



## Mendocino/Lake Adult and Career Education

(ML ACE) Month Meeting

Zoom meeting <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/7372469362>

February 21, 2025 from 10-2pm (Regular Meeting and Leadership Workshop )

### Mendocino College

1000 Hensley Creek Rd.

Ukiah CA 95482

**In person location: LLRC 4210—Upper-Level Library/Learning Resource Center**

### Minutes [February 21 Recording](#)

1. **Call to Order** **Start time: 10:04** **(Action)**
2. **Roll Call of Voting Members:** Anderson Valley, Noor Dawood (Voting Member); Fort Bragg, Gary Lewis (Voting Member); Lake County Office of Education, Matt Russell (Voting Member); Lakeport Unified, Jonna Weidaw (Voting Member); Mendocino College, Christy Smith (Voting Member); Mendocino County Office of Ed, Tami Mee (Voting Member); Ukiah Adult School, Chris Swett (Voting Member), Kathy Kiely, Dave Gengoux ; Willits Unified, Mark Beebe (Voting Member); MLACE Consortium Director, Euline Olinger; MLACE Administrative Assistant, Minute Taker, Isaac Quintero. **(Action)**
3. **Changes/ Modifications to the Agenda**  
**First Motion: Mark Beebe, Seconded by: Matt Russell**  
**Ayes: 8 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: Leggett**  
  
**Votes to Approve January Minutes; First Motion: Mark Beebe, Seconded By: Tami Mee**  
**Ayes: 8 Nays: 0 Abstain: Christy Smith Absent: Leggett** **(Discussion/Action)**
4. **Consent** **(Action)**  
*All consent items are acted upon by a single vote with no discussion, unless pulled from Consent and placed on the agenda as a regular item.*  
**January 10, 2025 Minutes Roll Call vote: Ayes:8 Nays:0 Abstain:0 Absent: 1 Leggett**
  - a. Anderson Valley
  - b. Fort Bragg
  - c. Lake County Office of Education
  - d. Lakeport
  - e. Leggett Valley
  - f. Mendocino College
  - g. Mendocino County Office of Education
  - h. Ukiah
  - i. Willits

5. **Overview of next 6 months** See link: [12 Month MLACE Schedule](#) (Discussion/Action)

ML ACE will highlight certain deadlines and members review upcoming events for the next 6 months.

Next meeting: **March 21, April 11, 2025, May 9, 2025 and June 9 2025**

6. **Public Comments/ Correspondents --via Zoom** (Discussion)

*MLACE welcomes public input. This agenda item is limited to matters that are under the jurisdiction of the ML ACE and are not listed elsewhere on this agenda. Comments are limited to three minutes per person, and 10 minutes per topic. Action on these matters is not allowed.*

**a. Acknowledgement of guests/community partners:**

- **Buffey Bourassa**, Restorative Justice Program Manager at Mendocino County Jail.
- **Jen Bevington**, Sonoma State Co-Director of K.16 Collaborative.
- **Dave Gengoux**, GED, HS Diploma, Citizenship teacher at Ukiah Adult School.
- **Kathy Kiely**, Student Success Coordinator, Ukiah Adult School.
- **Jackeline Orozco**, HSE Director, Mendocino College
- **Derek Fiedler**- Manager of the BUILD program in Lake County. – “There are areas to improve; we are trying to be clear and upfront of what our program offers”

**b. Public comments received from:**

7. **Approval of MLACE Monthly Meeting Schedule Fiscal Year 2025-2026** (Discussion/Action)

**Motion to approve the Schedule: First Motion: Mark Beebe, Seconded by: Christy Smith**

**Ayes: 8 Nays:0 Abstain: 0 Absent: Leggett**

MLACE agency voting members approve the monthly meeting schedule for 2025-2026. Dates subject to changes and upon consensus of the group.

8. **Guest Speaker**

guest speakers share and present information to the group about their services and scope of services that are relevant to adult learners, and adult and career education.

**a. Dodi Zotigh [PowerPoint Presentation](#)—Director, Healthcare Pathway program State Expansions for Empowered Aging.**

- We are in 6 counties, including Lake and Mendocino counties; Contra Costa, Alameda, Sonoma, Lake, Kern, and Mendocino.
- We provide one-on-one case management, which means supporting the students with either referrals or direct services that the program is able to provide as the student needs it.
- We provide food services and gas cards weekly to help support these students.
- We also offer essential skills training; this training helps health care professionals develop and keep essential skills and professionalism.

