

WLMI Partners

Members and Representatives May 2024

ARC:

- [Bill McMahon](#), CareerOneStop Content and Development Manager, MN Department of Employment and Economic Development
- [Oriane Casale](#), ARC Director and Assistant LMI Director, MN Department of Employment and Economic Development

BLOC:

- [Meihui Bodane](#), Assistant Secretary of Policy, Research, and Strategy, NC Department of Commerce

BLS:

- [Julie Hatch](#), Associate Commissioner for Employment and Unemployment Statistics, Bureau of Labor Statistics
- [Jason Palmer](#), Regional Commissioner, Midwest

CENSUS:

- [Keith Bailey](#), Assistant Center Chief for LEHD Research, Census Bureau

Coleridge Initiative

- [Jessica Cunningham](#), Vice President, State Programs, Coleridge Initiative

Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics (COPAFS)

- [Paul Schroeder](#), Executive Director (also: Staff, Friends of BLS)

ETA:

- [Steve Rietzke](#), Division Chief for National Programs, Tools, and Technical Assistance, US Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration
- [Don Haughton](#), Supervisory Workforce Analyst, US Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration

LMI Institute

- [Carol Rogers](#), Director, Indiana Business Research Center, Indiana University (Chair, LMI Institute Board)
- [Ken Poole](#), CEO/President, Center for Regional Economic Competitiveness

- [Marty Romitti](#), Senior Vice President for Research and Technical Assistance, Center for Regional Economic Competitiveness

NASWA:

- [Bryan Grady](#), Director, Michigan Center for Data and Analytics, MI Department of Technology, Management and Budget (Chair WLMI Committee) [invited]
- [Anna Hui](#), Director, MO Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (Steering Committee, Multi-State Data Collaborative)
- [Yvette Chocolaad](#), Senior Policy Advisor, National Association of State Workforce Agencies

Projections Management Partnership

- [Meihui Bodane](#), Assistant Secretary of Policy, Research, and Strategy, NC Department of Commerce (Chair, PMP)

WIAC

- [Bob Uhlenkott](#), Director, Workforce and Economic Research Division, OR Employment Department

WLMI Partners Group History

Background

The inaugural meeting of the WLMI Partners Collaborative occurred in July 2017. During this meeting, the newly formed group set out to develop a consensus on a set of shared principles for collaboration among the WLMI partners and identify priority issues for enhancing the WLMI system to address collaboratively. Since then, the group has met 2-4 times per year. Prior to the onset of the pandemic, one meeting per year occurred in-person. The purpose, ground rules, and priority issues for collaboration, as defined in the inaugural meeting, are listed below.

Purpose and Ground Rules for a Partner Collaborative

There was consensus among the session participants that there is value in the Partners meeting and collaborating moving forward. The group reached a consensus that the purpose of the WLMI Partner Collaborative is the following:

1. To communicate and network about our efforts
2. To utilize network input to influence what we do and how we do it
3. To identify how we can collaborate and report back to constituencies
4. To identify what we can do collaboratively to improve the WLMI system

Participants felt it was necessary for the Partners to have a set of “Ground Rules” to help guide their interactions and how the collaborative effort will operate moving forward, especially since the leadership for some of the Partner organizations change over time due to terms of service, appointments, etc. The group reached a consensus on the following Ground Rules:

1. All partners make a commitment to take information back to their groups
2. All partners are committed to accepting feedback from fellow Partners
3. Meetings should focus on higher-level strategic topics, both short-term and long-term
4. With the right of participation for Partners comes the responsibility of helping to implement collaborative actions

Priority Issues for Collaboration

Session participants identified 29 priority issues the WLMI Partners could potentially work collaboratively to address over the next 3 years. After considerable discussion, the group reached a consensus on four areas where the Partners should initially focus their collaborative efforts:

1. Improve partners’ and users’ understanding about the LMI system
2. Review WLMI product/service mix Meetings should focus on higher-level strategic topics, both short-term and long-term
3. Increase access to and leverage greater use of enhanced wage records
4. Consider organizational changes that will help make the LMI system more impactful