



# MERRIMACK VALLEY WORKFORCE BOARD

## Planning/Career Center Committee

Tuesday, February 17, 2026

9:00 am

Remote Meeting via Zoom

Meeting ID: 848 2553 4484

Passcode: 082661

## Meeting Minutes

### MEMBERS IN PARTICIPATION:

Frank, Amato, Andrew Herlihy, Carol Riemer, Frank Surillo

### STAFF IN PARTICIPATION:

Frank Bonet, Lynda Buote, Varsha Gandhi, Tracy Myszkowski, Abby Seripais

### GUESTS IN PARTICIPATION:

Juan Belliard

#### **I. Call to Order and Role Call**

A quorum being present Chairman Frank Surillo welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:11 a.m.

#### **II. Approval of Minutes of December 16, 2025, Meeting (vote required)**

Chairman Frank Surillo asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2026, meeting.

**Motion by Andrew Herlihy, seconded by Carol Riemer to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2025, meeting. Motion passed.**

#### **III. Performance Summary Update**

Frank Bonet provided the Performance Summary update as of 1.31.26.

**LABOR EXCHANGE PROGRAM and WIOA PERFORMANCE SUMMARY**  
**for the MASSHIRE MERRIMACK VALLEY CAREER CENTER**  
**LOWER MERRIMACK VALLEY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AREA**  
**FISCAL YEAR 2026**

PROGRAM ACTIVITY	FY26 ANNUAL PLAN	ACTUAL TO DATE as of 1/31/2026	PERCENTAGE OF PLAN
<b>Job Seekers Served</b>			
1. Total Job Seekers Served	8,800	4,497	51%
a. Job Seekers Unemployed	8,200	4,150	51%
b. Persons with Disabilities	388	433	112%
c. UI Claimants Served	6,112	3,252	53%
d. Veterans Served	213	115	54%
2. Total Entered Employments	1,000	388	39%
<b>Employer Services</b>			
1. Total Employers Served	1,309	870	66%
a. New to Career Center	519	226	44%
b. Repeat	790	644	82%
2. Employers Receiving Job Seeker Referrals	69	57	83%
3. Employers Hiring from Referrals	19	9	47%
4. Employers Receiving Enhanced Services		170	
<b>WIOA Adults</b>			
1. Total Participants	81	59	73%
a. Carry-in Participants	25	23	92%
b. New Participants	56	36	64%
2. Total Participants in Training (single count)	69	55	80%
a. Carry-in Participants	25		
b. New Participants	44	30	68%
3. Program Exiters	38	14	37%
a. Enter Employment	29	4	14%
i. Average Hourly Wage at Placement	\$20.00	\$26.60	133%
b. Negative Exits	9	10	111%
<b>WIOA Dislocated Workers</b>			
1. Total Participants	52	33	63%
a. Carry-in Participants	29	24	83%
b. New Participants	23	9	39%
2. Total Participants in Training (single count)	64	38	59%
a. Carry-in Participants	29		
b. New Participants	35	9	26%
3. Program Exiters	34	13	38%
a. Enter Employment	27	5	19%
i. Average Hourly Wage at Placement	\$25.00	\$38.15	153%
b. Negative Exits	7	8	114%
<b>WIOA Youth (Younger &amp; Older)</b>			
1. Total Participants	109	69	63%
a. Carry-in Participants	23	19	83%
b. New Participants	86	50	58%
2. Enrollments by Program Element			
a. Occupational Skills Training (ITA's)	52	14	27%
b. Youth Group Program (In-School & Out-of-School)	34	31	91%
c. Work Experience (ITA & Group Program)	38	45	118%
3. Program Exiters	63	19	30%
a. Enter Employment	24	11	46%
b. Average Hourly Wage at Placement		\$20.02	
c. Entered Post Secondary/Advanced Trng (double count possible)	26	0	0%
d. Negative Exits	13	8	62%

