

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT COUNCIL

OCTOBER 8, 2013

1:30 P.M.

ONE-STOP CONFERENCE ROOM

PRESENT: A. Hendrix, M. Guerra, K. Lind, J. Bellis, D. Bradac, S. Tabor, T. Husick

EXCUSED: V. Zeppelin, J. Herbert, D. Osborne, R. Pollack, L. Schoffel, H. Cooper

GUESTS: P. Angie, Tompkins County DSS

STAFF: J. Mattick, J. Luu

Call to Order

Ms. Hendrix called the meeting order at 1:35 p.m. and introductions followed. Mr. Husick has accepted a promotion at DSS and Mr. Angie will be replacing him at future meetings.

Announcements

The New York Association of Training and Employment Professionals is hosting a webinar on December 4, 2013 from 2:30 to 4 p.m. "Make Your Program a Magnet! How to Recruit, Engage and Retain At-Risk Youth." The webinar can be hosted at the One-Stop and the WIB is happy to pay the registration fee if there is enough interest from staff and agencies who would like to attend. Additional information will be sent out when it becomes available.

Yearly WIA Youth Compilation Report – Office of Employment and Training

The group reviewed the compilation report prepared by Ms. Bellis. A total of 72 in-school and 47 out-of-school participants were served in PY2012. The goals for in-school youth participants were met or exceeded for the year. Nearly every goal was met for out-of-school youth with the exception of the number of participants meeting literacy and numeracy gains. It is expected that this figure will increase because there are a number of individuals who are meeting the goal, but who aren't reflected yet at the end of the 4th quarter. Her report is attached at the end of the minutes.

Committee Report Outs

Committee 1: Heather Cooper

The group will be participating at the Enfield Harvest Festival this weekend and they are beginning to plan the informational night for parents that is being hosted at Newfield Schools on November 21st.

Committee 2: Amie Hendrix

The committee continues to look at using the teachers' conferences day as a means to help teachers infuse career information into their curriculums. They are aiming to roll out a professional development day on March 21, 2014.

Committee 3: Diane Bradac

The Committee has refocused its efforts on marketing and reaching out to employers so they better understand the National Work Readiness Credential (NWRC). It is hoped that a staff person can be hired who will help prepare students for the NWRC testing.

Request for Funding Tompkins Workforce New York Internship/Project Assistant

Ms. Bradac provided the position description and estimated costs. They are attached. The position will provide program coordination, tutoring, career exploration, job search assistance, case management and work readiness exam preparation. Originally the request was also going to include costs for testing vouchers, but it has since been decreased to just the cost of the position. The position is for 10 hours per week for 30 weeks for a cost of wage and fringe of \$4,290. Ms. Mattick stated that there is WIA Youth funding available to fund the position, but the funds can only be used for WIA youth. It was Moved

by Mr. Husick, seconded by Ms. Lind to recommend to the Executive Committee the use of WIA funding in the amount of \$4,290 for the purpose of funding the wage and fringe for the position. The vote was unanimous with the exception of Ms. Bradac and Ms. Bellis, who abstained from voting.

Federal Budget and Shutdown Implications for Youth Program

Ms. Mattick reported the federal shutdown will not impact youth programming because youth programs are forward funded. The impacts to Adult and Dislocated Worker funding will result in no training occurring until July 2014. She stated Tompkins County has agreed to continue funding programs at this point, with the thinking being that when the Notices of Obligational Authority are released, the means by which WIA's are notified of their funding levels, those NOA's will be backdated to October 1, 2013.

WIB Meeting – Benchmarking discussion

Ms. Mattick provided an overview of her presentation to the WIB on September 24, 2013. Minutes from that meeting are below.

“Ms. Mattick provided an overview of the Summer Youth Employment Program, outlining the numbers of youth served and the average costs per youth and staff. She provided a cost comparison of other Workforce Investment Areas. She stated that the programs around the state are very similar but the costs vary and Tompkins has some of the highest costs by comparison. Some of this is attributable to higher wages and fringe rate costs than other places but she noted the Tompkins program has a higher ratio of staff to participants.

Several questions were asked about the program, for example, with the increased costs, do we have a better product; if administrative costs are capped, would providers still respond; and if the more intensive services for youth that are provided were to be provided by others, would this provide a greater work experience to the youth. Ms. Mattick stated there isn't a substantial difference among programs operated around the state. Capping administrative costs would allow the opportunity for more negotiating with providers. Ms. Hendrix noted that work is being done to find ways to help infuse career readiness into the school curriculum, but it is unclear how long this process will take.

Mr. Coldren suggested setting a standard for the number of youth served, the amount of the budget that must be directed toward paying participant wages and the number of hours participants work per week. Ms. Bradac stated that first time workers require far more intensive services and developing new worksites takes a considerable amount of time for staff. Ms. Patz asked if there are collaborative opportunities within the community. Ms. Mattick stated that the program is operated on a cost reimbursement basis and this can prevent providers from responding. Mr. Pronti asked if we could chart out who is who in terms of the agencies and entities involved in the Summer Youth Employment Program and the Youth Employment Council. Ms. Mattick stated that she would provide an overview of the entities involved at the next board meeting.

Next steps will involve the Youth Employment Council and Executive Committee bringing back suggestions for staffing ratios and fte's as well as ideas for benchmarking.”

Ms. Mattick stated additional conversations will occur at the November WIB meeting that could potentially impact the Request for Proposals that will be released in February 2014. She invited Council members to attend.

The meeting adjourned at 2:31 p.m. The next Council meeting will be held December 10, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. at the One-Stop Center. (The meeting was subsequently canceled.)