

1. First full meeting of the task force held Oct 11, 2016 in Springfield.
2. Members had previously determined the findings and recommendations of the 2006 task force remained relevant in 2016 and that their efforts would concentrate on developing action items with quick impacts.
3. The task force reviewed current data on industry trends, economic labor market information and workforce demographics.
4. The task force adopted a timeline that will provide a final report of recommendations to the IWIB at its March 2017 meeting.

Task Force Process & Timeline

Process:

- Employer-led, data-driven approach
- We are going to use the findings of the last Workforce Group to develop Action Solutions that are Employer Driven (Not going to reinvent the wheel).
- We are going to focus on models and recommendations that employers can take with the collaboration of other state stakeholders to increase the number of CDLs in Illinois.
- Presentation at the IWIB 2017 Meeting (Each group will deliver Solution Model / share direction / recommendations)

October:

10/11 – Full Task Force Meeting – Springfield, IL

10/25 – Root Causes Model Solution Team meeting (conference call)

(Who, What, Where, When)

November

11/8 – Each Root Causes Model Solution Team

e-mail outline of Model to Task Force Group

11/29- Full Task Force Meeting- Chicago, Olive-Harvey College CDL School

(review of Model / request for support/ 60-day test)

December

12/15 – Full – Task Force update conference all

January

- 1/5/2017 – Each Causes Model Solution Team conference call strategy / best practice meeting / 30 update
- 1/17 – A 15-minute update from Each Root Causes Model Solution Team to total Task Force
- 1/31 – Full Task Force Meeting – Rockford, IL Workforce Office (Presentation of Model Solutions)

February

- 2/15 – Full -Task Force Final Review of solutions – Conference call

March 16

- Presentation at the IWIB 2017 Meeting
(Each group will deliver Solution Model / share direction / recommendations)
All Task Force members will be invited to attend

5. Building on the work of the 2006 task force, this group self-selected into sub-groups tasked with brainstorming potential action items.

Workgroups - Proposed Action Items Developed at Oct. 11 Meeting

Group 1: Increase Awareness of the Industry

- Work with trucking company owners
- Participate in Job fairs
- Reach out to Warriors Project
- Increase marketing
- Bring prestige back to the job

Group 2: Increase Capacity & Alignment of Secondary and Post-Secondary Education/Training

- Create a process for trucking companies to call on high schools
- Enhance exposure and understanding
- Build bridge between 18-21 year olds (i.e. warehouse jobs). We are losing too many in this gap
- Look into Graduated CDL A – can we do anything?
- Provide training funding assistance – about \$4,000 for training and most cannot pay this money upfront
- Offer internships as an option

Group 3: Expand K-12 Career Awareness

- Work to get kids involved in trucking jobs
- Build a connection between kids and the industry as soon as possible – i.e. career days
- Encourage parents and guidance counselors to become informed of positive aspects of truck driving
 - Kids don't want debt of 4-year degree
 - Trucking is a good job and costs less to obtain qualifications, compared to a 4-year degree.

Group 4: Address Truck Driver Shortage by Promoting Efforts to Reduce Turnover Rates

- Work on best practices – selection process
- Incentivize for retention and not just to hire
- Create a mentoring network – it is crucial to listen to drivers. Need to help older drivers understand what it is like to be a new driver again, because older drivers can make or break new drivers
- Provide management training emphasizing how to interact with drivers

Next Root Causes Model Solution Group Meeting is scheduled for October 25th and will consist of small group conference calls.

6. Key Takeaways of First Meeting

- A. Chairman Jones is dynamic and pushing the group to come up with real world ideas that can be implemented quickly.
- B. Representatives of the Army Reserve were present are assisting with methods of connecting reservists with training and employers.
- C. The leader of one of the most successful truck driving programs in the state is participating and is sharing best practices on recruiting, training and follow up.
- D. Staff from the Chicagoland Workforce Funder Alliance and Chicago Supply Chain Innovation Network participated and are interested in seeing what fundable action items are developed from this process.