

Youth Committee Meeting

**Randy Guttenberg, Chair—Youth
Laura Cataldo, Chair
Francis Langer, Secretary
Michelle Eilbes, Fred Hebert, Rich Hands,
Chuck Klein, Pam Korth, Melissa Montey, Charles Poches,
Lisa Pollard, Elizabeth Roddy, Calvin White Eagle**

**Thursday, September 9, 2021
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

**Workforce Development Board
via Conference Call
(301) 715-8592
Meeting ID: 948 5181 8598**

Members Present: Randy Guttenberg, Chair; Laura Cataldo, Rich Hands, Chuck Klein, Pam Korth, Francis Langer, Melissa Montey, Charles Poches, Elizabeth Roddy, Calvin White Eagle

Staff Present: Seth Lentz, Lameece Tyne, Jackie Hall, Chris Ziegel, Erin Bechen, Becca Collins

Guests Present: Julie Enloe, Chan Stroman

Agenda Item 1 – Welcome and Introductions

Guttenberg called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. and welcomed everyone. Everyone introduced themselves.

Agenda Item 2 – Review and Approval of the May 6, 2021 Youth Committee Minutes

Guttenberg asked for a motion to approve the May 6, 2021 Youth Committee minutes as presented. Poches moved to approve the motion as presented. Hands offered the second. No discussion followed on this motion. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Agenda Item 3 – Grants and Program Updates

Lentz acknowledged submission of the 2021-2022 Youth Apprenticeship Grant. The grant totals \$396,418 and terms include serving 440 Youth Apprentices. Participation numbers have decreased statewide about 11% with an expected rebound as the environment continues to open up.

Lentz outlined the Youth Apprenticeship Participation dashboard which was recently released from the Department of Workforce Development (DWD).



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Lentz continued with updates to the Independent Living grant. The Department of Children and Families (DCF) has received additional funding toward the Independent Living grant to accommodate the increased need for supports and resources during the COVID-19 environment. The increase in funds has increased participation of individuals.

Agenda Item 4 – Youth Model Reflection Update

Lentz reviewed with the Committee the WIOA Title I Youth Programs Service Delivery Model detailing recruitment & assessment, partner referrals and program enrollment, and the services offered under the model which include career services, training services, work-based learning services, and support services. Wraparound services are critical to keep participants engaged toward employment and/or postsecondary education.

Lentz reminded the Committee of the current WIOA Youth waiver which allows for a 50/50 split between In-School Youth (ISY) and Out-of-School Youth (OSY) funding. Workforce Development Board Directors have met with DWD and are pursuing another 2-year waiver extension.

Lentz covered the recent implementation of the Youth Incentive Payments which is a new strategy for recruitment and progression of career paths. The incentive offers cash rewards for various employment and postsecondary achievements to attract new customers and keep youth engaged.

Lentz outlined the recent implementation of the technology guidance additions toward the Program Service Guide. Documentation has been updated to accommodate WIOA Out-of-School Youth and Independent Living program participants who are pursuing pre-apprenticeship trainings or basic skills development.

Lentz summarized the alignment and collaborations diversifying the STEPS Academy workshops to recruit and retain participants and encourage co-enrollment across programs and funding sources.

Lentz noted the Worker Advancement Initiative application was released by DWD. WDBSCW has submitted a proposal which will also help to reinforce co-enrollment across various programs.

Hall briefed the Committee on the system design for program year 2020 (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021). Remote learning has provided a new strategy for the system design, complete with new obstacles such as virtual fatigue. While there was a decrease in participation while in the COVID-19 environment, program participation is increasing with the reopening of the region's job centers.

Hall went over the Youth Profiles and demographics of participants served in PY20. Barriers that were reported by participants remains relatively unchanged from prior years with the largest barrier reported as Low Income. 31 participants have exited to post-secondary education or employment with average hourly earnings of \$13.33.

Hall informed the Committee on the federal performance scorecard metrics and scoring. All goals for the region have been met or exceeded.

Lentz articulated that the scorecard is the performance standard set with DWD and the Department of Labor (DOL). Enrollments will increase as more establishments continue to reopen.

Roddy was delighted with the strong results and eagerly awaits what the next year will bring with it.

Agenda Item 5 – Procurement Discussion and Recommendation

Lentz reported the WDBSCW has typically been on a two-year procurement cycle for service providers. For sole-source providers, services are validated for success every two years. The timeframe provides few opportunities to review the results before heading into a new two-year cycle. Language within the 2020 procurement allows for the renewal of existing contracts for additional years rather than procure at the two-year cycle. The Governor’s Council of Workforce Development is in its strategic planning process which will require the Workforce Development Boards to align each respective local plan to the state’s strategic plan. The extension of contracts provides additional time to cater to the state’s strategic plan.

Roddy inquired if there have been any issues with the current contracts and service providers, or additional entities we may be leaving out by not procuring.

Lentz responded there are no current issues with contracts or service providers. Typical fluctuations with staffing are expected. Complications arise with getting out into the community under the current COVID-19 environment and it is difficult to hold contractors to accountability under this environment. Historically we have few submissions for our WIOA Youth contracts during competitive procurements. While a procurement cycle would gauge the interests of organizations in providing these services during the current environment, there are relatively few service providers that have previously shown interests in administering the WIOA Youth services. Developing collaborations with community-based organizations (CBO) continues to be a priority and provides a better understanding of WIOA Youth services for future interests in pursuing WDB procurements or contracts.

Guttenberg requested a motion to approve the recommendations for contract renewals as presented. Poches moved to approve the recommendations as presented. Hands offered the second. Pollard abstains. Hebert abstains. No discussion followed on this motion. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Agenda Item 6 – Adjournment

With no additional business for the Committee, Guttenberg motioned to adjourn at 10:49 a.m.

Adjourned: 10:49 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth Roddy
Board Secretary
Workforce Development Board of South Central Wisconsin, Inc.

Attachments for Board Records:

- Minutes from May 6, 2021
- Youth Presentation PowerPoint



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