



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

Thursday, September 11, 2018
50 S. Clinton Street, 5th Floor Conference Room
10:00 A.M.

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Jasmyne Beckford, Kelli Bell-Taylor, Jean Carter, Apryl Caldwell, Ida Chimbay, Brian Coleman, Qonisha Dasent, Lisa Maddox Douglas, Pamela Ross, Tony Taveras, Carolyn Wallace, Chike Uzoka, Dante Williams and Sonja Williams.

Meeting Called to Order, Co-Chairperson, Apryl Caldwell

Apryl Caldwell (Manager, W.I.O.A. Services, ECWDB) introduced herself and advised all attendees of the co-chairperson transition. Ms. Caldwell thanked, now former co-chairperson, Sonja Williams (WIOA Coordinator, Newark Youth One-Stop) for her dedication, time and input. She introduced Jasmyne Beckford (Special Projects Coordinator, NWDB) as the new co-chairperson of the YIC Committee. Ms. Beckford introduced herself and expressed how excited she is to co-chair the committee and her willingness and commitment towards the mission and goals of the YIC Committee.

A round table roll call of meeting attendees was completed.

Pamela Ross and Qonisha Dasent (Clerical Assistant, Essex County One-Stop: WIOA Services) approved the May 10, 2018 minutes with no corrections.

Review Strategic Plan & Mission Statement- Co-Chairpersons: Apryl Caldwell & Jasmyne Beckford

After having reviewed the mission statement, Ms. Caldwell and Ms. Beckford decided to include "unification" to the mission statement, which will be the only change/add-on. Rather than having three separate sub-committees: *Readiness Credential, Employment/Business Engagement and Youth Mentorship*, the Committee will work to address the different goals as a whole and not by what sub-committee you belong.

New Mission Statement Reads: To establish and implement a unified strategic plan for developing a system of youth services capable of preparing youth for further education and future employment.

New Goal Reads: Create a blueprint to prepare our youth through our local One-Stop to develop career pathways to success, utilizing partnerships, business engagement and youth.

Therefore, with the new Mission Statement and Goal, there will be no Work Readiness Credential goal to address. In regards to Employment/Business Engagement, it will now be referred as Business and Youth Engagement. Youth Investment Council Committee needs to be more involved in order to be more productive and overall be able to help the youth more effectively. This will overall help create a better collaboration with all the partners such as Job Core and IYO. In regards to mentorship, Ms. Caldwell advised the Committee's goal should be to invite different mentorship programs to every meeting to help build relationships and referrals.

Ms. Ross suggested inviting NAACP, ACT-SO and SATSO. Ms. Ross advised she will reach out to Ms. Debra Smith-Gregory (President, NAACP).

Ms. Caldwell advised Keisha Flemming had the list of mentorship programs which Ms. Williams volunteered to take charge, increase the list, and send out a cordial invitation to the mentorship programs to the YIC meetings.

Ms. Beckford and Ms. Caldwell advised that the YIC Committee will start having meetings every month to give attendees a better chance on attending a meeting.

Youth Investment Closet:

Ms. Dasent advised the Youth Investment Closet Sub-Committee was planning to have the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on November 30th right after the regular scheduled meeting. Ida Chimbay (Executive Assistant, NWDB) and Keisha Flemming (Assistant, ECWDB) will follow-up with Ms. Dasent to confirm if the date works for the Executive Directors.

The Committee as a whole decided that a cordial invitation for the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony should be sent out to the committee members, board members, Newark or Essex County One-Stop's youth registrants and businesses.

The Youth Investment Closet is to be viewed as a resource for the youth.

In regards to International Youth Organization Thrift Store, Ms. Ross advised that more than likely our youth would not be charged if they do not have the funds to purchase clothes needed for interviews.

The Committee choose the logo for the Youth Council Closet.

Ms. Ross committed in providing the youth with free attire for interviews and any or all job related necessities for the youth at no cost.

The Committee agreed on having an additional meeting on October 11th at 10:00 A.M. to prepare for the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

Ms. Dasent needs to advise Mr. Al Bundy on the date and time for the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony so he may advise Joseph DiVencenzo. Ms. Dasent requested two full body size mirrors, which Ms. Caldwell volunteered in purchasing.

Next meeting the Committee will tour the Youth Investment Council.

Resource Guide:

Chike Uzoka advised the resource guide should be split into different categories. The Committee suggested the following: mentorship, medical, behavioral health, legal and other. If we have specific categories then it will be easy to compile a list. Ms. Caldwell stated that the resource guide should be a commitment and goal agreed upon prior to addressing the issue. This goal can be addressed moving forward, specifically in 2019.

Mentorship:

Ms. Caldwell advised she will discuss the parameters of what and how mentorship will be addressed. As of now the main goal, involving mentorship is to have a guest speaker every month.

Ms. Caldwell advised for the next meeting she will have all of the proposed meeting dates for 2019.

Ms. Beckford advised about the Youth Winter Summit that will be hosted in early 2019 which goal is to educate the youth on different career pathways. Ms. Beckford advised that the goal is to serve about 300 or more youths. The summit will include the different Talent Networks. Meeting adjourned by Ms. Caldwell.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 30, 2018.

