College. In the Media and Entertainment industry, SBS had 46 graduates in the Made in NY Post Production training and 20 in the Made in NY Stagecraft

bootcamp space. SBS is actively working on marketing and communications outreach to make sure New Yorkers are aware of these services. Commissioner Pawluk flagged that SBS will release their RFP for the Workforce1 Career Centers sometime this fall.

Commissioner Jones-Seo mentioned that SBS has been looking at their program and the quality of job offers. She does not believe that the increase in full-time hires is the result of a broader economic trend, but instead the result of intentional SBS interventions. She further highlighted that Workforce1 is still coming back from virtual services and operations after the COVID-19 pandemic and that it is more efficient to provide services in person, which is why there may have been more people served in the last year.

Questions from the Board included clarity on total hires terminology, extensions and training, process of selecting new vendors, updates on Black Unemployment and higher enrollment numbers in FY2023 compared to FY2022.

### **Community Hiring: Legislation and Strategy**

Doug Lipari, Director of the Office of Community Hiring, which is a part of NYC Talent, began his presentation by introducing himself to the Board and reviewing his goals regarding the future of Community Hiring. Director Lipari reviewed the history and present state of the community hiring legislation. The legislation was passed in June and is currently awaiting the Governor's signature.

In addition to speaking about the new office, he spoke about the economic disparities throughout New York. He mentioned the power of community hiring to leverage the City's capital procurements to provide jobs to City residents.

Director Lipari mentioned multiple initiatives, including the apprenticeship program, and the goal of creating life-sustaining careers through new economic and educational models. NYC Talent will be partnering with City agencies and their contractors to ensure low-income individuals and residents of low-income communities or public housing are prioritized for jobs created by City spending. The City estimates that, once fully implemented, community hiring would create 36,000 jobs and produce \$1.4 billion in salaries per year for these target populations. Director Lipari stated that his office is currently exploring options for growth, including the ability to hire with community hiring goals across industries. This is something he said that some municipal governments around the country are doing. He mentioned a working model in the construction industry, where people go from apprentices to technical jobs, and how that model might be transferred to other industries. Director Lipari stated that the focus is not simply jobs, but long-term career opportunities that provide growth and stability. Community hiring legislation will strengthen the office's relationship with unions, who have been supportive of the legislation since its inception several years ago. He also flagged that there is support for this across a wide range of stakeholders.

Abby Jo Sigal, Executive Director of the Mayor's Office of Talent and Workforce Development, spoke about the leverage power given to the office by the community hiring legislation. She also mentioned that one of the office's goals is to have apprenticeships established in all top occupations in New York City not just in construction. She also said that getting people from target demographics into quality, family-sustaining, jobs will be most successful with the support of private industry employers.

Questions from the Board included tracking hires, measuring the baseline of hires through community hiring, and overall timeline of community hiring legislation.

**Closing**

Board Chair Adria Powell called for a motion to close the meeting. Board Member Eliana Palmay motioned, and Board Member David Bolotsky seconded. This meeting ended at 10:50a.