References: FY26 MMVWB Annual Plan; MOSES & Crystal reports

**MassHire Merrimack Valley Workforce Board**  
**FY 2026 Performance Dashboard Ending January 31, 2026**

FY'26 Annual Budget: \$10,481,591 (as of 1.31.26)		LMVWDA Unemployment:	4.9% December 2025
<b>Job Seekers Served</b>  <b>4,497</b>  % Of Plan: 51%	<b>Employers Served</b>  <b>870</b>  % Of Plan: 66%	<b>Employers Who Hired a Job Seeker Referral</b>  <b>9</b>  % Of Plan: 47%	
<b>WIOA Youth</b>  New participants: 50  Carry-in: 19  Total Youth Served: 69  <u>% Of Plan:</u>  63%	<u>Customer Demographics</u> Male 2235 Female 2226 White 2292 Hispanic 1895 Other 310 18 and under 66 19-21 152 22-45 2139 46-54 801 55 and over 1339 Less than HS 432 HS Diploma/GED 1448 Some College 517 Associate Degree 295 Bachelor's Degree 1034 Advanced Degree 656 Unknown 115	<b>WIOA Participants</b>  Dislocated Worker: <b>33</b>  <u>% Of Plan:</u> 63%  Adult: <b>59</b>  <u>% Of Plan:</u> 73%	
<b>Total Entered Employment</b>  388 % Of Plan: 39% Average Hourly Wage: \$35.92	<b>FY26 WIOA Funds Invested in Training (as of 1.31.26)</b>  \$493,930	<b>FY26 Non-WIOA Funds Invested in Training (as of 1.31.26)</b>  \$146,415	

Frank Bonet said today I am going to summarize the performance report. I've separated positive trends, areas of concern, key percentage shifts, and strategic recommendations based on the November 2025 report compared to January 31, 2026, performance data.

Executive Snapshot (As of January 31, 2026)

- Annual Budget: \$10,481,591
- Unemployment Rate (Lower Merrimack Valley Workforce Development Area, Dec 2025): 4.9%
- Job Seekers Served: 4,497 (51% of plan)
- Employers Served: 870 (66% of plan)
- Entered Employment: 388 (39% of plan)
- Employers Hiring from Referrals: 9 (47% of plan)
- Average Hourly Wage (overall dashboard): \$35.92

Positive Trends & Over-Performance Areas

1. Persons with Disabilities – 112% of Plan

- Plan: 388
- Actual: 433

- Strong collaboration with MassAbility and the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind.
- Mix of agency referrals and self-disclosures.
- Staffing increases should further support this population.

This is a major equity and inclusion success and demonstrates effective partnership alignment.

## 2. Wage Outcomes – Exceeding Targets

Even where placements are below plan, wages are significantly above projections:

Program	Planned Wage	Actual Wage	% of Plan
WIOA Adult	\$20.00	\$26.60	133%
WIOA DW	\$25.00	\$38.15	153%
Youth	\$20.02	(not specified Jan avg)	—
Dashboard Avg	—	\$35.92	—

Positive Interpretation:

- Fewer placements, but higher quality jobs.
- Strong employer targeting in higher-wage sectors.
- Training investments are likely aligning with in-demand occupations.

## 3. Employer Engagement – Strong Repeat Business

- Employers Served: 66% of plan
- Repeat Employers: 82% of plan
- Employers Receiving Referrals: 83% of plan

We have a strong retention of employer relationships, but we are concerned that new employers are only at 44% of plan which could indicate growth stagnation.

## 4. Work Experience – 118% of Plan

- Work Experience enrollments exceeding projections.
- Youth Group Program at 91% of plan.

We leverage work experience as a pipeline to entered employment to improve placement numbers.

## Areas of Concern / Underperformance

### 1. Entered Employment – 39% of Plan

- 1,000 planned
- 388 achieved

This is the most critical performance gap.

Even within WIOA programs:

- Adult Enter Employment: 14% of plan
- Dislocated Worker Enter Employment: 19% of plan
- Youth Exiters Enter Employment: 46% (better but still modest)
- Employers Hiring from Referrals: 47%

Strong engagement and wages — but conversion to placement is lagging.

### 2. Negative Exits Increasing

- Adult Negative Exits: 111% of plan
- Dislocated Worker Negative Exits: 114% of plan

This could mean:

- Retention challenges
- Barriers not fully addressed
- Potential need for enhanced follow-up and support services

### 3. Training Enrollments Lagging in some areas

- Occupational Skills Training (ITA's): 27% of plan
- Youth New Participants in Training: 26%
- New Adult Participants: 39%

Training funds invested:

- WIOA: \$493,930
- Non-WIOA: \$146,415

Funds are being invested, but new participant flow is slow.

