



WORKFORCE INNOVATION BOARD OF EAST CENTRAL ILLINOIS

Youth Committee

Date: Tuesday, May 8, 2018
 Time: 3:00 p.m.
 Place: Illinois workNet™ Center
 1307 N. Mattis Av., Champaign, IL. 61821
 Members Present: Marc Changnon, Tamara Covert (proxy for Donna Kaufman), Gwen DuPree-Pryor, Amanda Henegar (proxy for Nick Elder), Jim Mayer, Kyle McKay (proxy for Mary Garman), Dean Rose
 Members Absent: Angele Burns, Mike Bryant,
 Staff Present: Lisa Knight, Linda McCoy
 Others Present:

MEETING MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Mr. Rose called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. Everyone in attendance introduced themselves.

II. Approval of the agenda

Mr. Mayer motioned, seconded by Mr. Changnon to approve the agenda. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

III. Audience participation

There was no audience participation.

IV. Minutes

Mr. Rose asked for a motion to approve the February 13, 2018 Youth Committee minutes.

Mr. Mayer motioned, seconded by Ms. DuPree-Pryor, to approve the February 13, 2018 Youth Committee Minutes. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

V. Action Items

A. RFP Committee recommendations

Ms. Knight shared the results of the Youth RFP Review Committee meeting held on April 13, 2018. The committee recommendations appeared in a table on page 3 of the meeting packet. Discussion ensued regarding the three new program applicants, the services they provide, and why they were recommended for funding. Ms. DuPree-Pryor explained, two of the programs, “Driven to Reach Excellence & Academic Achievement for Males” (DREAM) and “First Followers”, were seen as providing services for a population not currently being served in our area. DREAM is aimed at helping youth from age 18-24 coming out of the justice system, re-establish themselves in the community, learn life skills, job skills, and coping mechanisms that will enable them to obtain employment and reduce recidivism. The First Followers program focuses on 16-24 adults re-entering the workforce after incarceration. They provide an academic curriculum for those who want to continue their education, as well as hands on training in construction skills. Both programs were approved for a lesser amount than requested as a precaution, while performance data can be compiled and more can be learned about their success rate. Both programs offer other services, such as aftercare and summer programs for younger participants, however, WIOA funding will apply only to those coming from the justice system. All agreed these types of services are much needed and are a welcome addition to our program. The third program, “Genuine, Intelligent, Respectful Ladies Soaring” (GIRLS) was declined funding based on lack of an academic component and duplication of services already available through several other current providers. Discussion continued with questions from Mr. Rose and Mr. Mayer regarding skills testing and performance measures for the new programs. Ms. Knight assured the committee, the same WIOA requirements apply to all of our providers, including the two new additions.

Ms. Knight reported the recommendations will be taken before the Workforce Innovation Board and the Chief Elected Officials Board next week for final approval. Mr. Rose called for a vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Changnon and seconded by Mr. Mayer to accept the Youth RFP Review Committee recommendations for Provider funding for PY18. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously. Mr. McKay and Ms. Covert abstained from the vote due to conflict of interest.

B. Proposed new providers

Committee members agreed the new provider applicants have been discussed in the previous item 6-A.

C. Provider monitoring reports

Ms. Knight drew attention to the monitoring reports for each of our current providers. She shared, all providers are doing well and/or working on meeting expectations. Ms. DuPree-Pryor and Mr. Rose questioned the Principal Scholars Program (PSP) compliance issues. Ms. Knight offered, the director of PSP is meticulous about her files, however the program is not in compliance with our WIOA contract at this time, due to the many missing case notes and contact with customers, both opened and exited. This is a constant concern and is being addressed by this agency. Ms. DuPree-Pryor inquired about the difference between PSP and the Students Training for Exceptional Performance (STEP) programs. Ms. Knight explained that PSP is a University of Illinois statewide mathematics and science initiative that works to prepare disadvantaged students for college preparatory pathways. Under the PSP umbrella, STEP is a year round participant assistance based program dedicated to helping customers at risk of not graduating high school, as well as lack of employment training. They provide tutoring, alternative secondary school, work experience opportunities, supportive services and adult mentoring. Only the STEP portion of PSP is funded by WIOA funds.

Mr. Rose asked about the Work Experience (WEX) program employer participation and the Champaign County Forrest Preserve in particular. Ms. Knight shared that she is personally acquainted with the director of the Forrest Preserve and used that link to encourage him to become a WEX provider.

Information was shared about the Champaign Fire Department hiring event and the opportunities and ways to earn preference points. The Fire Department only hires once a year and a maximum of 30 applicants will be considered. Ms. DuPree-Pryor shared her experience attending a meeting with the Fire Department and came away with only positive impressions. She also mentioned the "Explorer" program for young people interested in a career as a firefighter.

Discussion ensued regarding Carle's third recruitment event coming up and the success they have had with their Carle Initiative program. Mr. Changnon noted that Parkland has many high school students who are taking dual credit courses for CNA and nursing careers and they could benefit from this initiative as well.

Ms. Knight reported that the Carle Initiative includes other positions as well as nursing, such as housekeeping, janitorial and sterilization technicians.

Mr. Mayer gave a short synopsis of the 11th Annual Spring Disabilities Expo. They had a new venue this year at the Vineyard Church in Urbana. The event was well attended and participant feedback was positive. The Expo will continue to occur in the spring with a date of March 30th planned for 2019.

Ms. Knight shared the resignation of Lynette Correa-Velez from the committee, as she and her family are moving to the Chicago area. Mr. Rose also shared the retirement of Mr. Changnon as of June 30, 2018.



VIII. Adjournment

There being no further business before the committee, Mr. Rose asked for a motion to adjourn.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. DuPree-Pryor and seconded by Mr. Mayer. Upon vote, the motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 4 pm.

Next meeting: August 14, 2018 @ 3:00 p.m. Illinois WorkNet Center

Respectfully submitted,
Linda McCoy
Recording Secretary