

# Virginia Western Community College

## FRANKLIN COUNTY FOCUS GROUP MEETING

Ms. Sandy McMinnis, Moderator

Ms. Kay Strickland, Recorder

Franklin County Workforce Development Consortium

Tuesday, March 20, 2007

7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

### SUMMARY OF EVALUATIONS

#### 1. What idea did you hear expressed today that was the most insightful about our community's needs?

- Community needs more education on what is currently being offered; accessible classes very important
- Need for non-threatening computer classes to entice
- The challenge for obtaining a workforce and how to get potential workers into programs that improve their skills and workforce attitudes – try to alleviate the fears of new workforce needs
- Invest in programs that can be presented at workshops or webinars
- Communication as a whole as to what you are offering and also the areas you would like to expand your services and offerings

#### 2. What would you like to see happen to follow up on today's conversation?

- Provide feedback from session
- Follow up meeting with workforce training officials from VWCC to target classes – more involvement in workforce meetings on campus
- Continue to bring services to potential and current workers – find out “where they are” and work from there
- Follow-up meeting with some of VWCC's ideas about what is doable and what is not; for what is not, why and what can be done together to make it doable
- Expand on excellent job folks at the consortium are doing

#### 3. Would you recommend any changes to the location or to the way we conducted this discussion?

- Very well done; great location; well conducted
- Maybe add the question: Where do you see your company in 4 years?
- Might want to broaden the scope of the attendees; did not see anyone from public service, insurance, health care, etc.

**4. Are there any ideas you want to share with the College that you did not get a chance to express in the group? If so, please note them here, using the back of this page as needed.**

- Doing a great job and providing a great service – keep up the excellent work
- Increased presence of VWCC has been an asset to the community; has benefited response to VWCC programs; Mike Greer and Ann Layne are providing outreach and personal service for clients that has long been needed
- VWCC does a good job with class offerings and working with area businesses; there is an opportunity to reach more citizens of this area who are not aware of the great services and opportunities
- Focus on 10+ years and out; what will be in demand; how will people learn; how to meet increasing time demands that take away from learning; examine where people learn; take on a customer focused approach to offerings
- Broaden technical offerings and communicate