

YOUTH INVESTMENT COUNCIL

April 15, 2014

Members Present

Cleve Bryan, Chair
Dan Angelucci, DWD
Marge Fizur, GCIT
Joan Killian, GCIT Youth One Stop
Terry Levins, DWD
Stacey Smith, DVRS
Madeline Vasquez, GC Housing Authority
Bridget DiGiambattista, WIB Staff

Kim Alexander, GCIT Youth One Stop
Tom Bianco, WIB Director
Laurie Haldeman, GCIT Youth One Stop
Dr. W. King, FBO
Leona Mather, Youth Parent
Sandy Uhr, GCIT Youth One Stop
Karen Dickel, WIB Staff

Members Absent

Shyeeda Banks, GC NAACP Youth Council
Nancy Chard, GC Human Services
Kelly Leyman, Devereux
Shard Rosado, Abilities Solutions
Kimberly Webster, NJ Corps

Muncie Buckalew, St. John of God
Jessica Froba, NJJC
Susan Perron, Abilities Solutions
Robert Taylor, Boys & Girls Clubs

Visitors

Lanse Davis, SETC
Victoria Mahan, Ctr. for Family Services
Chloe Davis, Youth One Stop Student

Kirk Lew, SETC
Kristen Tahaney, Ctr. for Family Services
Zach Burnbauer, Youth One Stop Student

Cleve opened the meeting at 2:00 pm

A motion to approve March 18, 2014 meeting minutes was made by Dr. King, seconded by D. Angelucci.

Two students attended and reported they like the program, like the individual attention and feel like they are part of a family. Both intend on pursuing College. One recommendation made was to hire Social Studies teacher.

Lanse Davis provided overview and update of the TASC (GED) test. Karen stated a major concern is the delay in testing and we do not know what the results are going to be since we do not know difficulty of the actual test. This will have an impact on our youth performance since there has been no testing since December 2013. Dan stated there may be decisions made within NJLWD that some things need to be waived or waivers need to be applied for. These decisions are set in stone and would mean whether individual areas fail or pass. Kim stated it may have to be taken into consideration is due to increased difficulty of new test is the entry acceptance levels (TABE scores). They get 6 months and then a 6 month extension if a student is staying on track. If a student comes in at a 6th grade level, a year may not even be enough to bring that student up to a 12 grade level.

Kirk Lew informed the YIC the 6th Barrier policy established in Gloucester County was used as a Promising Practice throughout the State of NJ is now being used as a promising practice at USDOL! Also, the practice was recently shared with Puerto Rico. The Shared Youth Vision Council goals:

- Social Media (how to use more responsibly)

- How to Engage non-WIA Youth

- Building Capacity within the System-all case managers will understand system better, better collaboration

- Youth Leadership – making sure YIC are utilizing youth voice, engaging youth;
i.e. advisory counsels

Kim reported they have already held 3 advisory meetings and is finding the youth are engaged. At March 27 meeting, 7 students attended. Discussed was increasing student attendance in the morning, the suggestion was a once a month hot breakfast and was not successful (March-5 students). Therefore, they decided to offer hot breakfast every day for students arriving before 8:30 and has been successful (April-11 students to date). They also discussed increasing attendance through increased incentive amounts, results were dramatic. They went from approximately 7 students weekly to approximately 13 weekly. Kim stated at last 2 meetings; we had a student from the council attend.

Sandy reported 7 students were TABE tested, 7 passed & increased one grade level or more. The weather affected students' attendance in March. March 7th students attended the Job Fair & Career Resource Event, March 12th they attended Talent Network Workshop on Retail Hospitality at Continuing Education Building; staff members J. Killian & L. Haldeman have participated in NJCan workshops and the students have enjoyed.

Kim reported they will be purchasing a Bright Lite Projector.

Kim reported they coordinated with Brigette Satchell & were approved for a Literacy Innovation Grant. This will offer a blended learning opportunity in that they will participate in professional development with GCC and the teachers will learn how to create online classes.

The Youth One Stop will offer a summer employment program for current eligible 30-33 high school seniors who will be graduating in June 2014. The program will run July 7 through August 22; Monday-Thursday, 7:30 am-3:30 pm at various locations on the Gloucester County Educational Campus.

A motion for adjournment was made by Dr. King, seconded by D. Angelucci.

The next meeting will be held May 20, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

Bridget A. DiGiambattista, WIB Staff