



Director's Activity Report: January- February 2013

Submitted by: Erika Volker on February 28, 2013

January

- Meeting with Boys Town to develop Career and Technical Programs for high school students
- Meeting with Boy Scouts Mid-America Council on STEM programs
- Meeting with AIM Institute on integrating NE Learn materials in programs with youth
- Presentation to Plattsmouth Career Fair on High Skill, High Wage, High Demand occupations
- Presentation on H3 website to Heartland Workforce Solutions Board Meeting
- Attended NET Force Meeting (*communicated support of PFI LC of Entrepreneurship training*)
- Attended Nebraska Partnership Council Meeting
- Meeting with Kuder, ESU CC and NDE on transitioning Nebraska Career Connections contract (logistics, expectations, etc.)
- Facilitated ESU 1, 8 & 17 reVISION workshop in Wakefield
- Watched on NET dual credit and career academy legislation hearing
- Attended WIA Greater Omaha Youth Council Meeting (January)
- reVISION future planning meeting with NCE staff

February

- Technology of Participation (ToP) Facilitation professional development – see below
- ESU 1, 8 & 17 Advisory Council Planning conversation
- PFI Professional Development Proposal review and materials compilation
- Nebraska Partnership Council meeting
- ESU CC and PFI NCC transition planning meeting
- Scottsbluff ESU 13 reVISION workshop
- Meeting with Project Lead the Way Vice President
- Facilitated West Boyd virtual reVISION workshop
- Attended WIA Greater Omaha Youth Council Meeting
- Provided resources for Nebraska Youth Correctional Facility high school

Nebraska Career Connections Related

- Approved Connect 2 Business profiles within system
- Trained Matt Blomstedt on all activities related to Nebraska Career Connections, assisted with the development of strategic plan for transitioning to ESU CC staff
- Coordinate training for Voc Rehabilitation for May 22 workshop

Technology of Participation Facilitation Training

Two day workshop reviewed and practiced the following techniques:

I. Focused Conversation Method

O – Observation (facts)

R – Reflective (attitudes/feelings/beliefs)

I – Interpretive (conscious connections, thoughts arise)

D - Decisional (consider action, decisions, choices)

Closing - recap conversation and agree to decision items

II. The Consensus Workshop Method

1. Context - provide the purpose for needing to come together for consensus, equal voice opportunity
2. Brainstorm – individual and pair share ideas, rotations of opportunity to share ideas
3. Cluster – organize the ideas into like themes
4. Name - give a title or name to the cluster of ideas/themes
5. Resolve – determine the next step in the process – action items moving forward

III. The Action Planning Method

1. Context - provide the purpose for needing to come together to implement an action plan
2. Victory – if everything worked out perfectly, what would be the ideal outcome
3. Current Reality - Strengths/Benefits/Weaknesses/Dangers related to the situation (similar to a SWOT analysis)
4. Commitment - Agree on the project scope and outcome, clarify the groups commitment
5. Key Actions - identify the tasks required to accomplish the commitment
6. Calendar - create a calendar of actions that will accomplish the victory for each subgroup
7. Coordination - Coordinate major aspects of the project, individual ownership of each task
8. Resolve - confirm consensus and decisions, initiate follow up, affirm and celebrate.

This training validated my facilitation abilities and provided me additional techniques to use in a variety of group settings. I really appreciated the opportunity to invest in my skills, abilities and talents. Thank you, PFI LC!