

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT COUNCIL

October 14, 2014

1:30 P.M.

ONE-STOP CONFERENCE ROOM

PRESENT: A. Hendrix, S. Tabor, D. Bradac, A. Pape, A. Brown, M. Gold
EXCUSED: H. Cooper, B. Bannister, K. Lind, M. Lyons, V. Zeppelin, J. Herbert, D. Osborne, R. Pollack
STAFF: J. Mattick, J. Luu

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:36 p.m.

Introductions and Announcements

Ms. Bradac announced the Office of Employment and Training is up to full staff with two new youth staff members; Chad Zimar and Michael Christopher, who are getting settled in.

The Health Career Expo is being held this Thursday, October 16, 2014. Over 400 students are expected at the event, where they will be able to attend workshops and hands-on activities.

Ms. Hendrix reported Berkshire Farm Center & Services for Youth will no longer provide services to Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) in Tompkins County, effective November 1, 2014. After unsuccessfully competing for the Basic Center Program funding of the Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children Youth and Families' and the Family and Youth Services Bureau, Berkshire is unable to further support the local Bridges Program and has announced their decision to close the program at the end of October 2014. Tompkins County Youth Services Department is working with local agencies to provide supportive services for the RHY population while a new interim family/reunification provider is identified. The Youth Services Department is hopeful a new provider will be fully identified and be in operation in by January 2015.

Strategic Planning Follow-Up – Continued Discussion and Updates

At the last meeting it was discussed that the parameters and goals for an apprenticeship program needed to be defined. There was discussion about reviewing the legal and local definitions of apprenticeships such as are youth apprenticeships more lenient versus out of school youth where apprenticeships become reimbursable labor. It was decided to continue this discussion at the next meeting. Ms. Mattick will provide an overview of apprenticeships versus internships the parameters and ages that apply to each category.

The group also discussed the resource guide for the community. Next steps will include pulling together providers to discuss what is currently available and what is needed, and are there intersections with schools.

Summer Youth Employment Program Update

The Office of Employment and Training served 85 participants this summer including 9 from State facilities. Four individuals were hired for unsubsidized employment as a result of the program.

Ms. Gold reported Challenge Workforce Solutions learned a lot their first year operating the program. They were able to serve 24 youth this summer. Because it was their first year, it took some time to ramp up the program, but they are looking forward to operating the program next year. They operated the program around a four-day work week with workshops on Friday that were quite intensive. Businesses were wonderful to work with and three individuals were hired into unsubsidized employment as a result of their participant in the Program

Ms. Tabor reported that YES served 95 youth this summer. They are in the process of finalizing the business surveys. She noted workshops were well attended by participants and four or five went into unsubsidized employment.

WIA Youth Eligibility – Review of Current Definitions

The group reviewed the current eligibility definitions that have been in place since 2005. They decided to leave things as they currently are in light of the new WIOA regulations that are coming in 2015.

Performance and Evaluation Committee Report

The Committee has not met. They will report out after their meeting in November.

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WIB Director's Report

Ms. Mattick report regulations around WIOA are still unknown.

She also reported that Tompkins County, as part of a nine-county region, has been awarded a national workforce innovations grant. The grant funds will be used to fund a staff person to help reconnect community college drop outs with college. The program is still in the planning stages, but will require a very close working relationship with Tompkins Cortland Community College.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:42 p.m. The next Council meeting will be held November 12, at 2 p.m. at the One-Stop Center.