

CJAB Employment Committee 7/26/2022

Present:

Commissioner Martin, Kelly Carothers (Chair), Neil Burkholder, Barbie Taylor, Tim Breighner (Co-Chair)

Key point to stress:

The hiring events are open to the public. Any member of the community can participate not just those who are under court supervision. It is not clear that was well known in the prior hiring events.

In August, Lisa from Prison HR expressed interest in attending the event in addition to other employers who previously participated.

The Housing Authority will also be there as a resource for those who attend. PA Commuter Services has been a regular participant to provide resources which may assist in facilitating transportation and employment with established employers.

Since these events are open to the public, how can we better market and advertise to not only our clients but also the public?

There have already been extensive efforts to promote the hiring events within HSB with flyers displayed and available for pick up in each office.

Barbie suggested utilizing local counseling agencies such as PA Counseling and True North Wellness to display flyers.

Barbi stressed the importance of making sure inmates get this information prior to release so they can take advantage of the opportunities. Barbie also reminded us that she developed a resource book for inmates to use both at the jail and after release.

The prison is still working with CareerLink on establishing the MOU

Commissioner Martin mentioned that having a CareerLink office at HSB would be advantageous, however, he stated it would be challenging. He also mentioned an upcoming United Way Back to School event.

Neil asked about the possibility of losing the interest of our current employers due to the low turn out produced thus far.

It was also suggested that we develop a list of names of people/agencies which we think would be beneficial to send the flyer.

Kelly discussed the flyer and shared that a marketing representative was willing to make improvements upon it to make it more appealing.

Kelly also mentioned that Froggy 107.7 expressed interest in getting involved in some capacity in the future.

Next CJAB Meeting 8/16/2022

Kelly shared an example of a case where the individual was on supervision with both Domestic Relations and Probation. He attended the hiring event and met with CareerLink and several employers. He left with employment at Knouse Foods and completed the CareerLink registration and orientation on site and looking to gain his CDL. By completion of the orientation CareerLink will assist with paying for the license. Although the defendant was unable to continue to attend due to some health issues, Knouse did agree to hire him back when he becomes available.

Kelly shared June statistics for DRS. 596 PA CareerLink Orders were entered over the past 12 months, currently have 332 active job search orders, 59 have been scheduled for contempt, 97.25 days until a new employer is added into PACSES, 97 have obtained employment and making regular payments.