

SWIC
Youth Committee
December 18, 2014
Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Conference Room 5
Indianapolis, IN 46204
8:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

Members Present: Susan Lockwood, Judy McIntosh, Kevin Wachtel, Renee Palmer, Lori Dimick, Dan Peterson and Bill Stanczykiewicz

Also Present: Edmond O'Neal, Region 3; Miche Grant, Region 1; Bill Miller, EmployIndy; Melissa Leaming, Region 6; Mike Smith and Lisa Lee, Region 7; Jim Heck, Region 11; Deb Waymire, Region 4; John Corcoran, Region 8; Becky Branham, Region 5; Cindy Kicinski, Leslie Crist, Brianna Morse and Laura Phillips from the Department of Workforce Development.

Absent: Kay Gordon, Cathy Metcalf, Patrick Jamison, Wayne Seybold, Brent Waltz, and Mark Wuellner

Dr. Susan Lockwood called the meeting to order 8:39 am. Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Renee Palmer and seconded by Dan Peterson. Minutes from the August 2014 meeting were approved.

Ms. Leslie Crist began with an overview of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act enacted into legislation on July 22, 2014. Overarching themes of the act are increased partnership opportunities, common outcomes and eligibility expansion for youth programs. WIOA also dictates a required shift in service provision and funding expenditures for the out-of-school youth population. Previously, WIA required a minimum expenditure of 30% on OOS youth; WIOA will increase the minimum to 75%.

Additionally, WIOA includes five new youth program elements: financial literacy education, entrepreneurial skills training, provision of Labor Market Information on in-demand industries including career awareness and counseling, education offered concurrently with workforce preparation for a specified occupation and activities to prepare for transition to post-secondary education and training.

A two-page overview of the WIOA legislative changes has been included as an attachment to the notes.

Discussion, led by council chairman, Bill Stanczykiewicz, ensued regarding the WIOA legislation. Council members and regional representatives voiced concerns regarding how the in-school Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) program would be affected, as well as the general definition of in-school youth.

Bill Stanczykiewicz informed council members that there will be a \$1.8 million gap in funding for the existing in-school JAG programs with the WIOA funding requirements. Ms. Crist noted that both Commissioner Braun and Governor Pence are aware of this gap and are working on a resolution with help of the state legislature. She also noted that we may be granted a transition year from the US Department of Labor to enact changes for our in-school programs. DWD has been told by USDOL there will be no waivers granted to assist in the transition.

Additional discussion ensued regarding the 20% provision of work experience for youth. Successful youth programs were discussed by the regional partners.

Next, Bill Stanczykiewicz and Ms. Crist began a discussion regarding additional partners to be included in the youth council under WIOA. Vocational Rehabilitation, Foster Care, Adult Education, and the Chamber of Commerce were suggested.

The meeting turned to Cindy Kicinski for a review of the Jobs for America's Graduates program. Ms. Kicinski stated that recently, 26 student representatives attended the National Student Leadership Academy in Washington DC. One student placed 2nd in the student competitions. Additionally, Malik Williams from Region 3, Heritage High School represented Indiana as its 1 Millionth Student.

During the late fall, over 1,000 JAG students traveled to Vincennes University for a JAG and 21st Century Scholars campus tour. An additional partnership between JAG and the Scholars program took place on October 28th during College Application Day. Nearly 1,000 students applied to colleges, 438 of them were JAG participants.

Ms. Kicinski also highlighted the upcoming JAG Regional Career Development Conferences and asked members if they would like to be judges, let her know. Additional judges for the State CDC on March 13th are welcome.

Ms. Laura Phillips reviewed Class of 2014 JAG follow-up data reports with council members. A copy of the November data report is included as an attachment. Indiana has met the 90% graduation rate outcome for the year. Ms. Brianna Morse highlighted the out-of-school program, which currently has 116 active participants. Bill Stanczykiewicz noted the post-secondary entrance rate could be higher, but Ms. Crist stated that it's a statewide goal that is actually set higher than the national goal.

Ms. Crist provided the council with an update of the WIA Incentive Grant funding plans. DWD was granted \$1.13 million dollars in funding that, through a partnership with the Adult Education team, will provide over 250 vouchers for the WorkINdiana training program and short term work experiences. 10 of the 12 regions applied for the grant funding.

Finally, Ms. Morse reviewed a proposal for the Lt. Governor regarding a summer youth employment initiative that would take place at the Indiana State Fair. Youth (18-24) would work at the State Fair for 17 days and would also receive employment services such as resume writing and career exploration, along with additional workshop-like topics including conflict resolution and nutrition.

The next meeting is set for March 12, 2015.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:44 am.