

## December 2008 Workforce Funding Alliance Survey

### Topics for Discussion / Decision on December 16

**Weighted**

<b><u>Average</u></b>	<b><u>Issue</u></b>
3.83	Set 2009 Goals for MAWFA
3.67	Decide process for decisions around how to fund "aligned" agencies, programs and projects
3.33	Establish a common vision for MAWFA
3.25	Discuss investment structure and operations for MAWFA
3.08	Understand the priorities of the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board
3.00	Discuss opportunities to leverage public and private funds in nonprofit workforce development agencies
2.92	Plan aligned investment strategies to common grantees
2.91	Review the mission and goals of MAWFA
2.83	Determine committee and workgroup structure for co-investment
2.83	Discuss opportunities to leverage public and private funds in public policy and advocacy work
2.75	Determine committee and workgroup structure for overall capacity-building
2.75	Create the template of evaluation of MAWFA work
2.75	Understand the current, existing efforts of MAWFA
2.75	Review data from funders survey regarding grantees
2.67	Determine committee and workgroup structure for co-investment
2.58	Learn about National Fund and best practices for workforce funding alliances from other sites
2.55	Clarify the governance and management structure of MAWFA

### **Comment on #2. Rate Importance of Topics at Dec 16 Session**

I think it is important at this juncture to begin the bold step in moving forward. It is clear from all economic indicators that conditions both locally and nationally are not going to get any better, specifically with employment. That being said it is important that MAWFA move strategically and creatively to effect some lasting change in the city of Milwaukee.

**Additional Questions to be Answered at Dec 16:** Nope, this is enough for 2.5 days, let alone 2.5 hours

### **Outcomes for Your Organization from MAWFA**

- A. Outcomes desired in workforce arena: Alignment of resources Shared evaluation criteria and KPI Establish a blueprint for coordination of public / private / nonprofit resources Priority setting
- B. Better coordination of funding to workforce development agencies we choose to fund; making resources available to agencies (best practices, professional development, etc.)
- C. Alignment, leveraging, expertise sharing
- D. Sharing of best practices Identification of opportunities to collaborate with other organizations on workforce development initiatives
- E. Results re construction and health care career pathways, jobs and employer engagement 2) Funding alignment, leveraged resources 3) System for workforce solutions related to MWIB and regional employers
- F. Public private funding collaboration on workforce investment.
- G. Increased leverage of our investments by aligning with other funding organizations

### **Outcomes for Community from MAWFA**

- A first class, regional, workforce planning agency
- A system that is fully integrated with the MAWIB regardless of access point. Further, a system that results in targeting funding, without duplication of effort, to those with real (not perceived) expertise in delivering links to employment opportunities for both the engaged and disenfranchised segments of the Milwaukee community.
- better coordination between training and employers funded by appropriate public and private resources
- A more effective and efficient local and hopefully regional system impacting programming, ,flow of resources and positives outcomes for candidate and employer.
- More job opportunities Upward
- Results re construction and health care career pathways, jobs and employer engagement 2) Funding alignment, leveraged resources 3) System for workforce solutions related to MWIB and regional employers
- Agile funding sources that both reward diligence and longevity without shorting innovation and new kids on the block.
- More individuals on career paths. More companies supporting career paths and upskilling of workers. Decrease poverty rates. Increase education attainment that translates to greater prosperity. Decreased gap or disparities between opposite ends of prosperity continuum.

### **Current Mission of MAWFA**

1. *A coalition engaged in planning, evaluation, and alignment to improve the region's workforce training system*
2. *To align funding streams to maximize a more organized and concerted workforce development system in Milwaukee*
3. *Align a portion of grantmaking around workforce development to improve employment outcomes of low income, unemployed and underemployed individuals.*
4. *Align, coordinate, cooperate, affect change.*
5. *Focus on workforce solutions related to construction, health care and later manufacturing – highlighting an employer-engagement strategies*
6. *To focus public AND private workforce investment funding to the most effective strategies that improve the community.*
7. *Aligning the philanthropic and public funding in workforce development within the Milwaukee area.*

### **Comments on Re-visiting Mission**

1. I think the mission is somewhat convoluted; MAWFA in my opinion should seek to address the skills gap that leaves too many job seekers and workers in poverty while employers are unable to meet their needs for a skilled workforce. MAWFA should seek to educate employers and agencies in a dual customer workforce partnership that aligns resources to meet the career advancement needs of low-skilled adults; and helps employers meet their needs for workers with mid-level skills.
2. While the current mission makes sense for what we say we want to do, it doesn't lend itself to a clear and concise message that can be communicated to a cross-section of people/users
3. Just to make sure everyone is still comfortable and on board with the mission.
4. Who is the customer?
5. It contains the reason for being.
6. This is the overall mission -- our focus is on construction, health care and manufacturing for this three-year grant
7. I support the mission - if we are about increasing employment then that will mean hard choices and not funding some of the current favorites in town. We should clarify in what timetable we want increased employment - 1 year, 3 years or ?
8. The current mission statement is more wordy than I recalled, but wordsmithing by committee is generally very painful and limited in value/ROI. Perhaps a short tag-line could summarize it.

## **Comments to Policy and Systems Change Issues to Address**

Population assumed to be entirely those served by government agencies

## **Attend Discussions on Needs of Nonprofits Your Organization Funds**

To work, this must be honest, off the record and will involve pain. Some of this town's favorites are not that effective.

## **Funding A Healthcare Workforce Intermediary**

With Boards there is never unequivocal certainty

This is why we're in the alliance, principally

## **Significant Opportunities in the Future**

1. Strategic planning Alignment Priority setting Establishment of universal evaluation criteria
2. To develop and expand healthcare and manufacturing intermediaries.
3. creation of healthcare intermediary with direct ties to healthcare systems; leverage that then to work with educational institutions
4. Identify and help develop new financial and programmatic resources affecting our citizen/employer workforce development needs.
5. Engaging more funders in workforce solutions, leveraging public and private resources, developing a "system" for workforce solutions that benefits employers, employees and job seekers – demonstrated results in construction and health care career
6. pathways, jobs and employer engagement
7. The MAWFA will be effective by having a dual focus: Expertise in funding strong direct-service delivery strategies and promoting public policy enhancements.