

MID-OHIO VALLEY REGIONAL COUNCIL



MOVRC Monthly Newsletter
<http://www.movrc.org/>
304-422-4993

April 2021



APRIL 2021 NEWSLETTER



The face of the workforce is changing, and so is their relationship with illicit drugs, alcohol and marijuana and the impact both substances and general stressors are having on their mental health.

Join us on **Tuesday, April 13, from 9 – 11 a.m.** for “**Responding to Employee’s Needs During These Unprecedented Times,**” a virtual event exploring steps employers can take to not only support but retain employees and maintain workplace safety and productivity.

Register to attend at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WIAWVApply4-13>

The WDB-MOV will be hosting a **VIRTUAL JOB FAIR**

April 22, 2021

10am-12pm

The Virtual Job Fair is a great opportunity for job seekers, recent college graduates, or an individual ready to explore potential job opportunities.

Employer booths and job openings will be accessible until midnight.

This event will focus on Region 4 employers and job seekers: Calhoun, Clay, Jackson, Mason, Pleasants, Ritchie, Roane, Wirt, and Wood Counties. To learn more about the event and register, visit, www.wdbmov.com/events.



Workforce Unhinged Resource Partnership Series: E29: SW Resources- Providing Custom Solutions for Individual and Business Needs

In this episode, you'll hear from Levi Brady, Youth Transition Coordinator for SW Resources as he provides an overview of the services his organization provides and how and why they partner with the workforce development board. Discover the benefits that SW Resources provides to their customers, employers, and the community.

Google:

[https://www.google.com/podcasts?](https://www.google.com/podcasts?feed=aHR0cHM6Ly93b3JrZm9yY2V1bmhpbmdlZC5saWJzeW4uY29tL3Jzcmw%3D%3D)

[feed=aHR0cHM6Ly93b3JrZm9yY2V1bmhpbmdlZC5saWJzeW4uY29tL3Jzcmw%3D%3D](https://www.google.com/podcasts?feed=aHR0cHM6Ly93b3JrZm9yY2V1bmhpbmdlZC5saWJzeW4uY29tL3Jzcmw%3D%3D)

Apple Link:

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/workforce-unhinged/id1470100406>

Workforce Unhinged Success Story Series: E26: How a Veteran Launched her Career in Healthcare

Elaine Opper, Medical Lab Technician at Genesis Health Care, joins the program to discuss her career, how she came to connect with the workforce system, and how the workforce services she received helped her launch her career. She also reveals why people should consider a career in healthcare, and the crucial role that the behind-the-scenes medical personnel play in the healthcare system.

Google:

<https://www.google.com/podcasts>

Apple Link:

<https://podcasts.apple.com/.../workforce-unhinged/id1470100406>

Long Range Transportation Plan Progress and a Lesson Learned



The Long Range Transportation Plan 2045 initiated by the Wood-Washington-Wirt Interstate Planning Commission in the Fall of 2020 is approximately 50% complete. To date a vision statement has been developed, Goals and Objectives defined, Advisory and Focus Group meetings have occurred, and numerous stakeholder interviews conducted. During the most recent Advisory Group meeting preliminary project proposals were presented for discussion and further consideration. The next phase will be to continue to refine and prioritize projects based on needs identified through the modeling process, goals and objectives, performance measures and targets assessment, and fiscal constraint analysis. While there is still a significant amount of work to be done, we are well on the way of having a draft plan by July 31, 2021.



Public Involvement is an important component of the planning process. Under the direction of WWW, Burgess and Niple consultants has orchestrated an effective process despite the challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic. To date all plan development efforts have been conducted virtually. This approach was first seen as a compromise to the traditional in-person meetings and public comment opportunities. However, it has proven to be a much more valuable tool than anticipated. While there is no substitute for person to person interaction, it seems that the virtual world provides some insulation for a person to be more open and freer to express thoughts and ideas. This has certainly been the case with this plan where we have seen increased participation from the public through interaction with online presentations and surveys. As we vaccinate ourselves out of the pandemic, there will undoubtedly be some lasting effects that will not go away...virtual meetings...lesson learned!

