

2009 Goals/Plans for Milwaukee Area Workforce Funding Alliance

Confirmed December 2008

Workforce Partnerships

1. Focus on the jobs pipeline in the construction industry with Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership (WRTP) as a central intermediary.
2. Determine the criteria for selection and determine and invest in the healthcare intermediary and its capacity-building needs.
3. Build capacity of WRTP in financial tracking and management and reporting.
4. Pilot an incumbent worker training with partner hospitals.

Capacity Building

1. Bring private and public funders together to understand the current workforce development public funding streams and the relationship with for-profit and philanthropic investments.
2. Work with funders to survey grantees on capacity-building issues affecting their work
3. Initiate professional development on key issues funded by MAWIB and HBF, such as use of criminal background checks and utilization of referral systems.
4. Assess needs of nonprofits in workforce development through surveys and meetings..

Policy Advocacy

1. Work with funders to survey grantees on policy and other advocacy issues affecting their work.
2. Establish a formalized relationship between MAWFA and State of Wisconsin Departments of Workforce Development and Family Services.
3. Initiate discussions with State on waivers for access to data.

Local Evaluation

1. Work with JFF to implement Phase I of common tracking and reporting system.
2. Conduct a year-end evaluation of outcomes in jobs, agencies, intermediaries and the "system."

Research/Documentation

1. "Map" the funding and referral relationships in workforce development, beginning with the funding partners in the Alliance and the agencies that they fund.
2. Coordinate with NFWS on data from UC – Davis.
3. Identify what research (sector-driven and worker needs) has already been done and share with funders and others – possibly via website.

Technical Assistance

1. Work with Jobs for the Future to access technical assistance and best practices to share with local funders as well as intermediaries and agencies.

Communication

2. Use website postings and blogging.
3. Establish the WP Advisory Committees.
4. Have Executive Committee focus on evaluation needs.
5. Combine policy and research issues into one "committee."
6. Maintain strong information flow among working groups of WFA.