

COASTAL COUNTIES WORKFORCE BOARD
Minutes of Youth Council Meeting
Coastal Counties Workforce Inc. Fort Andross
June 4, 2014

Youth Council Members in Attendance: Denise Griffin (Council Chair), Jaime Grover (Goodwill Industries of NNE), Sheila Muldoon (Goodwill Industries of NNE), Christa Baade (CEI), Michelle Love (Camden National), Brenda Perry (LL Bean)

Other: Jen Neal (Goodwill of NNE)

Members unable to attend: Lt. Rand Maker, Meaghan Bisson (former youth participant), Mary Bouvier (Westbrook Housing Authority), Heather Stott (Goodwill of NNE), Jill Moody (Job Corps), Joseph Hufnagel (Wayfinder School)

Minutes—

Voted: Accepted

Sheila Muldoon motioned

Christa Baade seconded

All approved

Provider Updates:

Waldo, Knox and Northern Lincoln (Sheila Muldoon):

- Increase in older out of school youth seeking services
- Currently have 10 worksites for paid work experiences
- Recruiting youth with no post secondary plans through presentations at Searsport & Mt. View high schools
- WIA Youth successes:

Youth referred from the Restorative Justice program completed a 6-week paid work experience in welding position that led to hire at completion. Youth was able to car pool with a colleague to participate in work experience and will continue to do so until reinstating their motor vehicle license.

WIA Youth enrolled in Waldo County tried a work experience and realized they wanted to pursue education. Youth has now completed 2nd semester at Eastern Maine Community College, is now living on campus and earned a 3.7 GPA for second semester.

- New Staff Belfast/Rockland: Melanie Nesbitt, Youth Employment Specialist
- Denise Griffin mentioned maintenance position in Damariscotta- potential work experience position. Sheila will review caseload for possible fits.

Southern Coast (Jaime Grover):

- New staff: York County Youth Employment Counselor, Amy Malloy; Cumberland County Employment Counselor, Rebekah Bossie
- Matthew Hayden has taken a new role with GoodGuides, a youth mentoring program serving youth that meet juvenile justice risk factors. Matt will continue to case manage the Sagadahoc county caseload.

- Enrolling several youth from Adult Education; mostly younger youth needing to work on GED/ Hi-SET
- Goodwill staff in York county are receiving referrals from Youth Building Alternatives in Biddeford
- Continue to work with youth in foster care through collaborative efforts with USM's Muskie Institute
- WIA staff presented program information to Biddeford High School graduates and parents.
- WIA Youth success:

Long Creek youth enrolled in WIA Youth began working with the program while still at the detention facility. Moved to South Paris, Maine upon release. Youth continued to work with WIA staff and was placed at the Lewiston Goodwill. To date, the work experience is going well and client intends to enroll in college in the fall.

Job Corps (updates from Jill Moody- unable to attend):

- Still looking for female referrals.
- Open house at Bangor Center in July- focused on increasing female recruitment.

Update on Business Services (Sheila Muldoon and Jaime Grover)

Waldo, Knox and Lincoln

- Employment Counselors and Business Service Representatives (BSR) meet every other week to discuss cases and new contacts in the community.
- Richard, BSR, mentions work experiences when contacting new businesses; involves Sheila if there is interest.
- BSRs have been involved with mock interviewing and conversations about work readiness.
- SHRM- Sheila and Richard have inquired about presenting at an upcoming meeting
- Union employer hiring for welding positions; sent resumes of potential candidates.

Sagadahoc, Cumberland, York

- BSRs have developed several work experiences for WIA Adults utilizing the youth model.
- Regular meetings between BSRs and staff
- Planning on offering DSP, CRMA, NAPPI course again in late summer 2014
Group discussed BHP being another credential to consider

Program Updates (Jaime Grover):

- Discussion on 6th barrier to employment for WIA Youth
- Suggestion- add birth certificate or license as proof of age
Motion: Sheila
Second: Michelle
All Approved

Performance Updates (Jaime Grover):

- Enrollments ahead of plan
- Literacy/numeracy- need a few more attainments to meet goal

Other:

Youth Council Survey:

- Conference call option- add conference call line as option to participate in meetings
- Presentations from other youth related programs- potential ideas:
Dave Wurm-Long Creek Employment Program
GoodGuides-Youth Mentoring
Adult Education-HiSET
- Enhance business engagement
- Employers need to feel they are adding value.
Agenda Items for the future: challenges hiring youth, presentation by businesses, ER issues-Brenda, employer updates
- Clarify what we want from employers-
Invite BSR
Invite new employers
Business presentations

Additional Items:

- Changes to exits; 90 day clock will be implemented in July 2014
- Contract with Empyra has been discontinued
- Facebook; agenda item for next/future meeting
- Brenda Perry mentioned LL Bean is hiring in the shoe factory- hiring for positions lasting through the holiday season

Next meeting:

September 3rd @ 9:00 am

Adjourned