

**YOUTH INVESTMENT COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES**

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2023, 9:00AM – ZOOM MEETING
1111 MARLKRESS ROAD, SUITE 101, CHERRY HILL, NJ 08003

COMMITTEE INFORMATION AND ATTENDANCE								
Name	Organization	Trustee Member						
			26-Oct-22	25-Jan-23	22-Feb-23	26-Apr-23	28-Jun-23	23-Aug-23
Verney, Matthew (CHAIR)	Truist Bank	X						
Arroyo, Rosy	Camden County Youth Services Commission			X		X	X	
Banks, Evangeline	Juvenile Justice Commission				X		X	X
Barbella, Sarah	Camden Probation Division							
Boucher, Shaneka	City of Camden		X	X			X	
Canning, Shannon	Wawa							X
Cirii, Frank	Camden County One-Stop	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Crowe, Gary	Winslow Township High School		X	X	X		X	
Davis, Rodney	Turner Construction							X
Godorov, Lori	The Work Group	X	X		X	X	X	X
Gorman, Ginger	Winslow Township High School		X	X				
Hill, Lauren	Camden County College		X	X	X	X	X	X
Ludizaca, Raul	NJDOL			X			X	X
Lofton, Vance	Respond, Inc.		X	X	X	X	X	
Maguire, Laurie	Camden County One-Stop		X	X	X			
McGough, Jake	YMCA		X	X	X	X		X
Peterson, Jyi	Camden County One-Stop		X	X	X	X	X	X
Robbins, Matt	Wawa							X
Roth-Gutman, Jill (VICE CHAIR)	Roth-Gutman Law, LLC			X	X	X	X	X
Selby, Andrew	CPAC		X	X	X	X	X	X
Sinclair, Nidia	Camden County One-Stop			X	X	X	X	
Waller, Darchelle	Winslow Township High School							
Wardlow Hurley, Rhonda	HACC Youth Build		X	X	X	X	X	X
Wemple, Anita	CPAC			X	X			
Swartz, Jeffrey S.	WDB		X		X		X	X
Henderson, Bridget	WDB		X	X	X		X	
Levitt, Alex	WDB		X	X	X	X		X
Vaughn, Debra	WDB		X	X	X	X	X	X
Williams, Leslie	WDB							

Welcome

Jill Roth-Gutman, Vice Chair, opened the meeting at 9:03 am. She introduced herself before welcoming attendees and asking them to introduce themselves.

Jill asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the August 23, 2023 meeting. Motion was made by Evangeline Banks, seconded by Dr. Lauren Hill. By majority vote to the affirmative, the motion carried and the minutes for August 23, 2023, were approved.

Committee Goals

Jill opened the meeting asking for an update on current goals and suggestions for goals for the 2023-2024 year. She commented that parents have approached her for information about community volunteer opportunities. She suggested that a list of events or activities with volunteer opportunities with participation requirements would be good to formulate. The Youth Sub-Committee Focus Group remains on the agenda.

- Jake McGough, YMCA
 - The YMCA worked in partnership with Cathedral Kitchen on its summer program called “Camden Y Kids Cook.” Volunteers delivered partially prepared meals every Friday to the summer campers and kids who participated in the summer soccer clinic. The meal kits

included a recipe card with a QR code with a link to a mini tutorial to prepare the meal at home. The program may be extended into the academic year.

- Lori Godorov, The Work Group
 - The final step to the Youth Sub-Committee Focus Group is overcoming schedule conflicts and finalizing a date to hold the focus group.
- Rodney Davis, Turner Construction

Rodney offered the following volunteer opportunities and offered to coordinate communication for anyone interested in the participating:

- Ronald McDonald House is always seeking volunteers to prepare meals for families staying there.
 - The United Way of Greater Philadelphia’s education committee seeks volunteers to assist students with improving their reading skills.
 - The Salvation Army continuously accepts toy and food donations, so there is an opportunity to run drives to fill their needs.
 - Virtua Hospital Voorhees has a mobile food pantry serving people with food insecurity and will provide a list of specific foods needed if anyone would like to hold a food drive to collect what is needed.
- Matt Robbins and Shannon Canning, Wawa
 - Matt commented that youth seeking employment would benefit from training skills for job searching such as resumé-building, how to “sell” themselves and present skills they have that would make them a good employee. Shannon stated that youth applicants are often not prepared for interviews and she would like to provide assistance in that area.
 - Jyi Peterson, The Youth One Stop
 - One of the Youth One-Stop’s goals is focusing more on the youth population who are in residential care by DYFS or the court and are attending transitional schools. In these circumstances, they are considered in-school youth with barriers and needs that warrant attention.

