

Education and Skills Subcommittee meet on December 2nd at the Capitol.

Agenda items included:

- Background information on current population.
- Employment and relationship to recidivism
- In demand occupations, high need and high wage, as defined by DLR data
- Catalog of current DOC offerings
- Current DLR/DOC partnerships as examples of successful strategies
- Potential programs for new facilities (timing is important) and existing facilities

Additional information requests resulting from conversations during December 2nd meeting.

Catalog of DOC offerings include information for each program:

- How long has it been in existence;
- What is the capacity for each program;
- What is capacity and need for GED based on educational attainment;
- What has been the usage;
- What is program selection criteria;
- How is training offered;
- what is the cost;
- what is the recidivism rate?

Self-Directed (Informal) Education:

- What is included on the tablet?
- Can we have a tablet demonstration?
- What is missing?
 - Can we connect to SDWORKS, Alison, Virtual Job Fairs?

Additional conversations needed. Setting the guardrails.

Core Training:

- What does the committee want to require of those leaving prison? (i.e. financial literacy training)
- Is the expectation that this will be done in-person or virtually vs. a tablet?
 - Develop this out – sign off if not taking advantage of
 - DOC capacity?

Skills Training:

- What are the criteria the board is seeking: cost, demand, interest from inmates, sentence length, second chance friendly industry; licensure limitations.
- RFI to identify training providers interested, program, length of time, how it is delivered, cost to implement, on-going costs, location, etc.
- Have LMIC review of the industry, projected growth, wages, etc.
- Committee – Review and identify programs of interest – require prison education program application with RFI?
- RFI to seek employers who are willing to cost share (more informal than Build Dakota – more like DLR incumbent worker training)
 - Develop this out – does the employer hire prior to training? Does the employer get to interview those who complete?
- What is capacity?

Educate Employers:

- Second chance hiring
- Supportive work environment
- Create pathways like Millenium Recycling is seeking – how do we find this information out?

Random Thoughts:

- What are appropriate training and employment opportunities for long-term inmates.
- Alison - https://dlr.sd.gov/workforce_services/individuals/training_opportunities/alison.aspx
- DLR has a platform for virtual job fairs. We do not currently have any scheduled, but the options are vast - https://dlr.sd.gov/localoffices/hiring_events/virtual.aspx
- What technology related training is offered?
- How many GED teachers does DOC have? If women's prison needed 4 teachers to serve ~310, the men would need 13 teachers?
- Identify core (required) programs? Electives?
- Age demographics of inmates?
- Education for employers – Workforce Knowledge Series?
- Prison Education Program – connect with USDOE to speed it up?
- What is on the list of WDTC? What programs do we want?
- Set the programs, then find employers willing to sponsor a portion?
- What can we learn from DLR employer survey?