

**YOUTH DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**  
**December 18, 2018**

**Members Present**

Cleve Bryan, Chair  
Marge Canning, GCIT  
Stephen Hart, DWD  
Laurie Haldeman, GCIT  
Dr. W. King, FBO  
Eileen Gallo, WDB Staff

Rudy Aikens, GC Human & Disability Services  
Scott Costello, GCIT  
Sharon Rosado, Abilities Solutions  
Andrea Rivera, DVRS  
Gregory Wright, GCIT  
Bridget DiGiambattista, WDB Staff

**Members Absent**

Tom Bianco, Co-Chair  
Lisa Butler, GC Housing Authority  
Kim Gober, GC Housing Authority  
Mien Mombo, Dept. of Children & Family  
Gina Pratt, Family Success Center  
Michelle Shirey, WDB Executive Director  
Denise Taguwa, NJLWD  
Kimberly Webster, Job Corps

Kim Alexander, GCIT  
Jessica Froba, NJJC  
Erin Klein, Robin's Nest  
Natalie Perez, DWD  
Marie Rafter, GC Probation  
Daniel Sulpizio, Business  
Kristen Tahaney, Ctr. For Family Services

**Visitor**

Shane Cole, YECC Student

Cleve opened the meeting at 2:00 pm.

A motion to approve minutes from September 18, 2018 meeting was made by L. Haldeman, seconded by Dr. King.

**Youth Development Committee Report**

Shane reported the Youth Development group met on November 29, 2018, 8 students were in attendance. Items discussed were the food drive for the Food Bank was ending November 30 and was determined to be a success. The students will be making snowman decorations for the month of December for their service learning project and will take the decorations to Shady Lane Nursing Home on December 19. They will continue with the can tab collection to benefit the Ronald McDonald House. The students also discussed the upcoming job shadowing for December and January at Learn with Me Daycare and Liscio's Bakery. Five students earned certification for CPR/AED class held on November 14, another class will be held on February 6. A Serve Safe class will be held in January 2019. The upcoming test dates are scheduled for December 4, 6, 11, & 13. Eileen stated that is not recognized as a credential by LWD but to keep doing it anyway. Three students graduated in December.

Shane reported he found out about this program from his Guidance Counselor. He likes the program particularly finds the YECC inviting. Upon completion of the program he expects to get a job and when he turns 18 he'd like to join the Air Force.

**Changes in Reporting**

Eileen reported she will forward list of accountable credentials. Eileen stated our performance is based on when the student receives their HSE and exits, they must either obtain employment or be referred to post-secondary education. Starting January 2019, the program elements/individual service strategy must be recorded and must provide start and end dates.

**Status**

Recruitment - Gregory reported they continue recruitment efforts with flyers, using drop out lists, and phone calls.

Enrollment - numbers are up, they had 17 enrolled in November and have 20 enrolled for December and still pending approval for TABE tests and waiting on return of applications. They have created a new letter and have new system in place on requesting Guidance Counselors for their drop out lists.

Employment - Laurie continues to track the students' employment throughout the year.

Graduates - They recently had 3 students graduate, and expect 6-7 to graduate in early 2019.

**Old/New Business**

Industry Credential Update – Gregory reported they ordered a number of new tests for food handling, Eileen stated the State does not recognize as a credential, but emphasized the continuation of the credential regardless of NJLWD credential listing. If the credential helps the youth to get a job, it is advantageous to keep using the curriculum.

CASAS Assessment – Eileen reported starting July 2019 the Dept. of Education will no longer accept TABE testing results. Beginning in January 2019, the American Job Center will begin using CASAS.

YECC Logo – Eileen reported we will be going out to quote in early 2019.

Questions/Concerns – Laurie expressed concern with youth that graduate before turning age 18, they have had several students graduate that are under the age of 18 and they are not able to attend orientation at the AJC because they have to be age 18 & there is no funding available to youth under age of 18. Eileen stated even the training programs require students to be age 18, but will look into college and certificate programs.

**Announcements**

The MEGA Job Fair will be held Friday, March 29, 2019 at RCGC.

A motion for adjournment was made by Dr. King, seconded by S. Hart.

Respectfully submitted,

Bridget A. DiGiambattista, WDB Staff