Committee Updates:

- Jake McGough, YMCA
 - The YMCA is working with Rutgers to facilitate teen programming in community centers that they will be opening. YMCA funding has been allocated to start a teen advisory council.
 - Lori Godorov noted the WorkGroup has young people in its Youth Corps Program that could serve as volunteers on community service projects two days a week. The crews of 16 to 24-year-old youth, under staff direction, are out from Monday through Thursday.
 - The YMCA has received another 2-year grant from the William Penn Foundation for its Watershed Education by Bike, which is an experiential environmental learning program using bike rides along the circuit trail networks in Camden. There will be 8 required service projects involved in the program. Lori stated the WorkGroup also received a grant from the William Penn Foundation for their “Climate Corps” and suggested that participating students could assist the YMCA with environmental projects.
- Jyi Peterson, The Youth One-Stop
 - Jyi provided information about the last Youth Work Experience cohort:
 - Twenty-two candidates were scheduled for orientation, with fifteen youth attending.
 - Fifteen candidates completed eligibility, with thirteen being referred to the Learning Link to improve their basic skills. Of the thirteen participants, three were referred to LVA (Literacy Volunteers of America) because their basic skills were below their grade level.

- Of four participants, two successfully completed their work-site learning and two wanted to complete their remediation so they could begin school.
- La’Neeshia Morman is the Youth One-Stop’s new counselor.
 - Using WIOA funding, four Youth Work Experience participants were selected to be on a panel in Philadelphia to speak about their experience. The invitation to participate in the panel, sponsored by the federal government, was extended to the Camden County One-Stop by Carmen Rodriguez (NJ DOE).
 - Representatives from the Youth One-Stop in Newark NJ will tour the Camden County Youth One-Stop on August 28th.
 - Frank Cirii, Camden County One-Stop
 - An RFP for Work Experience is posted on the WDB website for non-profits, government entities and business owners who would like to participate as a work-learn site.
 - The One-Stop will participate in the job fair co-sponsored by the County on Friday, September 15th in the atrium at the Cherry Hill Mall. Multiple Camden County agencies and other employers will be represented.
 - Jill Roth-Gutman, Chair
 - On Sept. 28th, there is a Camden County Mental Health Resource Fair at the Voorhees Town Center. Vendors interested in participating should contact April DiPietro, Community Resource Director of the Camden County Partnership for Children.
 - Jill summarized committee goals for the year:
 - The Youth Focus Group/Youth Voice.
 - The Youth Job Fair.
 - Day of Service (Alex suggested incorporation of assistance with interview preparation).
 - Volunteer Opportunities/Resources List.
 - Offering interview preparation and job search skills at the Youth One-Stop.
 - Alex Levitt, Summer Youth Employment Program
 - The Summer Youth Employment Program concluded on August 18th, with the exception of two interns whose employment started a week later. There were 50 interns selected to work at 23 work-learn sites, with 48 completing the program. A majority of the employer evaluations have offered positive feedback.
 - Jeff Swartz, Executive Director, Camden County Workforce Development
 - The upcoming Quarterly Board Meeting will be on September 20th at 9:00 am via Zoom. The meeting has some important matters on the agenda, including approval of the budget and other business activities, so a quorum will be needed.
 - Jeff reminded meeting attendees that they can forward information about events and activities they would like posted on the WDB’s website (www.ccwib.com) and social media.

Adjournment

Jill asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Rodney Davis and seconded by Lori Godorov. By a majority vote to the affirmative, the meeting adjourned 10:00 am.

Next Meeting

The next Youth Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 24, 2023, at 9:00 am via Zoom.

Submitted by:

Debra Vaughn

Administrative Assistant to the Executive Director