- We do look at the student demographics to see what we can do to reach that underserved student population.
- Our Contra Costa Location has students who've gone on to LVN and RN and other fields like teaching or opening their own business.
- Healthcare Career Pathway Keys to Success-
  - Partnerships & Teams
  - Wraparound Support & Services
  - Essential Skills Training
  - Alumni Support
- Noor- are undocumented student able to take this course?
- Dodi- They do need an ITN Number.
- Matt- We are able to help with transportation funding for students who live out of the area.
- Dodi- The HCP grant is very flexible, of course not all students will receive the same amount of funding. It all depends on their needs.
- Christy-Is it possible to offer another cohort through another agency like MCOE?
- Dodi- The goal is to have 15 students enrolled per cohort. That's actually the maximum because of CDPH regulations. The Challenge would be in connecting with Eric and figuring out the logistics.
- Matt- You only have to be 16 to be a CNA.
- We have 40 applicants for the youth CNA program and it closes in a week.
- Christy-Offering the Medical Terminology course to High School students is definitely creating this pathway.

**b. Noel Woodhouse [SCT PowerPoint](#), —Sustainable Construction Trade (CTE) coordinator and Fulltime Faculty**

- January 2020, we received a \$1,000,000 grant for our Construction Program.
- We Lead with the non-credit SCT Certificate
- 2021 was our first time offering this certificate.
- This program continued to grow in numbers and popularity with the students.
- Spring 2023 -Spring 2024 Offered at both the Lake Center while Partnering with the BUILD.
- This is a bilingual program; it is offered in English and Spanish.
- We are slowly growing back for-credit offerings.
- We have over 235 students enrolled in these programs with 17 different sections.
- As the groups grow larger in student enrollment, the more challenging teaching this program can be.
- Michael Ross was a great help in both Lake and Mendocino Counties, sadly he became sick and passed.
- The students themselves have helped in cleaning the slate and building Facilities that we can use to help with the teaching.
- Most of the grant money that we have received has been spent in “tooling up” for these programs.
- The North County is getting an expansion with the hope that the North Center will be the home for this program.

- Kathy- It's been wonderful to see this program grow; we refer students from the high school to join this program at the college.
- Christy- This all started a few years ago through MLACE. It's not just Mendocino College but this group who all help out seeing the vision, and providing the funding to promote the growth of these programs.
- Mark-How much articulation are you having with Willits High School?
- Noel- Some, but we can talk some more about this.
- Noor- I am wondering about the online certification course.
- Noel- This is a full online course that is part of our for-credit Courses.
- We do have students making their trips from Covelo and other faraway places. This is part of the reason why these classes are over the weekends.

9. **Member Updates-** Please fill out Google Sheet: [2004-2025 MLACE Monthly Member Update \( Discussion\)](#)

a. **Topic for Member Discussion: Takeaways from the Community Partners' Luncheon and Presentation**

- Derek Fiedler- I would love to see a summer offering in Lake County, possibly to target high schoolers.
- This would be great to help people making the most of their possibilities.
- Jonna- I have been talking up the BUILD program. You may be hearing from more Lakeport residents.
- Derek- We are doing our best to manage the grants that we have received while helping the folks in the community.
- I wish we could do more with the crew that we have, however I am very grateful for the things that we are able to do.
- Christy Smith- We are trying to promote our Spanish computer skill classes.
- Dave- Monday we are starting a new Citizenship class at Ukiah Adult School.

10. **Director's Update:**

Director will give updates/information on CAEP, MLACE and/or TE topics.

a. **Consortium Level Program Review—Budget in NOVA**

- If you have not subscribed to the CAEP Newsletter, please do.

b. **Discussion: supporting our ESL and Basic skill students**

- Noor-We are offering this class at Anderson Valley again, we have a good number of students in both English and Spanish, so it's more of a mixed class.
- Christy- It's very important to go into TE and check achievable outcomes and workforce prep.
- Euline- How are you supporting your ESL and Basic Skills (HSE, HSD) students in your location?
- Jonna- I can tell you that 3 families have gone into independent studies to feel safer at home.
- Mark- We have some ESL students who feel fear but not a big impact on attendance.
- Chris S – We are not seeing a huge dip in attendance or participation.
- Euline- I know that Sarah Walsh has invited some mental health experts to help students with this.





**Lunch**

**Leadership Workshop**