

GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE BOARD RI
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
DECEMBER 12, 2013

MINUTES

Committee Members Present: Robin Coia, Chair, Timothy Byrne, Sharon Moylan

GWB Staff Present: Elizabeth Jardine, Sherri Carello, Hillary Feeney, Amelia Roberts

DLT Staff Present: Carlos Ribeiro, Nancy Olson

Others Present: Malcolm Baxter, BIS; Mike Perrotti, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston; Adrianna Goode; Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston; Tim Harrigan, The Providence Plan

Location: RI Department of Labor & Training, Conference room 73-2

Chair's Call to Order

Chair Coia welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 8:35 am.

Minutes of the Youth Development Committee

Chair Coia asked for a review of the meeting minutes of the 9-26-13 Governor's Workforce Board Youth Development Committee (YDC). She asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes.

VOTE: S. Moylan motioned to approve, seconded by T. Byrne. All were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

FY15: Summer and Year-Round

New Elements: Leadership Academy

Chair Coia present the new idea of establishing a leadership academy for youth ambassadors. She noted that the youth who have participated in the program would serve as mentors for younger summer youth participants. E. Jardine commented that the leadership academy was discussed at a previous meeting with Anne Walsh and Carlos Ribeiro. C. Ribeiro explained that a segment would be created within the summer youth program and the youth centers would help to identify possible candidates for the academy. He added that funds would be devoted specifically to the leadership academy. E. Jardine explained that in the allocation, there would be a particular fund for an organization that might have expertise in building youth leaders. It was noted that the academy could be established for the next summer youth program round. S. Moylan inquired about the length of the program and suggested extending the program to year-round. C. Ribeiro explained that it would be a six week program. E. Jardine added that the intensive portion of the academy would be the six weeks during the summer but the ambassadors would provide year-round support to the other youth participants.

Funding Request

Chair Coia asked Nancy Olson to present the Workforce Partnership of Greater RI and the Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston JDF funding request for FY15. N. Olson referred to the funding request handout and discussed the different services that are provided through the

youth centers, the youth center system historical statistics and summer 2013 JDF enrollments and outcomes. She noted that, unlike WIA funds, the JDF funds allow universal access to all youth. She reported that \$1,500,000 was allocated last year, which served a total of 1,108 youth at a cost of \$1,258.09 per student. N. Olson noted that an additional 239 youth were served with DHS funding (\$800,000), adding that the DHS funding will not be available for FY15. She explained the blended funding of JDF and WIA funding and discussed the increase in costs for 2014 including the minimum wage (\$8.00). N. Olson stated that the total youth request for FY15 is \$2,000,000 (\$500,000 for the youth centers and \$1,500,000 for summer youth programs). E. Jardine inquired about the \$100,000 of the \$1,500,000 allocated for summer youth that hasn't been spent. N. Olson explained that unpaid invoices and administrative charges for the monitoring that occurs after the youth finish the program will decrease the balance. Chair Coia inquired about the number of youth that will be served if the funding request were approved. N. Olson noted that due to the increase in costs, around 1,050 youth will be served. The committee further discussed reaching out to other partners and looking at other sources of private funding. N. Olson reported that one of the main priorities at the GRI strategic retreat was to search for other ways to fund the youth system, such as a corporate sponsor. R. Coia recommended having summer youth employer representatives, such as Jay Visnjic from Hampton Inn, speak to employers at the next Employer Advisory Group.

Chair Coia stated that if the funding request is approved by the Youth Development Committee, the vote would be put forth to the Strategic Investments and Evaluation Committee for their approval, and then brought to the full board for the final approval. Chair Coia asked if there was a motion to approve the Workforce Partnership of Greater RI and the Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston FY15 funding request of \$2,000,000 to support the summer youth programs and YouthWORKS411 Centers.

VOTE: S. Moylan moved to approve, seconded by T. Byrne. The motion passed unanimously.

FY16 Youth Centers and Adult Education Funding

Chair Coia asked E. Jardine to discuss the FY16 Youth Centers and Adult Education funding. E. Jardine noted that in 2006-2007, the RI Department of Education-Adult Education unit mandated a certain number of youth slots in the RFP that went out to the adult education centers. She stated that mandated slots would ensure access to adult education services for youth who are not a part of the K-12 system. E. Jardine noted that the youth and adult education systems should work together to provide youth with the educational services and support they need. She discussed the goal for the next adult education RFP to have a clear priority that explicitly guarantees a number of youth slots to make GED services available in youth centers or at accompanying adult education sites. The committee discussed the adult education infrastructure system that could be leveraged to provide youth with adult educational services. Chair Coia inquired about the mechanism to start the process of securing youth slots. E. Jardine recommended discussing the topic at the next Adult Education Committee meeting.

Connecting Youth and Employment

Chair Coia introduced Tim Harrigan from the Providence Plan to present on the DataHUB and the LDA Workforce Data Project. Tim Harrigan discussed the mission and background of ProvPlan, noting that the primary goal is to improve the social and economic well-being of Providence, its neighbors, and its residents. He noted their major priority of providing easy data access and providing informational tools to help solve problems. T. Harrigan explained the DataHUB origins as a secure platform for linking data on individual people across multiple databases. He further discussed how the Hub works, various data partners, and the process of developing data stories. Lastly, T. Harrigan presented a data story of Rhode Island's young adult workforce and discussed the key takeaways.

Adjournment

With no further business, Chair Coia asked for a motion to adjourn.

VOTE: T. Byrne moved to approve, seconded by R. Coia.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amelia-Anne Roberts