Report Out I

ACCESS

* Interagency collaboration to share what services are available
* Information from employers
* Access for low-literacy adults (entry points)
* Expand Network RI and one-stops
* Raise awareness among adults about adult education (100,000)
  + Need to hear from those students about their needs
  + Funding to get the word out for those outside the system

RESOURCES (formerly FUNDING)

* Future of performance-based funding – how to keep it equitable and transparent
* Make funding needed for adult education system – more transparent
* How funding decisions drive what we do – push/hold innovation
* Funding to foster collaboration
* Equitable funding across regions?
* Increasing numbers of 16-17 year olds – how does funding follow these students?
* Funding – should be broadened to Resources

CONNECTIONS

* Better define who should partner with whom
* Identify end goals of service delivery

ADVANCEMENT

* Not broad enough, specific enough or clear
* Define advancement – describe how to achieve it
* Should include educator capabilities
* Should include continuous improvement group
* Acknowledge social agenda of adult education – increase self-efficacy, empowerment of students

Report Out II

GENERAL FEEDBACK

* For those working on the group – it was a little difficult to take a step back to the 15,000 foot level
* Great forum – someone is listening – productive
* Will there be facilitators for the working groups?

ACCESS

* Case management – history of past services (other than just enrollment) for students to be better served
* Improve referral process – other organizations don’t always know how or where to refer people for education
  + Need to give information/training to others about services available
* Public transportation for learners is a barrier
  + Centralize money?
  + Services must be accessible – offices in community
  + System must be structured to be accessible
* Difficult to find ASE instructors who can teach all the areas – can technology/videoconferencing be used to utilize instructors with content specialties?
  + Adult education centers with courses available online
* Technological innovations – new ideas award to increase access
* Staff position at RIDE or PDC to look at
* With this, there needs to be PD for teachers about best practices in using technology

CONNECTIONS

* Professional development for adult education instructors – not certified teachers
  + Training program for additional background on science and math to increase content range
  + Funding for specific types of PD
* State-funded programs – would funding be used to purchase a unified GED software or textbook?

ADVANCEMENT

* Concerned about pushing people into jobs before they are ready
* Career/educational counseling is needed to identify path and now to get there
* Investment in teachers in curriculum development
* Balance of core competencies – ladder of skills that is transferable between agencies/geographies

FUNDING

* Rewarding collaboration
* Performance-based funding should be a bonus, not take away from programs
* What unique qualities does RI have? i.e. transportation (a 20 minute drive in RI is too far)
* 16-17 year old students – funding must follow
  + Little support for truant students or those with learning disabilities – how do you support these students?
  + Searching for funding is difficult (tends to focus on K-12)
    - 1:1 tutoring is most successful but expensive if not volunteer