

Governor’s Council for Workforce and Economic Development

HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE SUBCOMMITTEE

Feb 12, 2024 at 11:00 AM

Meeting ID: 219 317 875 39

Passcode: wb9ubC

	Agenda Item	Speaker(s)	Time
1.	Welcome	Brittane Grant	11:00-11:05 AM
2.	Overview of GCWED Transition	Brittane Grant	11:05-11:20 AM
3.	“Hands On” Career Exploration	Dr. Crawford/Brittane’	11:20– 12:20 AM/PM
4.	Old/New Business of Committee	Dr. Crawford/ Brittane’	12:20 –12:25 PM
5.	Adjourn	Brittane’ Grant	12:25–12:30 PM

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

Tuesday May 7th

Tuesday Aug 6th

Tuesday Nov 5th

Meeting Minutes

Welcome and Introductions

Brittane Grant began the meeting at 11:05 and briefly introduced herself and gave a brief overview of the Governor's council as well as provided resources to the current Senate Bill the council operates under. She also introduced Dr. Steven Crawford, who is the interim chair of the healthcare committee.

Overview of GCWED Transition

Currently, Dr. Crawford serves as the chair for the healthcare committee but has announced he is going to retire and Brittane, himself and the committee will be in search of finding a new chair. A few of the council members have retired and new members have joined. With that, the GCWED has transitioned to Oklahoma Employment Security Commission (OESC). Gov. Stitt signed an executive order in 2023-21 which made OESC the focal point of funding and accountability for the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) making OESC the new agency where workforce development is housed therefore OESC will now oversee the Governor's council. Senate Bill 621, signed into law established a new Oklahoma Workforce Commission and Gov. Stitt appointed Lt. Governor Matt Pannell as the Secretary of Workforce Development and Senator Adam Pugh brought this to the senate in January. Lt. Governor Matt Pannell has engaged in discussions and aligning with the Oklahoma Workforce Transformation Task Force, which is combination of private sectors, leaders and politicians who meet to identify how workforce goals and economic development align and strategize how to move forward comprehensively. They explore available funding options because our expenditures under WIOA are subject to regulations determining permissible spending.

“Hands-on” Career Exploration

Brittane led the discussion on organizing a Hands-on Career Exploration, an idea initially raised in 2022 and revisited in 2023. She presents this idea to the committee, garnering unanimous support and next steps are also discussed. The proposed event aims to introduce students (grades K-12) to various healthcare career opportunities. It encompasses a broad spectrum of healthcare disciplines such as dentistry, optometry, surgery, and specialties within healthcare, shedding light on in-demand careers within the state. This would not only expose these industries and employers but showcase careers in demand within our state. The career exploration would take place in a neutral space to ensure that everyone can participate. Oklahoma City Public Schools (OKCPS) are on board with this event. The idea of targeting just one specific school district was mentioned as well as targeting the Western part of the state due to the detrimental need for healthcare.

Lara Morris, leveraging her expertise in healthcare and recruitment, advocates for a fall event with regional outreach. She references a similar successful event organized by a colleague in Missouri, proposing to draw inspiration from it. Additionally, she highlights virtual participation as a bonus for schools. Shelly Wells contributes insights from a successful healthcare career initiative in NW Oklahoma and commits to providing further details for consideration.

Lara mentions a colleague of hers who works for the Chamber of Commerce in Missouri that is putting on an event similar to the idea of the exploration. She mentions it would be a great idea to check out this event to help us move forward with ours and to not have to “recreate” what has already been done. The event is for students K-12 and is virtually which demonstrates a plus for schools. The event is a healthcare workforce day.

To expedite the planning process, a subcommittee is formed within the existing committee, with specific roles and tasks assigned. September is proposed as the month for the event, with Wednesdays identified as optimal days. Multiple dates, including September 18th and 25th, are suggested to accommodate diverse regional support. Furthermore, there is a discussion on advocating for September to be recognized as Healthcare Awareness Month, with plans to approach Gov. Stitt for official declaration.

In terms of leadership, Lara Morris is designated as the chair, with Janie Thompson serving as co-chair. Kimmy Fullingim volunteers to contribute her expertise on the professional front. Brittane commits to reaching out to Tray regarding the declaration request.

Old/New Business of Committee

None; begin working on Career Exploration