

## YOUTH OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

MAY 11, 2016

8:15 A.M.

PARK FOUNDATION CONFERENCE ROOM

**PRESENT:** R. Pollack, S. Peake, V. Zeppelin, S. Kittel, C. Weems

**EXCUSED:** A. Hendrix, I. Burbank

**STAFF:** J. Mattick, J. Luu

### CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Kittel called the meeting to order at 8:22 a.m.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the March 9, March 18, and April 13, 2016 were deferred.

### SUMMER YOUTH UPDATE

On Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> during a conference call with the Committee, it was discussed that the Department of Social Services would be retaining 8% of the SYEP allocation and that the 2016 allocation was being reduced by the State. This came as a surprise because the Governor had included additional funding in his budget.

Due to the decrease in the allocation, the Committee agreed that each contractor's budget would be adjusted proportionately based on the amount of their original proposal and the contractors were notified of their reduced amounts. Shortly thereafter, Ms. Mattick was notified by DSS that the Local Commissioners Memorandum (LCM) announcing the allocation reduction was rescinded. It is not clear what this means and a new LCM has not been issued. **Update: On May 12, 2016 a new LCM was issued and allocations were increased, not decreased as previously reported.**

Ms. Mattick suggested that she contact the contractors that they should submit their revised budgets and participant numbers until more is known. She stated she has also contacted NYATEP to see if they can get more information.

In other SYEP news, Ms. Mattick had a call from Challenge that they have 57 youth to be served and they will be working through the other contractors to get the additional youth placed that won't be funded under the program. Those individuals will also be able to work through ACCESS-VR and Ms. Mattick will be reaching out to them along with the two other providers to integrate those youth into their programs.

### WIOA YOUTH UPDATE

Ms. Mattick reported the Board passed a resolution to extend the contract with the Office of Employment and Training for one year in the amount of \$340,000. She noted the final WIOA regulations are expected by the end of June.

### DISCUSS PROCESS USED TO IDENTIFY GAPS IN SERVICES AND OBTAIN FEEDBACK FROM PROVIDERS

The group discussed ideas to identify gaps in services and how to obtain feedback from providers. At this stage, until the regulations are received, it is difficult to get feedback from providers until they know the full scope of what is going to be required from them.

In terms of processes that can be used to identify gaps some suggestions included meeting with YERT annually, and it was noted they have conducted a survey and the results are available. The format for conducting a gap analysis could begin with using the spreadsheet that was put together by the Youth Employment Council. The analysis could be used to either prepare a new RFP or extend the current contract for an additional year, but include what are seen as gaps and help shape areas of focus.

Ms. Kittel asked what the vision is for youth employment. She stated she would like to see youth employment transition to a forward thinking program rather than just managing a grant and being reactionary with funding. She suggested picking a couple of topics for discussion to increase committee knowledge so the group can better understand what is currently occurring. Where are the unmet needs within employment (businesses) and how do we get people in to fill those gaps. Youth overwhelmingly indicate that they see their age and transportation as the biggest barriers they face to employment. She stated we do not do a good job with laddering youth into jobs and pathways need

to be built.

She asked if youth unemployment figures are available. Ms. Mattick stated local UI figures are not available, but labor force participation rates are, but they start at age 20-24. She will look into whether the figures are available for ages 16-19. She did note that the data is only available countywide.

The group discussed looking at the YEC spreadsheet and reviewing the YERT survey results, researching studies available for engaging individuals with disabilities sooner rather than later. Taking a deeper look into what types of jobs aren't getting filled, are they entry level or 2 year degree and certificate levels. Which industries and occupations are growing and what education level is needed for those opportunities? What are the careers that the group can help build pathways for and where do gaps exist?

There was consensus to use the next meeting for discussion about what services currently exist, who are the providers and what funding is available in order for the Committee to gain a better sense of where to focus future efforts.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 8, 2016 at 8:15 a.m. in the Park Foundation Conference Room. **The meeting date and time was changed to June 27, from 2:30-4:30 p.m. in the Park Foundation Conference Room.**

DRAFT