

## Youth Council Meeting Minutes (Zoom) 1/26/2023

### Attendees:

LM Larry McLean (Chair)  
VN Vicki Niederhofer  
KK Ken Keeney

### Staff:

BB Brenda Boggs  
CL Cindy Layman  
LR Lee Reese

LVP Linda VanderPluym  
SB Sandy Bilhartz  
ML Malina Layne  
SC-S Sandy Calderon-Solis

KK (LM tech. difficulty) called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. With no public comment on the agenda, KK asked for a motion to approve the September 29, 2022, meeting minutes the motion was seconded by VN. The minutes were unanimously approved. LR introduced the newest member of our team, SB Youth Program Compliance Monitor; her hard work in a trying position was well noted.

Provider updates – LR (rep. SWIC) Since SCC brought the youth program in-house, the only two providers are us and SWIC. SWIC is looking to match our youth spending plan; see SWIC Youth Supportive Services Increase Request. LR is supportive of the idea and envisions creative youth jobs. KK requested a motion to include an addendum to the existing SCC policy and increase the services up to \$2,500 while clients are enrolled in the YESS program (SWIC Adult Ed Youth Program). VN motioned to approve, and the motion was seconded by KK.

BB- While SCC is behind on enrollment, career specialists have gained experience and working very hard, and are picking up speed with PWE. The ENROLLMENT REPORT shows the projected goal as 54, we are currently at 10. SWIC's goal is 40, and they are currently at 16. The youth program is new for seasoned career specialists and for those that are relatively new. Additionally, we're operating with an inconsistent staff due to position vacancy(ies) and staff on leave.

Update on Transition to In-House Service Delivery- This was covered in the "*Provider Updates*". Additionally, SCC is in a state of improvement; between growing from the Corrective Action Plan and suggestions identified by DCEO, our environment is one without a road map and we adjust on the fly. All staff is now trained on the CASAS testing software, the outer counties and the OneStop now have new computers, ML conducts remote testing; still, dedicated specialists are unable to perform when trying to work with unreliable clients.

PERFORMANCE – IWDS Performance Management, Year-To-Date Manager's Report.

Q2 AND 4 - Youth Employment Rate (YER2/4) and Youth Measurable Skills Gain (YMSG) are currently in fail status, which is typical for this time of year.

Youth Median Earnings Rate (YMER) and Youth Credential Attainment Rate (YCAR) are currently in exceed status.

Karen Farria's (KF) success story about Janet Houston is a terrific reminder that the work we do is meaningful in various ways. Janet earned her GED, landed a job at Securitas as a security officer, and hopes to one day be an LPN.

Job fairs are coming up and we look forward to the opportunity of new recruits. LR is in talks with the Trade Unions and Tyson about possibly hosting a work site and negotiating terms of an acceptable age. The interest regarding Paid Work Experience (PWE), by employer partners, is growing in welcomed ways:

- ⊗ Gateway Grizzlies – Cahokia clients in vendor, ticketing, etc. positions.
- ⊗ Equus – Retired horses for equine therapy. Legitimate expense to purchase necessary work attire and gear. SC-S 1Y OSY client.
- ⊗ O'Fallon Library – Client gaining analysis skills and organization. ML 1Y ISY client
- ⊗ Saddleback Chocolate – O'Fallon, IL.
- ⊗ PC's 4 People – BB and Bonnie Forker (BF).
- ⊗ Bennie's Pizza – SC-S 2 (current), 4 (projected) 1Y OSY/ISY clients posted
- ⊗ Aufferberg – SC-S OSY interviewing January 26, 2023

In closing, KK reminded the council that the next MAWIB meeting will be on February 9, 2023, at 8:30 am via Zoom. With no further discussion, KK adjourned the meeting at 9:18 am.

Acronym: SCC – Saint Clair County