

# **Workforce Partnership of Greater Rhode Island**

## **Youth Council Minutes**

**October 15, 2009**

**Present: Evaristo Amaral, Vanessa Cooley, Andrew DeTora, Cynthia Farrell, Sharon Gainey, Lee Lewis, Philip Stone, Andrew Tyska, Johan Uvin**

**Absent: Alexis Devine, Joseph DiPina, Lissa Dreyer, Alberto DeBurgo, Victoria Gailliard-Garrick, Joseph DeSantis, Dorothy Mattiello, Michael Montanaro, Scott Seaback.**

**Staff and guests: Christine Grieco, Carlos Ribeiro, Sharon Geoffrey, Joanne Thibedeau, Brian Gambardella and Steve Dolce.**

**No Quorum.**

**Cynthia Farrell called the meeting to order at 8:41 am.**

### **Youth Center Presentation**

**Steven Dolce, Acting Youth Center Manager, East Bay Community Action Program (“EBCAP”), reported on the program. Established May 5, 2008, EBCAP currently has 600 participants enrolled at three youth center locations (East Providence, Bristol and Newport) that serve ten (10) communities. Thirty-three (33) of the participants are enrolled in WIA and twenty-five (25) of those have already exited the**

**program with positive outcomes.**

**EBCAP was contracted to serve two hundred (200) youth in PY 08 and three hundred thirty (330) youth in PY 09. The agency provides academic services and job skills training. To date, they have placed fifty (50) youth in part time jobs. Additional support services are referred out.**

**Plans are to develop a GED program and a financial literacy program at the three (3) youth centers.**

**Youth Program Enrollment and Services: WIA and JDF**

**Carlos Ribeiro reported that enrollments are on target for the WIA program.**

**Carlos explained the JDF and WIA funding breakdown for youth centers.**

**For PY 2008, JDF contracted to serve 2,584 youth and enrollment was 3,296 (+27%).**

**To date PY 2009, JDF contracted to serve 1,479 youth and enrollment is 1,022 or 70%. Some vendors have exceeded enrollments.**

**Total WIA funds from 2001 – 2009 were approximately \$9M serving 1,685 youth.**

**Total JDF funds from 2007-2009 were \$3.5M serving 6,221 youth.**

**Total ARRA funds for 2009 were \$2.1M serving 907 youth.**

**Total youth funds were \$14.6M serving a total of 8,813 youth.**

**WPGRI passed all required WIA outcomes by 80% as required by the US Department of Labor. Most outcomes were achieved at 100% and some exceeded 100%.**

**Discussion ensued regarding youth population and youth served. Estimates are that there are currently 20,000 youth between 14-24 years of age, and approximately 10,000 are being served by both Workforce Investment Boards (WPGRI and Providence/Cranston).**

**Youth Program Enrollment & Services ARRA:**

**Development of procedures for transitioning and tracking youth outcomes from the summer ARRA program to the WIA program are in progress. In the interim, youth that were enrolled in the summer ARRA program and being served on the JDF program.**

**Christine Grieco explained the extensive reporting requirements for the ARRA program.**

**For ARRA 2009, the Federal Government requires 70% out of school and 30% in school youth enrollment. WPGRI achieved this goal exactly.**

**Total forecasted enrollment was 892. Actual enrollment was 907.**

## **Fiscal Reporting**

**Brian Gambardella explained the ARRA fiscal reporting process and forms required. He visited ARRA vendors to explain the requirements.**

**ARRA contracts require close-out packages within thirty (30) days. Extra time is being granted to allow vendors to compile and report the data.**

**Fiscal site monitoring for PY 2007 and PY 2008 is complete, and no major issues were revealed.**

## **RFP 2010**

**WPGRI and Providence/Cranston will issue a joint RFP for 2010 this month. Timelines were discussed.**

**New aspects of the RFP include 1) engaging local businesses to provide occupational skills training through partnerships, and 2) outcomes on JDF contracts.**

**Target for 2010 is to enroll four hundred (400) WIA youth and three thousand (3,000) JDF youth.**

**The meeting adjourned at 10:04 am.**

**The next meeting of the Youth Council will be held November 19, 2009, at 8:30 am.**