

Youth Development Council
May 21, 2019

Members Present

Cleve Bryan, Chair
Stephen Hart, DWD
Scott Costello, GCIT Youth
Andrea Rivera, DVRS
Natalie Perez, DWD
Sharon Rosado, Abilities Solutions
Gregory Wright, GCIT Youth

Rudy Aikens, GC Human & Disability Svcs.
Marge Canning, GCIT
Laurie Haldeman, GCIT Youth
Gina Van Auken, NJLWD
Marie Rafter, GC Probation
Michelle Shirey, WDB Director
Eileen Gallo, WDB Staff

Members Absent

Tom Bianco, GC Economic Development
Lisa Butler, GC Housing Authority
Kim Gober, GC Housing Authority
Erin Klein, Robin's Nest
Michelle Safrin, NJ Dept. Children & Family
Denise Taguwa, NJLWD
Kimberly Webster, Job Corps

Kim Alexander, GCIT
Jessica Froba, NJJC
Dr. W. King, FBO
Gina Pratta, Family Success Center
Daniel Sulpizio, Business
Kristen Tahaney, Center for Family Services

Visitor

Shayla Piemonte, GCIT Student
Michelle Mullen, DWD

Tania Darbouze, DVRS

Cleve opened the meeting at 2:00 pm.

A motion to approve February 19, 2019 meeting minutes was made by S. Hart, seconded by L. Haldeman.

Youth Report

Shayla reported the youth meeting was held May 7, 7 students were in attendance. The service learning project for the month of May was making crafts for residents of Shady Lane, they were delivered to the residents on May 17. The students will continue collecting can tabs to support the Ronald McDonald House. The dog chew toy for PetSavers Organization will continue through the end of the school year. A job shadowing trip to the Mantua Auto Yard will be held in June & July. A CPR/AED class was held April 30, 3 students earned certification. A ServSafe class will be offered the end of May, to date 3 students earned certification and 1 student was hired at McDonald's. Five students took a tour of RCGC on May 9.

Shayla reported she likes the program because it allows students to concentrate on their school work and not focus on outside distractions. She anticipates attending RCGC. She heard about the program from her guidance counselor and friends that have graduated from the program.

Status

Recruitment – Gregory reported they are receiving the high school drop out list from the guidance counselors. They continue outreach in the community dropping off flyers and brochures.

Enrollment – they currently have 11 students enrolled; 5 students will be taking HSE test on 5/21.

Graduates – they have 23 graduates and possibly 2 more if they pass the test on 5/21.

Gregory thanked math teacher Mrs. VanHawkin for her work with the students.

New Business

Industry Credential – Laurie reported 17 credentials have been earned to date for 2018/2019 school year in certified front desk rep, basic life support, and ServSafe.

CASAS – Greg reported they had first person last week take the assessment and 3 more are scheduled.

Kuder – Eileen reported all counselors, One Stop partners, and providers; will be re-training in the early fall.

Stephen reported MASCEC received a grant for ServSafe certification for food handlers and will also offer for managers and the instructor would come to the Youth Education & Career Center.

Announcements

YECC graduation will be held June 6, 2019, 6:00 pm at GCIT/Theater.

Sharon R. announced Abilities Solutions received a youth paid summer internship through DVRS grant. It is for 25 students still in school with an IEP between ages 14-21 and will run July 8 – August 16. They will be paid minimum wage, which will be \$10.00 starting July 1, 2019.

Michelle announced the Disability Employment job fair will be held Friday, July 26, 2019, at the Clayton Complex. Michelle stated this would be a job shadow opportunity for the YECC students to attend and help the job seekers.

A motion for adjournment was made by S. Hart, seconded by R. Aiken.

The next meeting will be held on September 17, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Bridget A. DiGiambattista, WDB Staff