After welcoming several large contractors and the Distribution Contractors Association as members in 2017, CEWD worked throughout 2018 to identify and address workforce planning and development issues unique to its contractor members. In 2019, CEWD’s contractor membership grew with the addition of Power Team Services (and its family of companies) and Dynetek Solutions. They joined existing members Mears Group (Quanta Services), MasTec, Michels, Pike, Framatome and Premier Power Maintenance.

Here is a summary of the 2018 and 2019 accomplishments related to contractor engagement in CEWD.

**2018 Accomplishments**

* Contractor member executives were elected to the CEWD Board of Directors and invited to serve on the CEWD Executive Council.
* A Community of Practice was established for contractor members with a group site containing meeting notes, status of projects, goals and more. The Community of Practice had monthly calls through the first half of 2018 and then moved to quarterly calls. The Community of Practice met face-to-face in 2018 in conjunction with the National Forum and Annual Summit.
* CEWD member benefits webinars were held as requested for individual contractor members and focused on resources of potential benefit, including the Troops to Energy Jobs National Template and website. CEWD facilitated a Workforce Planning workshop on site for Premier Power.
* CEWD regional consultants worked with contractor members and individual State Energy Workforce Consortia to assure contractor members were invited to join in state consortia work that made the most sense for their operational footprint.
* CEWD facilitated two special projects designed to identify critical contractor jobs and develop an approach for quantifying contractor demand at the national level. The Natural Gas Demand Project ran from January to August. Its objectives were to define the family of gas jobs most critical to contractors, define the current demand and the future demand for the jobs and incorporate the projections into the 2019 CEWD *Gaps in the Energy Workforce Survey.* The Electric Demand Project ran from September to November and had similar objectives for electric jobs. The projects were successful in defining and agreeing on descriptions, SOC codes and requirements for the most in-demand jobs. CEWD was unable to translate the demand data provided by the members into national demand projections for use in the survey. Unlike utility data, contractor data isn’t captured at a national level by the Bureau of Labor Statistics or by other means. Because of the lack of national contractor data, CEWD can’t follow its normal demand projection processes and extrapolate a smaller sample to provide national, regional or state demand pictures.
* Based on the learnings of the Natural Gas Demand and Electric Demand projects, CEWD in late October recommended to the project teams that CEWD develop a new approach to quantifying demand at the state level. Using existing tools like the Contractor Demand Toolkit developed in Wisconsin and analysis tools that have been developed for other state consortia, CEWD committed to developing a new approach for capturing contractor demand that State Energy Workforce Consortia can use.
* As CEWD worked to fully understand the breadth and depth of its contractors’ operations, the organization worked with its members to develop a Member Services Location Map, which will be updated periodically and shared through CEWD.org.: <https://cewd.org/about/contractor-support/>
* CEWD attended the 2018 DCA Workforce Summit in May and spoke briefly about the value of membership in CEWD.

**2019 Accomplishments**

* Developed a Contractor Demand Planning Resource Guide for use by State Energy Workforce Consortia with their contractor members to quantify demand.
* Created connections at the local level by promoting contractor membership and leadership roles in State Energy Workforce Consortia. In 2019, a number of contractor representatives assumed leadership roles in their state consortia.
* Provided direct consulting on workforce planning and use of the Troops to Energy Jobs national template and veterans database to contractor members.
* Documented contractor workforce trends through the quarterly Contractors Community of Practice calls.
* Identified partnership opportunities between CEWD and DCA through participation in the 2019 DCA Workforce Summit.

**2020 Goals**

At its last quarterly meeting, members of the Contractors COP summarized current workforce issues and trends and recommended goals for CEWD and its contractor members to pursue in 2020:

1. Run a pilot of the Contractors Demand Resource Guide with 2 or 3 state consortia; collect feedback for improvement and make it part of the Consortia start-up process.
2. Convene a task force to review the competency model and applicability to the contractor workforce and develop a set of stackable credentials for the contractor community.
3. Develop "guidelines" for formation and maintenance of state consortia that address how contractors should be invited and engaged for maximum benefit to the consortium.
4. Conduct a feasibility study for a database for contract workers who aren't part of CEWD and are looking for work.

**Contact**

For more information about CEWD’s support for contractor members or to inquire about membership in CEWD, contact Rosa Schmidt, Contractor Members Point of Contact, [rosa@cewd.org](mailto:rosa@cewd.org), 732-266-9694.