### Notable Demographic & Strategic Insights

- Strong participation across age groups, including 55+ (1,339 served).
- 1,895 Hispanic participants — significant opportunity for targeted sector pipelines.
- 432 participants with less than high school diploma — opportunity for integrated education and training models.

### Strategic Recommendations for the Planning Committee:

#### 1. Increase Conversion from Referral to Hire

Only 9 employers hired from referrals (47% of plan).

Action Steps:

- Conduct employer satisfaction follow-ups within 30 days of referral.
- Identify “lost placements” reasons (skills mismatch? soft skills? timing?).
- Expand sector-based hiring events.
- Use repeat employers as ambassadors to recruit new employers.

We were invited to be part of the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission. They are creating a plan for the City of Lawrence and the Merrimack Valley. We provided them with a gaps analysis and they have our Blueprint. Our first meeting is this week.

Frank Surillo said the City of Lawrence is developing the first economic development master plan for the City of Lawrence and MVPC is helping to coordinate logistics.

#### 2. Accelerate ITA Enrollment

27% of plan is a warning sign.

Potential Solutions:

- Streamline ITA approval timelines.
- Prioritize short-term credential programs (8–16 weeks).
- Expand outreach through disability and youth partners.
- Consider industry-driven cohort models.

#### 3. Reduce Negative Exits

Above 110% in Adult & DW programs.

Strategies:

- Enhance case management touchpoints.
- Early barrier screening (transportation, childcare, digital literacy).
- Implement structured 30/60/90-day retention coaching.

#### 4. Grow New Employer Acquisition (44%)

Strong repeat business but limited expansion.

Ideas:

- Target high-growth sectors (healthcare, advanced manufacturing, logistics).

- Launch employer roundtables.
- Cross-market disability hiring success stories.

## 5. Leverage High Wage Outcomes

Our strongest narrative asset is wage performance.

“While entered employment is below projection, wage outcomes significantly exceed plan — demonstrating a quality-over-quantity shift aligned with labor market demand.”

This reframes the performance gap into a strategic conversation.

### 1. What’s Working

- Disability engagement (112%)
- Wage performance (133%–153%)
- Repeat employer retention (82%)
- Work Experience over plan

### 2. Where We Must Improve

- Entered employment conversion
- New employer growth
- ITA enrollments
- Negative exit rates

### 3. Immediate Corrective Focus (Next 90 Days)

- Placement acceleration strategy
- ITA pipeline push
- Employer conversion review
- Retention intervention plan

## Overall Performance Assessment

The system shows:

- Strong equity engagement
- Strong wage outcomes
- Stable employer base
- Moderate job seeker volume
- Placement conversion and new participant growth require urgent attention.

This is a mid-year recalibration moment, not a system failure.

Andrew said we only count entered employment after 90 days of employment and Frank said yes and Andrew said there could be a lag there and Frank said yes. We are reporting for the end of January. Sometimes we don’t see November or October results until months later. We usually catch up on these numbers by the end of the year, but we want to make sure we don’t fall behind.

Andrew said back two decades ago, we made investments in areas that we are now seeing as areas of strength. I can see the investments we made then that are paying off now.

Frank said we are also entering some good partnerships. We are going to apply for funding for EMTs and we are entering the AI area of the workforce. The City of Lawrence is looking to invest \$200,000 in AI training funding for individuals who work for employers in the city. We’re going to try to replicate this in other cities and towns in our region if they have the funds.

**IV. Budget Update**

Frank Bonet provided the Budget Summary as of 1.31.26.



**MassHire Merrimack Valley Workforce Board Budget Report for FY 2026**

As of **1/31/2026**

	Budget	Expenditure	Accrual	Balance	% Used
<b>MMVWB Total</b>	<b>\$3,674,541</b>	\$1,315,186	\$0	\$2,359,355	35.79%
<b>GLCAC Total</b>	<b>\$2,393,039</b>	\$814,220	\$12,990	\$1,565,828	34.57%
<b>DCS Total</b>	<b>\$1,600,858</b>	\$833,495	\$0	\$767,363	52.07%
<b>Customer Training Total</b>	<b>\$2,813,154</b>	<b>\$1,015,754</b>	<b>\$384,294</b>	\$1,413,105	49.77%
Youth Wages & Stipends		\$735,822	\$0		
Non-Youth Wages & Stipends		\$1,600	\$0		
WIOA Individual Training Account & Group Training		\$240,705	\$253,224		
Non-WIOA Group Training		\$15,345	\$131,070		
On the Job Training		\$0	\$0		
Needs Related Payments		\$0	\$0.00		
Support Services		\$22,282	\$0.00		
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$10,481,591</b>	<b>\$3,978,656</b>	<b>\$397,285</b>	<b>\$6,105,651</b>	<b>41.75%</b>
		\$3,978,656		\$6,105,651	58.25%
		\$0.00			

WIOA Training Total is	\$493,930
NON WIOA Training Total is	\$146,415

GLCAC Expenses are paid through December 2025.

