



**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

*Supporting the Development and Retention of a World Class Workforce*

*Jeffrey S. Swartz, Executive Director*

*Carl A. Donato Jr., Chair*

**YOUTH INVESTMENT COUNCIL**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28, 2024, 10:00 AM – ZOOM MEETING  
1111 MARLKRESS ROAD, SUITE 101, CHERRY HILL, NJ 08003**

COMMITTEE INFORMATION AND ATTENDANCE							
Name	Organization	Trustee Member	24-Jan-24	28-Feb-24	24-Apr-24	26-Jun-24	28-Aug-24
Roth-Gutman, Jill (CHAIR)	Roth-Gutman Law, LLC		X	X	X		X
Banks, Evangeline	Juvenile Justice Commission				X	X	
Barbella, Sarah	Camden Probation Division						X
Beverett, Erica	Social Responsibility Through Me		X	X	X		X
Boucher, Shaneka	City of Camden		X		X		
Boyd, Carl	Community Liaison for the Camden City Partnership at Center for Family Services		X	X	X	X	X
Canning, Shannon	Wawa		X	X	X	X	
Cirii, Frank	Camden County One-Stop	X					
Clark, Justin	Office of Adult Literacy (NJDOL)						
Cooper-Vanderlip, Diana	e-Deuce & Associates, LLC				X	X	X
Davis, Rodney	Turner Construction			X	X	X	X
Garvin, Torrie	YMCA				X	X	X
Godorov, Lori	The Worod Group	X	X	X	X		X
Gonzalez, Claudia	NJ Courts				X		
Gorman, Ginger	Winslow Township High School		X	X	X		
Green, Aurella	Camden County College			X			
Hill, Lauren	Camden County College		X				
Jenkins, Marcell	Winslow Township High School		X	X	X	X	X
Jenkins, Timothy	Camden Board of Education						
Jones, Shakirah	CC Justice Systems				X	X	
Leary, Ashley	Juvenile Justice Hub		X	X	X	X	
Lofton, Vance	Respond, Inc.						
Ludizaca, Raul	NJDOL						
Maguire, Laurie	Camden County One-Stop		X				
McGough, Jake	YMCA						
O'Neill, Kellianne	Winslow Township High School		X				
Peterson, Jyi	Camden County One-Stop		X	X			
Robbins, Matt	Wawa			X			
Rosado, Joeliza	Truist Bank		X	X	X		X
Selby, Andrew	CPAC		X	X		X	
Sinclair, Nidia	Camden County One-Stop				X		
Soto, Lillian	Juvenile Justice Hub						
Velasquez, Gil	Superior Court of New Jersey		X			X	X
Wardlow Hurley, Rhonda	HACC Youth Build		X	X	X		X
Wemple, Anita	CPAC						
Williams, Melody	Camden Housing						
Gutbezahl, Maayan	WDB		X	X	X	X	
Henderson, Bridget	WDB				X		
Swartz, Jeffrey S.	WDB		X	X	X	X	X
Vaughn, Debra	WDB		X	X	X		X
Williams, Leslie	WDB						

**Welcome**

Jill Roth-Gutman, Chair, opened the meeting at 10:14 AM. The meeting attendees were asked to introduce themselves. Jill asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the June 26, 2024 meeting. Motion was made by Carl Boyd and seconded by Rodney Davis. By majority vote to the



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affirmative, the motion carried and the minutes for June 26, 2024 were approved.

**Update on the Youth Focus Group**

A meeting will be scheduled with the sub-committee members before the October 30<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Youth Committee. The objectives and goals of the sub-committee will be discussed at that time.

**Youth Advisory Board Objectives**

1. Cultivate an authentic youth voice to ensure that the perspectives, experiences, and ideas of young people are heard, valued, and integrated into the decision-making process
2. Create opportunities for youth to explore and engage in community services, resources, and employment
3. Develop personal and professional skills to assist in future career paths
4. Receive mentorship
5. Empower youth to grow as leaders

Motion: Torrie Garvin                      Seconded: Rodney Davis

Lori Godorov shared that her understanding of the charge of the WDB is to do the workforce development planning for the county and as it relates specifically to youth that they should be involved in informing and participating in the decision-making process for programming services regarding the youth workforce development planning for Camden County.

Jeff commented that the CCWDB is a 501C3 and can apply for grants that other workforce boards that may be County-affiliated or affiliated with community colleges may not have access to.

**Youth Advisory Board Goals**

1. Best practices for communication for community resources, services, and employment
2. Summer Youth Work Experience Program review after the end of the summer and provide feedback on suggested changes for the future
3. Explore Youth One-Stop and provide feedback, including any barriers to participate
4. Identify trips in the community to explore resources, events, and/or services

Motion: Lori Godorov      Seconded: Rodney Davis

Jeff added that he would like the Advisory Board to have the ability connect with other like agencies, such as the youth groups at Kroc Center or other partner agencies to share best practices.

**Focus Group Meetings**

Among the themes of the youth focus group discussion, the youth expressed the desire to grow as leaders, their need for exposure to mentorship and career paths and assistance with job readiness, resumé-building, interview preparation, professional dress, and job research skills



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**Summer Youth Work Experience Program**

- The Summer Youth Work Experience Program ended on August 16<sup>th</sup>. Several interns were offered positions at their work-learn sites and 5 accepted the offers.
- Interns earned a stipend of \$3000 for the summer. Among the employers participating as work-learn sites were Subaru, American Water, Camden County Health Department, and Camden County Municipal Utilities.
- A few applicants from Camden County were accepted for internships from Atlantic City Electric's Spark Program.

**Committee Updates**

Jeffrey S. Swartz, WDB Executive Director

- There were 129 applicants for 50 slots at 22 work-learn sites for the Summer Youth Work Experience Program. Increasing the number of intern slots for next year's program is under consideration, but maintaining the focus on offering quality work experiences over quantity will remain the primary objective
- Jeff thanked Diana and other volunteers who served as applicant interviewers and work-readiness training facilitators.

**Adjournment**

Jill asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Rodney Davis, seconded by Diana Cooper-Vanderlip. By majority vote to the affirmative, the meeting adjourned at 11:05 AM.

**Next Meeting**

The next Youth Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 30, 2024, at 10:30 AM via Zoom.

- The Quarterly Board Meeting will be held on Zoom on Wednesday, September 18, 2024.

**Submitted by:**

Debra Vaughn

Assistant to the Executive Director