AmeriCorps Seniors Staff Meets in Elkins



Pictured are Tammy Raines, program coordinator for FGP/SCP, Becky Edwards, SCP director, Janet Somerville, FGP director and Michelle Williams, program coordinator for FGP/SCP

ELKINS — On March 16, Mid-Ohio Valley Regional Council, AmeriCorps Seniors Staff for the Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion Programs, met at the Darden House in Elkins for a Staff Development Meeting.

Taking part were Tammy Raines, program coordinator for FGP/SCP, Becky Edwards, SCP director, Janet Somerville, FGP director and Michelle Williams, program coordinator for FGP/SCP.

“In meeting monthly, we are able to come together with ideas, concerns, program direction and progress. In this time especially, moving our programs forward safely and effectively is vital. Our volunteers are some of the best and their desire to return to their schools and clients is unmatched,” Williams said.

On March 17, the AmeriCorps Seniors Director’s Association also met at the Darden House.



After a lunch at Beanders, the Association gathered and focused on planning and arranging social projects for the Association to carry out in the next few months.

New officers were elected as well.

The members of the Director's Association attending were Janet Somerville, Becky Edwards, MariJo Tedesco, RSVP director, Tammy Raines and Michelle Williams, from MOVRC, Parkersburg, Myra Vance, FGP director from Potomac Highlands, from United Way of Central West Virginia, Kim Good, FGP/RSVP director, Amber Flynn, FGP associate director, Amanda Moore, RSVP associate director and Dana Grant, RSVP program coordinator.

Community Development Program Updates

ARC awarded \$500,000 to the Mid-Ohio Valley Regional Council in Parkersburg, West Virginia, for the Building the Mid-Ohio Valley Recovery-to-Work Ecosystem Through Expanded Services and Support project. Organizations across the Mid-Ohio Valley of West Virginia and Ohio have come together to align program activities and provide an easily accessible roadmap for high-risk individuals to seek and retain employment. The program targets individuals who are making progress in their treatment plan or recovery and are nearing the point of workforce entry or reentry. The project will assist participants by expanding existing community linkage services, such as peer recovery supports, and making sure that those linkages extend across state borders. The project will expand successful recovery-focused job training programs and provide education and incentives through employer outreach programs. Four workers/trainees will become Peer Recovery Supporters and 100 others will obtain employment during the project period. Additionally, 170 participants will benefit from legal and counselling services, and 26 businesses and 20 organizations will be improved.

The Wood County Development Authority was awarded \$40,000 for a Small Incubator/Co-working Space Feasibility Study from EDA. The deadline for proposals was April 1st and a consultant should be chosen in the near future.

The Elizabeth Wastewater Collection System Improvements Project has recently been completed by J.F. Allen Construction.

The Town of Cairo was awarded \$96,000 of IJDC Critical Needs grant funding for the Cairo Critical Needs Water Project. This work has recently been completed by Stonegate Construction.



Paden City Development Authority's board selected Civil Environmental Consultants to perform the Industrial Property Improvement Feasibility/Planning Study should they be selected for an EDA grant application MOVRC has submitted.

In addition, PCDA President Cork Bowen was just notified by EPA Region 3 contact Joe Nowak, that they have been chosen for the Technical Assistance grant that is administered through the WVDEP Remediation group in Wheeling. The Northern Brownfield Assistance Center helped PCDA with the EPA application.

The consulting firm ICF has been selected by DEP and has begun to build a scope of work for the project. Their mission is to provide a market analysis & research for Brownfield communities such as Paden City. The EDA Engineering Feasibility Study is a strong complement to the EPA project. ICF will be searching regionally & nationally to find potential tenants and the EDA grant can assist in identifying what new tenants will need and how much it will cost to make PCDA's properties ready.

The Tyler County Public Service District has received a letter of conditions regarding funding for the Centerville Alma Water Extension Project. The loan will be for \$2,019,000; the grant will provide \$965,000; and the Tyler County Commission will contribute \$507,600. The total project cost is estimated to be \$3,491,600. This project will provide public water to an additional 100 plus customers in the Centerville and Alma areas of Tyler County.