DCS Expenses are through January 2026.



**MassHire Merrimack Valley Workforce Board Budget Report for FY 2026**

**Balance of Funds by Fiscal Year**

As of **1/31/2026**

Grants ending in Fiscal Year 2026	Start Date of Grant	End Date of Grant	Balance available to spend <u>by</u> June 30, 2026
Youth Works - FY 25-26	5/15/2025	6/30/2026	\$464,695
Adult Community Learning Services	7/1/2025	6/30/2026	\$12,425
Senior Community Services	7/1/2025	6/30/2026	\$0
Mass Commission for Blind	7/1/2025	6/30/2026	\$3,050
MassAbility	7/1/2025	6/30/2026	\$840
Operation A.B.L.E.	7/1/2025	6/30/2026	\$2,007
Snap Expansion qtr 1 FY 26	7/1/2025	9/30/2025	\$1,269
DTA Work Program	7/1/2025	6/30/2026	\$47,167
DESE Career Pathways	7/1/2025	6/30/2026	\$11,418
Emergency Assistance Shelter Funding FY25-26	10/1/2024	6/30/2026	\$36,845
ARPA Upskilling Navigator FY 22-26	5/1/2022	6/30/2026	\$4,618
Workforce Investment Board	7/1/2025	6/30/2026	\$61,351
Connecting Activities	7/8/2025	6/30/2026	\$209,311
Helfrich Brothers - FY 25-26	1/14/2025	12/31/2025	\$0
COL Stand Alone Intensive English FY 20-26	7/1/2019	6/30/2026	\$170,371
Wagner Peyser 10% FY26	7/1/2025	6/30/2026	\$18,915
Career Center One Stop	7/1/2025	6/30/2026	\$300,131
DVOP JVSG	7/1/2025	6/30/2026	\$71,427
Rapid Response DCS Staff	7/1/2025	6/30/2026	\$32,010
WIOA Youth FY 25	7/1/2025	6/30/2026	\$312,365
WIOA Adult FY 25	7/1/2025	6/30/2026	\$166,714
WIOA Dislocated Worker FY 25	7/1/2025	6/30/2026	\$36,738
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,963,667</b>
			<b>32.16%</b>

  

Multiple Years Grants	Start Date of Grant	End Date of Grant	Balance available to spend <u>after</u> June 30, 2026
WCTF Behavioral Health Program FY24-27	1/1/2024	12/31/2026	\$266,744
WCTF Healthcare Hub Program FY24-27	1/1/2024	12/31/2026	\$171,008
WCTF ESOL Program FY24-27	10/1/2023	9/30/2026	\$280,467
Wagner Peyser 90% FY 26-27	7/1/2025	6/30/2027	\$421,533
RESEA CY 25	1/1/2025	9/30/2026	\$446,486
RESEA CY 24	7/1/2024	9/30/2026	\$127,813
WIOA Youth FY 26	7/1/2025	6/30/2027	\$1,117,584
WIOA Adult FY 26	7/1/2025	6/30/2027	\$773,630
WIOA Dislocated Worker FY 26	7/1/2025	6/30/2027	\$536,720
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,141,984</b>
			<b>67.84%</b>

