

Youth Council
Meeting Minutes
(Zoom)
9/29/2022

Attendees:

Larry McLean (Chair)
Barb Cempura
Vicki Niederhofer
Ken Keeney

Staff:

Brenda Boggs
Cindy Layman
Lee Reese
Linda VanderPluym
Malina Layne
Sandy Calderon-Solis

Larry McLean called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

With no public comment, Larry asked for a motion to approve the July 14th, 2022, meeting minutes. A motion to approve was made by Barb Cempura and seconded by Vicki Niederhofer. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Lee Reese introduced the two newest members of our team, Youth Program Career Specialists Sandra Calderon-Solis, and J. Malina Layne; their enthusiasm and dedication were well noted. Malina and Sandy recently attended Jim Potts training, WIOA eligibility training, and Truancy and Homeless training with Lisa Atkins at the Regional Office of Education (ROE); they will be CASAS certified in the near future. Pam Dale assisted in administering the CASAS test to clients related to R3 Development. Brenda noted that staffing has changed at SWIC, but service shouldn't be interrupted given SWIC's outstanding employees; she noted that Meredith is a joy to work with.

Lee is confident the Service Delivery Model (SDM) is on pace. There is a great interest, by employer partners, in the Paid Work Experience (PWE) and how positive of a pathway it is to serve our clients. The intention is to engage the school counselors, District 201's Bridges-Connections Program, and the Center for Academic and Vocational Excellence (CAVE), and to proactively recruit clients where they are. Additionally, Intergovernmental Grants Department (IGD) has partnered with ROE regarding HS dropouts which increase access to eligible youth.

Brenda went over performance with Youth citing the Contract Enrollment Report. Our current goals, which came from our DCEO Corrective Action Plan (submitted to the state), are 11 for In-School Youth (ISY), 43 Out of School Youth (OSY), and 40 at SWIC. Brenda reminded us that *all youth participants must be tested before we can certify them into the program*; conveyed that being unable to conduct CASAS testing has been quite a challenge, but we're starting tests next week.

Since the program exchange from Metropolitan Employment Rehabilitation Services (MERS) Goodwill to IGD occurred we've discovered that some clients will have to be exited as there have been no services rendered for over 90 Days- *'A Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Title IB program exit must occur when a Participant has not received any active services funded by the program or a partner program for ninety (90) consecutive calendar days, has no gap in service, and is not scheduled for future services.'* Barb asked if the clients being exited will be able to re-enroll, to which Brenda advised that they could register with the adult program once the client is 18. Lee is very proud of the work and effort from Brenda's team.

Vicki advertised that Career Information System (CIS) is going to make the CIS 360 program available to those in the 9th grade. IGD agreed and is familiar with the CIS Assessments used for narrowing down the ideal work environment.

Larry asked if MERS follow-up information has not been reported on the Contract Enrollment report; we currently only account for new enrollments for PY22- 7/1 to 9/30. There was some discussion on the progress of having technology in place for CASAS testing and case management, regarding the status of bringing youth inside of the IGD from MERS Goodwill.

LWIA 24 new Supportive Service Policy- Previously there was no requirement for a Youth Supportive Service Policy. Youth are eligible to receive up to \$2,500 during program enrollment. This could cover uniforms, supplies, childcare, gas etc. The policy was motioned by Ken and seconded by Barb Cempura; unanimously adopted.

LWIA 24 new Youth Incentive Policy- Youth are eligible to receive up to \$450 during program enrollment for measurable completion. Vicki Niederhofer inquired after SWIC receiving a daycare. Lee informed her that the appropriations bill, for an estimated \$250, 000, is currently on the Senate Floor. The policy was motioned by Ken and seconded by Barb Cempura; unanimously adopted.

IGD's newest initiative in the Service Delivery Model (SDM) is getting new state funding approved to work with school counselors, to identify a path for health care training. IDG is developing a pool of businesses and employers that are sector based (e.g. St. Elizabeth, BJC, Gateway hospitals) where we will pay for 30 days of employment at each facility, and we'd like to then transition them to an apprenticeship.

Larry asked if there were any apprenticeship opportunities in warehouse/logistics fields on the I-255 stretch. Amazon requires individuals to be 18 and over for paid work experience, apprenticeship, interns, etc. John Deere et all are on board. The partnership with Mac Medical and Terra Source allows apprenticeship as insurance follows clients. Vicki inquired about the status of Health Care Pathways- IGD noted the new apprentice Certified Medical Assistant/Pharmacy technician positions just approved by the Department of Labor (DOL) in place with Gateway Medical Center.

In closing, Lee reminded the council that the next MAWIB meeting will be October 13th @ 8:30 AM & will start with a MAWIB Awards Breakfast at Bellecourt Manor, 225 East "A" Street, Belleville, IL 62220. With no further discussion, Larry adjourned the meeting at 9:31 A.M.



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Att. I Updated Supportive Services Policy



WIOA 5.37_Youth
Incentive.pdf

Att. II Youth Incentive Policy