



BOONE COUNTY
UPWARD MOBILITY

Job and Workforce Development Workgroup Minutes
March 25, 2026, 3:00pm – 4:30pm
Boone Electric Community Building (1413 Rangeline, Columbia MO) and via Zoom

Meeting Objective: Review local programs, compare them to existing credentials, prepare questions for employer outreach

Attendees: Lisa Driskel-Hawxby, facilitator (REDI), Nadia Ryakhmyatullof (Love Columbia (LC)), Lisa Buxman (LC), Eraste Bishazi (City of Refuge), John Scalise (Job Point), D’Andre Thompson (City of Columbia), Enola-Riann White (Boone County Community Services Department (BCCSD), Gina Jenkins (BCCSD),

1. Welcome & follow up from last meeting
 - a. Enola opened the meeting, welcoming everyone and provided a summary of the February meeting. The work
2. Compile list of local programs
 - a. Review List
 - i. The workgroup reviewed the list of local workforce development programs. This led to a discussion of other programs of organizations that were not present at the meeting. They created a list of organizations with contacts, and workgroup members were assigned to reach out to for more information including, Boone County Family Resources, Truman VA, Impact Support Services, and more.
 - b. Collaborative information sharing
 - c. Employer outreach
 - i. Lisa Driskel-Hawxby shared that she will conduct outreach to employers to solicit feedback on their needs. This information will be shared with the workgroup at the April meeting and then be used to inform the next steps of the workgroup’s engagement with employers.
3. Internship Framework
 - a. To be discussed at future meetings to have others involved with students present.
4. Partner Updates
 - a. Enola
 - b. Lisa Driskel-Hawxby provided an update from REDI regarding staff vacancies, upcoming BRE committee meetings, and plans for their Business in Motion (BiM) booth in April.
 - c. John Scalies (Job Point) reminded the workgroup of Grounds for Good – Tuesdays at the Para Project with rotating nonprofits presenting to potential investors and board members along with community members.
 - d. Eraste Bishazi (City of Refuge) shared an update of City of Refuge’s programming including literacy classes and youth programs. Eraste also shared they are hiring a supervisory position and will host a health clinic on April 10th in partnership with MU.
5. Next Steps
 - a. Workgroup members should reach out to their assigned organizations on the shared document to learn more about additional local workforce readiness programs.
6. Closing

Next Workgroup Meeting: April 22, 2026, 3:00pm – 4:30pm via Zoom or in person at Boone Electric Community Building (1413 Rangeline, Columbia MO)