



MARICOPA WORKFORCE CONNECTIONS YOUTH COUNCIL

Maricopa County Human Services Department

234 North Central, Suite 3201, Phoenix, AZ 85004

Arizona Conference Room

January 20, 2011

Minutes

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Tony Maldonado called the meeting to order at 8:36 a.m.

II. Roll Call: Quorum

Present: Patrick Burkhardt, Che Collins (T), Angelo Maisto, Tony Maldonado, Bob Neckes (T), Ignacio Pesqueira

Absent: Randy Kimmens

Staff: Barb Rorwick, Bill O'Brien, Laurie Ontiveros, Trina Jenkins, Todd Berndt, Rudy Barcelo, Virginia Sturgill, Curtis Shaw, Kristen Merser

Guests: Julie Sater, Michael Graser, Sharlet Barnett, Megan MacGilva, Navin Lamansky, Adam Soto, Devin Hearn, Crystal Smith, Vanessa Mori, Cecy Terango, *Alex Bizzaro (not signed in)*

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes – Action Item

Barb Rorwick corrected the number of ACYR enrollments to 172 as of the end of November. Angelo Maisto made a motion to approve the minutes from November 18, 2010. Che Collins seconded the motion. The motion carried.

IV. Youth Participant Presentations – For Information Only

Barb explained the youth satisfaction survey handout and introduced 3 Summer Youth participants who gave a presentation about their experience. She noted that the majority responded to the survey as having a good or excellent experience. The Youth Readiness class overall responses were also good or excellent. Twenty-five youth were hired with the participating employers after exiting the Summer program.

The first presentation was from 15-year-old Central High School student Alex Bizzaro, who participated in the YMCA program. He was impressed with the work readiness class where he learned how to dress, interview, be on time, and other work skills. He enjoyed his work experience of daycare and front desk duties at Christown YMCA. He said that he felt confident that he could fulfill the requirements of the job on the first day, so he didn't leave the program having learned anything unexpected. The presentation was his first public speaking experience. He aspires to be a police officer.

Young mother of two and South Mountain Community College student Vanessa Mori participated in the Friendly House Aspire program in Chandler. She also appreciated the job preparation class and is grateful to have continued employment after exit from the program. She aspires to be a nurse.

Cecy Terango participated in the ACYR Arizona Call-a-Teen program and echoed praise about the work readiness program. She is also a mother of two and didn't believe there were any options for her before the program. She credited her work experience with Goodyear Fire Department for strengthening her communication skills and giving her the confidence to speak in front of the council. The program inspired Cecy to start a paralegal certificate program and she aspires to be an international lawyer someday.

V. MWC New Metrics Report—For Information Only

Laurie briefed on the new metrics benchmarks handout. The benchmarks were presented and approved by the council at the last meeting on November 19, 2010. The benchmarks were created in response to a DOL suggestion to build on WIA requirements. It helps youth overcome barriers and succeed in the program. The fluctuation in results is due to different providers having a different focus/specialty (ie: Goodwill may have a stronger focus on ex-offenders).

Patrick noted that this is the first snapshot available with the new metrics, so comparative analysis is not available. Metrics will be established as first year benchmarks and used for comparative analysis in future years. Patrick asked the programs to help interpret the numbers to create reasonable goals for

next year. Providing benchmarks provides the ability to get a snap shot of performance during the program year rather than having to wait until the program is complete. The time period of measurements begin at program entrance and end at exit from program.

VI. Provider Reports – *For Information Only*

ACYR is conducting special training programs including an IBES program with the final ARRA dollars. They offer a phlebotomy program with Southwest Skills Center. Three participants have obtained a GED: two are continuing education, and one is looking for employment. Nine women are looking into entering the phlebotomy program within the next few months. Five men entered the program and two have been successful getting credentials and employment. They are creating a Patient Care Technician training program which requires three certifications. They will be seeking grant opportunities to sustain the program after ARRA, as well as grants that pay stipends during training to combat employment barriers.

YMCA reported that both sites are busy. They conducted an urban housing activity building a ginger bread house along with 27 other houses that were raffled bringing in \$14,000 for the program. Program participants included Terro's, WIC, Grand Canyon University, U-Mom, Kaplan College and Maricopa Skills Center. WWED visited school to answer student questions and took students to an MLK luncheon. They are planning an open house tentative March 2nd. A student was shot in shoulder the day before the meeting so the council was asked to keep him in their prayers.

VSUW enrollments had been low through holidays, but picking up again now. The nine-week work readiness class is full. The class helps with paperwork for junior college. There is not a lot of walk-in traffic for the Gilbert offices. The most interest is in healthcare programs. Case managers are helping kids with academics and supportive services as needed.

MWC: Trina Jenkins reported that the West Valley is experiencing the same thing and attributes that to limited staff ability to do outreach. WVCC is down 3,000 youth from the year before. There were 819 new visits last year, down to 197 visits this year. Ignacio said that youth may feel intimidated by the large numbers of adults at the centers.

Todd offered that Access Point locations could assist with distributing program information. He said that resources will need to be reenlisted in order to fulfill the marketing and outreach efforts needed. Todd also mentioned that the PLOT program which is no longer in effect helped to recruit youth. They haven't had the staff to do for the past year or so. YMCA is working with access points where youth may be more comfortable.

Goodwill

Devin Herring is working with Tempe and Mesa school districts keeping kids in school and out of incarceration. They are hosting bi-weekly group sessions with prosecutors with a focus on rights, records, what to do if pulled over, and appropriate responses to officers. They plan to hire a new coordinator by the end of the month.

VII. Call to the public

Patrick said that David Smith, the County Manager, has taken initiatives to reduce the re-incarceration rate through discussions with human services to create a focused pilot program in the east valley. They are working on budgets and staffing for an intensive case management model which may result in a new division within human services.

The MWC Board created an Ad hoc Task Force to revise the two-year plan by July 1. The task force consists of three youth council members: Tony Maldonado, Che Collins and Randy Kimmens. The plan will exceed state requirements by providing goals, metrics, and milestones.

VIII. Adjournment

Ignacio motioned, Patrick seconded, and chair Maldonado adjourned the meeting at 9:22 a.m.