

## **Accelerating Re-Employment Committee Meeting**

December 4, 2006, Lansing M-TEC

Participants: Matt Chambers, Doyle Hayes, Mike Zelley, Alan Low, Bob Jacquart, Laura  
McMurtry

Staff: Sue Anne Searles, Martha Welsh

- SOLUTIONS: To date 51 organizations have signed on to SOLUTIONS. We want to continue to spread the word about SOLUTIONS to gain additional signatories. Sue Anne distributed some information from the S. Central Michigan Works about how it meets the SOLUTIONS concept. She will do an additional e-mail to encourage more signatories; an e-newsletter is being generated with monthly updates that focus on a single topic. Matt noted the need to make sure to measure the impact of SOLUTIONS.
- Soft Skills: There was discussion about the goals and objectives of the effort. Matt suggested that these need to be articulated within the next 90 days or so. Mike Zelley offered to send out a request for information to the MWAs. Responses from Mike Schmidt and Gene Pierce.

The necessity of soft skill in addition to academic and technical skills was discussed. There have been many studies and reports on this topic over the years. The SCANS effort, conducted by the US Department of Labor in 1992 was noted as still being relevant today. (<http://wdr.doleta.gov/SCANS/>) Doyle reviewed an incentive system in place at his company that supports soft skills. Information about the Partnership for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills was distributed. ([www.21stcenturyskills.org](http://www.21stcenturyskills.org))

The question for the committee is – what are the goals and objectives for this effort? Is it recommending a single assessment tool for the MWA's to use or something else. Where the committee should be seeking input from beyond the MWA's?

The group decided to host a facilitated discussion on the topic on February 7. The meeting would be opened up to other members of CLEG to ensure that key sectors are represented, e.g. community colleges.