



Supporting the Development and Retention of a World Class Workforce

Jeffrey S. Swartz, Executive Director

Robert Weil, Chair

YOUTH INVESTMENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES,
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2021, 9:00AM – ZOOM MEETING

ATTENDANCE

COMMITTEE INFORMATION AND ATTENDANCE							
Name	Organization	Trustee Member	24-Feb-21	28-Apr-21	30-Jun-21	25-Aug-21	27-Oct-21
Verney, Matthew CHAIR	BB&T Bank	X	X	X	X	X	
Arroyo, Rosy	Camden County Youth Services Commission			X			X
Banks, Evangeline	Juvenile Justice Commission		X	X	X	X	X
Barbella, Sarah	Camden Probation Division						
Boucher, Shaneka	City of Camden			X	X	X	x
Cirii, Frank	CCOSCC Local Area Operations Director	X	X	x	X	X	X
Davis, Pastor Keith	Camden Dream Academy		X				X
Fetty, Brett	CCTS		X				
Godorov, Lori	The Work Group	X	X	X	X	X	X
Hill, Lauren	Camden County College		X	X	X		X
Lofton, Vance	Respond, Inc.					X	X
McNair, David	Dept. of Education						
Pasiglao, Marion	NJ Youth ChalleNge Academy						X
Peterson, Jyi	Youth Counselor, CCOS		X	X		X	x
Scott, Kenneth	Winslow Township High School				X	X	X
Selby, Andrew	CPAC			X	X	X	X
Sinclair, Nidia	Camden County One-Stop			X			
Taguwa, Denise	NJ Dept. Of Labor & Workforce Development						
Vasquez, Marisol	Youth Counselor, CCOS		X	X	X		X
Velasquez, Gil	Camden Probation Division		X	X	X	X	X
Waller, Darchelle	Winslow Township High School		X				
Wardlow Hurley, Rhonda	HACC Youth Build		X	X	X	X	X
Washington, Daquan	CPAC						
Williams, Jen	Covenant House						
Swartz, Jeffrey S.	WDB		X	X	X	X	X
Levitt, Alex	WDB		X	X	X	X	X
Williams, Leslie	WDB			X	X	X	

Welcome

Jeff Swartz, Executive Director, Camden County Workforce Development Board welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order at 9:10am. The Committee reviewed the minutes from Wednesday, August 25, 2021. Since there was no discussion, Jeff asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Dr. Lauren Hill made the motion and Lori Godorov seconded motion. By unanimous vote to the affirmative, the motion was carried, and the minutes for August 25, 2021, were approved.

2021 Youth Committee Goals

Jeff asked the committee if there were any follow-up discussions concerning Committee goals for program year (2021-2022) such as the development of a Youth sub-committee which would include youth residents of Camden County. Marisol Vasquez said the One-Stop is seeking candidates, but that the enrollment rate continues to be slow. However, Marisol does believe there are candidates that will be qualified participants. A few members from the Committee will

get together shortly to discuss the structure and operation of the sub-committee including the possibility of using incentives. Lori Godorov suggested the development of a focus group to determine what the input the youth would like to give and what they would like to get out of a sub-committee. Below is a list of those who will be meeting to discuss the sub-committee.

Marisol Vasquez
Lori Godorov
Alex Levitt
Rosy Arroyo
Shaneka Boucher
Gil Velasquez

WIOA Information Reporting

Laurie Maguire has been modifying the WIOA reports and flowchart to better explain the numbers for youth and youth providers. Dr. Hill thinks it was a smart decision to separate the numbers that were previously merged. She added that Laurie has taken the document further in terms of making it legible and accessible to those reading the reports. Lori suggested that information should be added to reflect the youth's progress over the year to give a more accurate picture of their success. Frank Cirii, said that information is already included in the quarterly red, green, yellow performance reports which can be presented in this meeting as well. It was determined that the flowcharts are just an activity report for the month for the One-Stop and Vendors to see but the Red, Green Yellow tells us what the progress and performance outcomes are for those who have been engaged.

