



***Joint Newark & Essex County Workforce Investment Board
Youth Investment Council Committee Meeting***

Thursday, May 12, 2016
50 S. Clinton Street, 5th Floor Conference Room
2:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Itunu Balogun, Mariselis Bonilla, Apryl Caldwell, Qonisha Earl, Keisha Flemming, Makeba Green, Mien Patrick Mombo, Shakema Pankey, Patricia Robinson, Pamela Ross, Mark Van Kampen, Sonja Williams

Welcome & Opening Remarks:

Apryl Caldwell- Co-Chairperson, YIC

Mrs. Caldwell thanked everyone for attending and led a roundtable introduction of meeting attendees. She then asked everyone to review the minutes. A motion to move the minutes was presented, seconded and approved.

Updates

According to Ms. Sonja Williams (Co-Chairperson), the Newark Youth One Stop is accepting online applications for Newark residents who are 14 to 24 years old. There is also a recruitment targeting high school seniors for the WIOA Work Readiness Program. College Internships are being offered year round and include supportive services and tutoring. RFP Programs are closing on June 30th. RFP's are available for pick-up at 500 Broad Street for those interested in providing classroom training.

Mrs. Caldwell advised that the RFP for Adult and Dislocated WIOA Programs will be out in the next few weeks. Once more detailed information becomes available, it will be shared with the committee. The County of Essex isn't having a summer program and the focus has shifted to out-of-school youth. In an effort to do what is most proficient for the client's career pathway, program participants are screened for eligibility in three components of the program (Adult, Dislocated Workers and Youth). Mrs. Caldwell added that money is attached to education to help provide incentives for students. Some of the incentives include:

Post-Secondary Certification- 50, Youth Program Orientation-250, Work Experience Training-100 weekly, Basic Skills- 75, Placement-50.

Sub-Committee Updates

The Mentorship Sub-Committee

Makeba Green advised that the sub-committee has not met. Mrs. Caldwell solicited help from the group to assist Makeba in shifting the focus of the Mentorship Sub-Committee on participants who meet the new WIOA Eligibility Requirements that Kirk Lew outlined in a previous meeting. She encouraged everyone to become involved in this sub-committee.

Ms. Williams encouraged the leaders of each sub-committee to reach out to the members so that they could work towards the sub-committee goals via email or phone in instances where members are unable to meet in person.

Work Readiness Sub-Committee

Mrs. Earl advised that the committee wanted to put a hold on progress, yet have been moving forward with the YIC Closet. The committee is open to accepting donations for clothing and is in the process of choosing paint colors for the space.

Business Engagement Sub-Committee

Mrs. Caldwell advised that she would continue to attend the Joint Business & Economic Committee Meetings. She informed everyone that the chairperson of this sub-committee is unable to serve. She encouraged group members to help improve our business engagement by soliciting service providers and businesses to join the YIC.

Services/Resources

-The Youth Services Summit will be held June 23rd at 50 S. Clinton Street in East Orange. The purpose is to brainstorm decisions that impact youth by sharing information and leveraging our services.

-The launch of Girls on the Rise, an organization that promotes womanhood, entrepreneurship, health, and wellness will be held on June 25th. Stipends are available for program participants.

-The Stepping Up Conference will be held on May 18th from 9-3 pm at the Paul Robeson Sports Center.

-Tuesday, May 17th the Joint Newark and Essex County WDB Retreat will be held. Please RSVP as soon as possible. This retreat will help committee members gain a better understanding of the WDB, its stakeholders, strategic plan and the purpose of its committees and goals.

-Essex County Job Fair will be held on May 26th at Essex County College. There will be opportunities to be hired on the spot and the committee has run out of tables for employers.

-WIOA will be hosting a workshop for youth. The workshop involves vendors speaking to students about details of their program and they address student's questions. Mrs. Earl asked anyone who is interested in obtaining more information about the training to see her after the meeting.

2016 Upcoming YIC Meeting Dates-

9/8/16 at 2:30 pm
11/30/16 at 10 am

Closing

Apryl thanked the committee for their commitment to the youth. A motion to adjourn the meeting is presented, seconded and moved. The meeting is adjourned.