



Supporting the Development and Retention of a World Class Workforce

Jeffrey S. Swartz, Executive Director

Robert Weil, Chair

YOUTH INVESTMENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2018

ATTENDANCE

Members		25-Jan-18	22-Mar-18	31-May-18	9-Aug-18	25-Oct-18	20-Dec-18
	Bi-monthly meeting dates as 10/17						
Verney, Matthew	CHAIR						
	TD Bank	X	X	X	X	X	
Arroyo, Rosy	CPAC	X		X			
Banks, Evangeline	Juvenile Justice Commission			X		X	X
Barclay, Arthur	Camden County One-Stop						
Brown, JarDaine	Camden City School District			X	X		
Cirii, Frank	CCOSCC					X	X
Cooper, Diane	CPAC						
Davis, Keith	Camden Dream Center Tech. Trng. School						
Elmore-Stratton, Corrine	YMCA		X	X	X		
Friedman, Joshua A	Local Area Operations Director, CCOS	X	X	X	X	X	
Godorov, Lori	The Work Group	X	X		X	X	X
Hill, Lauren	Manager, CCCC/Youth1Stop		X	X	X	X	X
Jones, Shakirah	CPAC						X
Maguire, Laurie	Camden County Resource Center						
Marshall, Newland	Boys and Girls Club						X
Martinez, Leydiri	Camden County Technical Schools					X	
McKinsey, Denise	Respond Inc.			X	X	X	X
Peterson, Jyi	Youth Counselor, CCOS	X	X	X			
Quattrone, Cathy	Camden County Technical Schools				X	X	
Rhoton, Daniel	Hopeworks						
Riggins, Matthew	Riggins Oil Inc.		X	X			
Sinclair, Nidia	Camden County One-Stop	X			X		
Stettler, Mark	T & M Associates	X		X	X	X	X
Taguwa, Denise	WFNJ Representative, LWD					X	X
Vasquez, Marisol	Youth Counselor, CCOS	X					
Waller, Darchelle	Winslow Township High School						
Wardlow Hurley, Rhonda	HACC Youth Build		X	X	X	X	
Williams, Jen	Covenant House	X	X	X	X	X	
Williams, Tasha	Youth Advocate Programs, Inc.	X					
Swartz, Jeffrey S.	WDB Executive Director		X	X	X	X	X
Primas, Theo	WDB Program Evaluator						
Levitt, Alex	WDB Administrative Assistant						X
Williams, Leslie J	WDB Comptroller			X			
Varallo, Kathleen	WDB Administrative Assistant		X	X	X	X	

WELCOME

Jeff Swartz, Executive Director of the Workforce Development Board, called the meeting to order and asked for roundtable introductions. The meeting was held at the Camden County One-Stop Career Center, 2600 Mt. Ephraim Ave, Suite 105, Camden NJ 08104. Newland Marshall, Boys and Girls Club, and Shakirah Jones, CPAC, attended the meeting for the first time.

YOUTH SERVICES UPDATES

Jeff asked Dr. Lauren Hill to give the committee an update on the Youth One-Stop activities. Dr. Hill, Youth One-Stop (YOS) manager, reported on the Youth One-Stop data representing July 1st through November 30th numbers as indicated on the matrix. The greatest area of improvement is concentrated around the area of credential attainment especially because it is a benchmark. At the last meeting this was an area of concern. The difficulty was getting the youth back in to bring in documentation of their credential once they completed the program. Lori Godorov, Exec. Director, The Work Group, asked Dr. Hill to clarify her use of the word credential. Dr. Hill explained a credential is the training document not a diploma. WIOA differentiates between the two. Dr. Hill explained overall numbers taken from orientation and reported that these application numbers are holding the same as in October's numbers. Dr. Hill hopes in December these numbers improve due to greater activity in the month. Dr. Hill highlighted some other news; a majority of the youth dollars have been allocated and the Youth One Stop is at a standstill around Youth Dollars. Dr. Hill is hopeful that will change in January with additional allotment.

Dr. Hill mentioned another piece of good news; any youth that wasn't able to be served could be served as an adult ranging between 16-24 years old. Lori Godorov asked; what was the difference between the counseling appointment and eligibility initiated on the report. Dr. Hill clarified that counseling appointments are for those who got an appointment and eligibility initiated are those who showed up for the appointment. Lori suggested renaming it scheduled appointments for future usage. Dr. Hill clarified (WLL) stood for Workforce Learning Link. Lori Godorov asked if 16-17 year olds were eligible for training. Dr. Hill said no and responded that she hadn't seen many 16 or 17 year olds interested in training. Lori commented that the majority of the kids she works with are between the ages of 16-17. Dr. Hill mentioned that training numbers have gone up and she feels she can move more customers into training and monitor their monthly training through benchmarking and attendance. Dr. Hill goes on to say that labor intensive outreach is working by using calls, social media and emails; although she would like to create more contact methods in order to reach more youth. Jeff Swartz questioned if the spike in numbers was because of kids being out of school during the summer as opposed to the fall when they are all back in school. Dr. Hill responded that kids see their friends near the fall going back to school and those that are not get inspired to do something about their situation.

Dr. Hill brought up another area they are focusing on is follow up, another labor intensive situation. Dr. Hill states that Youth Counselors are increasing follow up with customers by scheduling specific times just on follow up. Dr. Hill brought up the continuation of personal development workshops and stated that Jyi Peterson, Youth Counselor, had completed all 2019 dates for the first quarter continuing with topics such as T.D. financial literacy.