Grant #	Grant Name	MASHBIE MWBR			GICAC			DES-STATE HASHBIE			CUSTOMER TRAINING			TOTAL BUDGET, EXPENSES, AND BALANCES			CASH			OBLIGATIONS & ACCRUALS			TOTAL OBLIGATIONS	
		Budget	Expenses	Balances	Budget	Expenses	Balances	Budget	Expenses	Balances	Budget	Expenses	Balances	Budget	Expenses	Balances	Revenues	Cash Flow	MASHBIE MWBR	GICAC	DES-STATE	CUSTOMER TRAINING		
Grant 4	REPORT THRU 1.31.25																							
13	City Cash Deck (Discretionary Fund)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
14	Youth Works - FY 25-27	\$1,389,415.73	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
15	Youth Works FY 25-26	\$1,685,196.79	\$688,075.71	\$279,346.08	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
21	Adult Community Learning Services	\$19,474.52	\$81.00	\$11,803.52	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
32	Senior Community Services	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
33	Mass Commission for Blind	\$3,050.00	\$153.00	\$2,897.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
34	Mental Health	\$860.00	\$42.00	\$788.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
35	Operation A.R.L.E.	\$1,006.95	\$100.00	\$1,006.95	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
36	Job Expansion 06.1.17.26	\$6,587.00	\$319.00	\$6,268.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
38	DTA Work Program	\$7,374.16	\$1,481.00	\$5,893.16	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
39	OSSE Career Pathways	\$14,566.03	\$48,566.03	\$5,147.75	\$11,428.28	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
47	Emergency Assistance Shelter	\$41,709.04	\$4,277.13	\$37,431.91	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
54	MVA's Occupational Supervisor FY 25	\$36,369.35	\$0.00	\$36,369.35	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
73	WCTF Behavioral Health Program FY 24-27	\$49,207.00	\$16,654.76	\$32,552.24	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
77	WCTF Food Bank Program FY 24-27	\$45,458.00	\$20,772.02	\$24,685.98	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
78	WCTF ESL Program FY 24-27	\$45,458.00	\$20,772.02	\$24,685.98	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
81	Workforce Investment Board	\$65,000.00	\$65,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
82	Connecting Activities	\$29,502.00	\$20,502.00	\$9,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
85	Hedrick Brothers - FY 25-26	\$14,180.00	\$0,332.26	\$13,847.74	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
87	CDL/Land Above Initiative English FY 25-26	\$10,571.06	\$20,064.06	\$9,493.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
90	Wagner Payroll 50% FY 25	\$147,038.85	\$0.00	\$147,038.85	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
91	Wagner Payroll 20% FY 25	\$9,999.77	\$0.00	\$9,999.77	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
92	Center One Stop	\$487,788.80	\$27,923.83	\$459,864.97	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
93	DDOP 2025	\$34,424.00	\$0.00	\$34,424.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
96	Rapid Response CCS Staff	\$45,000.00	\$0.00	\$45,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
97	RESEA CY 25	\$45,148.00	\$7,650.00	\$37,498.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
98	RESEA CY 24	\$480,081.00	\$24,004.00	\$456,077.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
10	WODA Youth FY 25	\$1,447,513.00	\$24,262.28	\$1,423,250.72	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
22	WODA Youth FY 25	\$1,190,515.00	\$40,754.00	\$1,149,761.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
30	WODA Adult FY 25	\$1,133,794.00	\$37,666.00	\$1,096,128.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
44	WODA Adult FY 25	\$1,096,128.00	\$25,147.00	\$1,070,981.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
50	WODA Dislocated Worker FY 25	\$710,373.00	\$54,131.13	\$656,241.87	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
66	WODA Dislocated Worker FY 25	\$610,619.00	\$17,748.00	\$592,871.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total		\$12,777,826.57	\$18,745,940.97	\$1,315,180.95	\$2,399,885.22	\$2,893,088.54	\$614,219.97	\$4,378,818.54	\$1,000,838.12	\$831,495.25	\$797,382.87	\$1,015,734.47	\$1,797,399.32	\$1,461,594.99	\$5,078,655.84	\$6,505,235.75	\$5,428,737.88	\$5,428,737.88	\$0.00	\$12,900.30	\$0.00	\$14,294.41	\$0.00	\$187,248.71



Fiscal Year 2026 Highlights  
As of January 31, 2026

Decreased Funding for DTA Work Program in the amount of \$574.84. MMVWB portion \$29.00.  
GLCAC Portion \$545.84.

Increased Funding for Health Care Hub MMVWB portion in the amount of \$95,097.00.

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Frank Bonet asked if there were any questions and there were none.

**V. Career Center Report**

In the absence of Alicia Appugliese, Juan Belliard provided the MassHire MV Career Center Report.

