

## **EY Education Meeting**

**Friday, October 7, 2022**

**The meeting began at 10:15 am and adjourned at 11:04**

### **Attendees:**

Christie McElroy – Levy Schools  
Scott Bissell – Habitat for Humanity  
Dave Layman – Habitat for Humanity  
Mark Paugh – College of Central Florida  
Jennifer Fryns – College of Central Florida  
Charles Harris – Community Action  
Robert Haight – United Way  
Beth McCall – CEP  
Benjamin Whitehouse – Marion Schools  
Rusty Skinner – CLM  
Dale French – CLM  
Marion Kansas – EY (Host)  
Sarah Gosselin – EY (Host)

### **What are 1-2 words that describe the system and following discussion:**

- Ben Whitehouse stated that we have a great relationship and the ability to collect data and make data informed decisions is beneficial.
- Mark Paugh stated ability to hold close partnership to fill the needs of K-12 system and higher education.
- Bob Haight stated that it's important to understand local nuances compared to statewide.
- Jennifer Fryns stated that close partnership allows for meeting local employer needs and extend services to place students.
- Scott Bissell stated he is able to engage local youth to help with volunteerism.
- Jennifer Fryns stated the benefits of the current system allows for development of programs like Talent Center, YouthBuild, Job Fairs.

### **The question was posed as to what challenges exist in the system?**

- Mark Paugh stated that splitting the college system regions will create many issues with approved training provider lists and does not see how splitting college regions will benefit the system at all.
- Christie McElroy expressed concern that established relationships will be lost and that best practices previously created will be lost.
- Bob Haight explained although different areas have many of the same sectors different geographical areas have different needs within those sectors.

**What other Florida regions do you typically partner with? Are there neighboring counties that provide natural partnerships?**

- Christie McElroy stated that Levy county works with Gilchrist and Dixie counties since they are all rural. The tri-county area works across lines sharing community resources. Limited resources in many areas of the county and pulling resources is difficult.
- Jennifer Fryns noted that aligning with the state college system should be a priority where possible.

**What challenges do you face when working with local workforce development boards? What best practices could be replicated?**

- Bob Haight stated that DEO's CONNECT system does not work well and is not a workforce board issue.
- Ben Whitehouse discussed the annual Youth Career Expo.
- Jennifer Fryns proposed the concept of the Talent Center.
- Christie McElroy seconded the value of the Youth Career Expo in Levy County and plans to continue the program again this year.
- Charles Harris shared that the local board is currently running a successful YouthBuild program.
- Jennifer Fryns stressed the importance of relationships and locality.

**What are 1-2 works that describe your desired state of Florida future workforce development system?**

Online poll showed the following word cloud:

- Collaborative, proactive, available, seamless, coordination, robust, efficient, aligned, equity minded, focused, responsive, available, consumer centric

Ben Whitehouse recommended the need to maintain local collaboration and an understanding of local needs of the workforce.

Marian Kansas discussed next steps in the process to include more stakeholder engagements.