

LMAC Transitional Employment Education Committee

October 2, 2014

Committee members present: Jim Larson, Bill Dahlgren, Annette Hoffman, Bonnie Lyytinen-Hale, Kevin Braun

Committee members not present: Lance Zanto

Guests: Anne Wolfinger, Georgiana (George) Gulden, Jason Swant

60 Summits Review

Anne discussed the Workers' Compensation Study Project in ERD that led up to 60 Summits. George, who served as 60 Summits project manager, described the 60 Summits purpose, meetings, and outcomes. One outcome was the formation of a SAW/RTW committee which met many times over a multi-year span until the workers' compensation reform that came out of the 2011 Legislature (HB 334). Jason talked about the three products from the SAW/RTW committee: two publications on Best Practices and Frequenty Asked Questions, and a "work employability" form which eventually served as the basis for the medical status form mandated by the Legislature. Jason also told the committee about the SAW/RTW program in ERD that came out of HB 334 and his education and outreach efforts to employers, primarily through the SafetyFestMT events and the Assistance to Business Clinics.

Development of Workplan

The committee reviewed notes from their discussion at the initial committee meeting following the September 9th LMAC meeting. The following points were made:

- Measuring the outcome of SAW/RTW efforts
- Focusing the work of the committee where results were most likely
- Looking at cities where safety programs have been implemented
- Exploring financial incentives for having a SAW/RTW program
- Considering providing SAW/RTW training to medical providers
- Convening a meeting in Helena with the AFL and all unions to educate business agents

The committee decided to take the following action:

- Request a meeting with the City of Billings to promote SAW/RTW
 - Participants: Jim, Annette, Lance, Jason
 - Invite Alan Hulse to participate
- Request a similar meeting (same day, different time) with Yellowstone County

Public Comment

There was no public comment

Next Steps

- Relay the request for staff support to Diana Ferriter and Bill Wheeler (Anne)
- Modify an existing presentation with new information showing impact of SAW/RTW at different wage levels (Jason)
- Ask Lance to request meetings with the City of Billings and Yellowstone County (Jim)
- Dust off Ann Clayton's presentation on the impact of time off from work