YOUTH MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Dr. Hill expressed that the Youth Mentorship Program was a very successful for 2018 with five Rowan interns. Dr. Hill reported that they were very hands on and engaged with the program, including research on offender status, dropout rate, and homelessness. Dr. Hill just completed the review of the Rowan interns and submitted those reviews to the University. Dr. Hill also informed that the interns were paired with customers and that work will continue in January. Jeff Swartz, Executive Director, had a chance to sit in and observe the interns and complimented Dr. Hill and the program for being so effective.

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

In regards to outreach, Dr. Hill said the Youth One Stop staff have been to a lot of places and continue to be fully engaged with CPAC. Dr. Hill stated they will continue to be engaged because that is with whom everyone who serves youth connects. Dr. Hill elaborates that this is where one can have sidebars with other individuals working with youth. Dr. Hill gave an example of how she spoke to a woman who worked for the Camden County Partnership for Children and was able to finally be a part of their organization to share resources stating they work with a priority population for Camden County.

JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Dr. Hill set up a meeting with The Juvenile Justice Committee (JJC) Exec. Director Kevin Brown to collaborate better on the youth coming out of JJC and making sure that JJC is aware that providing these services is a priority. This will be discussed at the One Stop meeting set up on Jan. 25th.

HOUSING AUTHORITY

Dr. Hill met with the Housing Authority where she heard about a Jobs Plus grant in Abbott Village. They are in a two year planning and then a four year support grant for the Abbot Village community. Dr. Hill said she felt good energy at the Housing Authority stating that residents of Abbot Village came in interested for the employment opportunities as well as the access to training for those eligible. Jeff Swartz commented that the grant will be driven by the residents of Abbott Village stating that's one thing Housing and Urban Development (HUD), who gave them the grant, insisted upon.

YOUTH TRAINING

Dr. Hill reported that there has been additional Management Informational System (MIS) training as well as a wider system for ASOS. Dr. Hill said that most have embraced this training, but there are still challenges to overcome such as doing better with the input and output of good data. Dr. Hill expressed gratitude to Denise McKinsey of Respond, Inc. for being a catalyst in connecting with training and on demand help.

CONFERENCE CALL WITH US DOL

Dr. Hill and Jeff Swartz mentioned the events that occurred during the Conference Call with the Department of Labor for which Frank Cirii, Local Area Operations Director, was also in attendance. Jeff Swartz stated there were no findings, but there were three areas of concern as well as two noted practices that US DOL thought was entrepreneurial and should be spread around the country. The purpose of the call was for US DOL to assess the problem solving skills of Camden County. Jeff Swartz's team put a letter together to send up to DOL.

SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PILOT PROGRAM

Jeff Swartz informed the committee that the Summer Youth Employment Pilot Program (SYEPP) will be making a return this coming summer. Jeff explained how the program has worked in the past and that the grant was given by the State to fund the program. Near the end of the meeting, a task force was assembled to oversee the 2019 iteration of the program. The group consists of Jeff Swartz, WDB, Newland Marshall, Boys and Girls Club, Shakirah Jones, CPACC, Dr. Lauren Hill, Youth One-Stop, Rosy Arroyo, Camden County, Rhonda Wardlow-Hurley, Camden County, Frank Cirii, Local Area Operations Director Camden County One-Stop, Alex Levitt, Workforce Development Board

Admin. Assistant, Leslie Williams, Comptroller, Workforce Development Board, and Kathleen Varallo, Admin. Assistant to the Exec. Director, Workforce Development Board. A subcommittee was also formed to draft the proposal for the SYEPP consisting of Jeff Swartz, Leslie Williams, Kathleen Varallo, Rosy Arroyo, Shakirah Jones, and Dr. Lauren Hill.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

-Jeff Swartz, Exec. Director, Camden County WDB; reiterated that the Summer Youth Employment Pilot Program will be kicking off summer 2019 and that the whole WDB team is excited to take on this project. Jeff thanked all who attended the December Quarterly Board Meeting and explained to those who could not attend what took place including the presentations by Bags of Books/Letters of Love, the success story, and Guest Speaker Nicholas Toth.

-Mark Stettler, Supervising Engineer, T&M Associates, began with discussions on Bitcoin, Block Chain Tech and the idea of Cryptocurrency. Mark brought this up in order to develop a strategy to help facilitate the problem of zero identification for individuals. Mark goes on to say that Block Chain technology, while new, would be an effective way to help individuals with processes where identification is needed. Mark wants to reach out to a gentleman in New York who is utilizing the technology and see if his work can lead to future problem solving.

-Lori Godorov, mentions the youth she works with are doing community service projects 4 days a week, Monday-Thursday. Crews of 6-8 students, under the community service supervisors, are helping with anything involved with the community.

-Evangeline Banks, mentions on behalf of Rosy Arroyo that Rosy is now working for Camden County and no longer with CPAC.

-Denise Taguwa, mentions that any further training on the Dept. Of Labor side was done by ASOS in house. She mentioned regionalized training and asks to meet up with committee members to establish that further.

-Frank Ciri, Camden County One Stop, thanked all who have donated time and efforts to the committees and wishes all a Happy Holidays.

-Shakirah Jones, introduces herself as the new Kayak Convener for CPAC and Camden County and is very excited to continue working with the Youth Committee.

-The rest of the committee has no new updates and wish all a Happy Holidays.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 21st, 2019 at 9:00am, at the Camden County One-Stop Career Center, 2600 Mount Ephraim Ave., Suite 105, Camden NJ 08104.

Submitted by, Alex Levitt, WDB Administrative Assistant.