



# Strategic Action Planning Group on Aging

Workforce Committee Meeting Minutes – February 10, 2020

**Participants:** Teresa Falagradý (Co-Chair), Christian Itin, Karin Stewart, John Zabawa, Andrea Kuwik, Ed Leary, Phil Nash, Laura Kinder, Katherine Keegan, Janine Vanderburg, and Ben Moultrie

## Action Items:

- Jarett Hughes to e-introduce Katherine Keegan and Amy Delpo, Administrator of Older Adult Services, Denver Public Library
- Janine Vanderburg to share additional information with Jarett Hughes to distribute to the group
- Jarett Hughes will coordinate with Tony Tapia and Teresa Falagradý about next steps for group meetings

## Key Takeaways:

### *Update from Katherine Keegan, Office of Future Work (OFW)*

- OFW partners with the Colorado Workforce Development Council and works across State Departments to work on policy and program solutions
  - Policy and program recommendations are intended for the 2021 legislation session and the goal is for them to be finalized in August of 2020
- Mature workers are a primary focus, but she is looking across the life course
- Statewide Regional Convenings
  - Pueblo 2/25
  - Pikes Peak 3/6
  - Adams County/Broomfield 3/12
  - Jefferson County 4/7
  - Larimer/Weld 4/8
  - Boulder 4/30
  - To be scheduled – Denver and Upper Arkansas
    - Expected audience 50-100 participants and she hopes to have Planning Group representatives participate when possible
    - National Conference planned for June 1 and 2 in Denver-area
- Digital literacy is a focus area
  - What does “digital literacy” mean?
  - Workforce centers are behind, where are opportunities for collaboration? Possibly with public libraries
- Direct care workforce will also be a focus – may be useful to connect Katherine with Brandon McReynolds, Department of Higher Education, and Emily Johnson, Colorado Health Institute

### *Update from Janine Vanderburg and Age-Friendly Workplace Initiative (AFWP) – [Link to Slides](#)*

- AFWP Initiative headed by Karen Brown through Changing the Narrative focuses on the myths surrounding older workers with the goal of changing those perceptions
- Recently developed a Resource Guide for older workers



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- Collaborating with Age-Friendly Foundation to administer a business certification
  - Opportunity for the state to adopt certification process?
  - Would be important to pick an office or agency that did not present “concern” for employers regarding state involvement
- Important to coordinate with and impact Workforce Development Centers
  - Furthermore, coordinate with economic development teams at the local level
  - Develop coordinator, liaison, and navigator positions to connect older workers with businesses
  - Workforce Centers should offer this age-friendly training
- Those attending presentations are asking “where can they find older workers”?
  - Especially within the context of low unemployment rates

### *Colorado Workforce Development Council (CWDC) Reactions – Phil Nash*

- Presentation went very well
- There was a sense that the CWDC could continue to elevate this issue through their current operations
  - Lee-Wheeler Berliner seems more receptive than he has in the past
- Joe Garcia, Executive Director at Colorado Department of Labor and Employment, is very supportive
- Based on CWDC feedback, the presentation was the best of the day