Career Center Report

Planning Committee Meeting February 17, 2026

**Business Services:**

Past Events

- 1/29/26 Brightbridge Credit Union Recruitment (cancelled by Employer)
- 2/4/26 Mass PCA Recruitment (17 Job Seekers attended)

Upcoming Events:

- 2/10/26 Seven Hills Recruitment (Virtual)
- 2/11/26 Job Seeker Training – Navigating MassCareers (Virtual)
- 2/12/26 Magellan Aerospace Onsite Recruitment (Haverhill)
- 2/25/26 Work Opportunities Unlimited Recruitment (Virtual)
- 2/26/26 Waystone Onsite Recruitment (Lawrence)
- 3/4/26 MKS Recruitment (New Office)
- 3/5/26 Emmaus Inc. Recruitment (Virtual)
- 3/17/26 Community Group Recruitment (New Office)
- 3/19/26 Vicor Recruitment (New Office)

Future Planning / not scheduled

- TBD (MAR-APR) Premier Virtual Job Fair
- TBD (MAR-APR) Business Resources Seminar
- TBD (MAR - APR) Industry Information Sessions – Employer Panels for Job Seekers

**Staffing:**

- We currently have three vacancies: 2 Employment Counselor, 1 Business Service Representative. Filling these roles is a priority to ensure continuity of services and operational capacity.

### **Ongoing Projects:**

- We are continuing to work toward launching a monthly Manufacturing and Labor Union roundtable to directly engage these industries, gain a deeper understanding of their workforce needs, and strengthen collaboration to support long-term workforce solutions.
- We have been reaching out to our community partners to establish pathways to better serve our populations:

### **Phoenix Academy Public Charter School**

- Met with school leadership to establish a pathway introducing students to Youth Services at the Career Center.
- Youth services will be embedded within Phoenix Academy's existing curriculum.
- Goal: increase early awareness, engagement, and referrals of eligible youth to Career Center programs.

### **Greater Lawrence Family Health Center**

- Met with leadership to establish a pipeline supporting their re-entry population in accessing training and employment opportunities through the Career Center.

### **The Community Group**

- Met with the Training and Workforce Development team to discuss early education apprenticeship opportunities and potential collaboration.

### **Upcoming Community Partnerships**

- Planning to establish similar pathways with additional community partners, including Notre Dame Education Center (Lawrence) and Adult Learning Centers in Lawrence and Methuen.
- Meetings with these partners are scheduled for the coming weeks.

Juan said Phoenix Academy is one of our upcoming targets for youth. We'd like to find a way to coordinate training in the last 6 months of the students' last year so when they graduate, they have technical skills and their high school diploma. This is similar to what we did when I was a partner with Red Cross/Notre Dame.

Frank said speaking of Notre Dame, I will be assisting them with mock interviewing sessions. Frank said we were part of the ESOL/DESE review team, and they have a good group.

Frank Surillo said is Phoenix Academy part of that because I am thinking of RISE for CNA and Juan said we will look at anything the youth are interested in. Thank includes healthcare and manufacturing. It's part of the round table.

Frank Bonet said we partner with the RISE Academy through the MMVWB on the healthcare hub, but they run with the grants they have. We connect with their alumni, and we have partnered in the past and Juan said Phoenix Academy is different than the RISE Academy. We haven't been in touch with the RISE Academy.

## **VI. Other Business**

Frank Surillo said the City of Lawrence is going to be working on the Economic Development Master Plan. We are going to hold workshops and one-on-one sessions for business owners at 255 Essex Street. It's a mini boot camp for learning how to apply for grants and loans and Frank Bonet said I have been telling the Lawrence Partnership that very same thing. We created a gaps analysis about 6 months ago and I mentioned that some of those businesses should teach smaller businesses how to write for grants and RFPs. Employers didn't know about Commonwealth training programs. It's great that you are going to

do that. Please consider putting us on the agenda for a future meeting and we can talk about it and Frank Surillo said we are coordinating the upcoming calendar of events. The Merrimack Valley Planning Commission meets on Tuesdays, once per month, and I will meet with the team and schedule a time for you to come and talk with employers.

Andrew said Mayor Barrett provided a tour at city hall for Career Center staff for a temporary satellite location for Haverhill. We'll see how it goes.

**VII. Adjourn (vote required)**

Having no further business, Chairman Frank Surillo called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**Motion by Andrew Herlihy, seconded by Carol Riemer to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Lynda Buote*

Recorder