One Stop Update

The One-Stop continues to be open to the public. The State side of the building is slowly returning to having staff in-person. Unemployment (UI) is the only area not returning. Frank addressed that all partners have encouraged customers to make appointments virtually. County staff will see customers in-person if needed. He said that customers coming into the One-Stop are seeking training in the medical, tech fields and CDL. Marisol updated the committee that the counselors have been receiving referrals from providers.

Success Story Video

Alex Levitt updated the committee on the draft of the Success Story Video. Changes he made from the previous draft included video footage of Jyi interviewing a client for eligibility at the beginning of the montage, cutting 2 minutes off the original draft and adding pictures to the question backgrounds, instead of just a black square. Alex was able to condense the video from 5 minutes to 3 minutes by removing unnecessary testimonial. There are now two men and two women featured in the video, but he acknowledged the need for more racial diversity within the testimonials. He added that an employer testimonial could be beneficial to gain an all-around perspective on the services provided by the One-Stop. The last suggestion made by Alex was the addition of a voiceover reading the questions within the video. This would be for those who are visually impaired. Matt asked the committee if this version were in a place where it could be shown at the upcoming Quarterly Meeting? The Committee agreed this version should be shown but it should still be designated as a draft. The next steps are to make additional edits including closed captioning for hearing impaired customers and editing the sound quality of the video.

Youth Committee Updates

- Kenny Scott spoke of the Camden County College's Career Week on campus to provide information to students.
- Gil Velasquez is looking for partners to provide services on site. The Probation Department is reducing their reporting time to minimize their contact with other probationers and that incentivizing them for doing well on probation would be a good practice. The Probation Department resumed family visitations September 20, 2021 but recognizes that some people are apprehensive about allowing strangers into their home for fear of exposure to COVID.
- Pastor Keith Davis has been participating in a great partnership with Comcast virtual training for entry level IT jobs with Comcast provided engineers. He is looking to connect his training program with the Department of Labor for potential apprenticeships and pre-apprenticeships.
- Rosy Arroyo discussed meeting with the State Department and Attorney General concerning the implementation of a restorative and transformative hub in Camden. The legislation involves mandates, combining resources for young people for education, both higher and vocational education, career opportunities and for diversion and prevention from the justice system. The goal for this initiative is October 2022 and involves an annual budget of \$700k-\$900k.
- Shaneka Boucher met with Rosy and the Camden County Prosecutor's Office about new directives coming from their office. She has also been speaking with different organizations that would be interested in participating with the WDB's Summer Youth Employment Program.
- Stephanie Rizzi was introduced to the group. She is a commercial lender at 1st Colonial Community Bank.
- Lori Godorov noted that she has openings for two part-time store managers for their resale boutique for the hours of 10am-6pm, Tuesday through Saturday. The rate is \$18/hr., and the candidates must be vaccinated. She also noted that students, under the direction of staff, spend 2 days of per week in the community working on service projects. They are going out in crews of 6-9, from Monday to Thursday to provide service to non-profit organizations.
- Kathleen discussed the postponement of the PTSD event until 2022. The Literacy Committee's will continue to update the list of county libraries and the services offered. The Skill Up NJ Program continues to be free to all New Jersey residents. The Operations Committee is working on White Paper which will show how the One-Stop made adaptations to function and aid residents with virtual services during the pandemic. Also, the Atlantic City Electric program will be holding information sessions in February to recruit participants for the spring training sessions. Lastly, in partnership with Camden County College is the Incumbent Worker Training Program which allows employers to provide upskill training for their employees, training that could potentially result in a credential.

- Lauren Hill noted the Camden campus has a new Dean, Anthony Driggers who will provide new energy to restore vibrancy to the city campus. They will offer affordable courses for credit and training.
- Marion Pasiglao of Youth Challenge Academy pointed out that his organization is ready to provide services for GED and High School diplomas to youth ages 16-18. Once their education is complete, the candidates would be equipped to be enrolled in One-Stop programs.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 23, 2022, at 9:00 am via Zoom.

Submitted by WDB Staff