



**1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair Tony Maldonado called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**2. Roll Call: Quorum (5)**

**Present:**

- (1) Patrick Burkhart
- (2) Che Collins (T @ 8:54)
- (3) Tony Maldonado
- (4) Ignacio Pesqueira
- (5) Bob Neckes (T)

**Absent:**

Angelo Maisto

**Staff**

Curtis Shaw  
 Aaron Sneddon  
 Kristen Merser  
 Laurie Ontiveros  
 Victoria Sanchez

**Partners**

**ACYR**

Pam Smith  
 Sharlet Barnett  
 Adam Soto

**YMCA / Las Artes**

Michael Graser  
 Eric James

**VSUW**

Brianna James

**GOODWILL**

Devin Hearn

**Guests**

Jennifer Balderas, Aaron Fogliano,  
 Antonie Gagiardi, Ashley Gagiardi, Sara  
 Gagiardi, Bridget Johnson, Kenisha  
 Manley, Kristi Poling, Rumi Poling, Josh  
 Riforgiate, Elizabeth Riforgiate, Sara  
 Riforgiate, Alexandra Rodriguez, Nicolas  
 Sloan, Charles Smith, Joel Southwick,  
 Hannah Stantley, Kim Stauffer, Karthik  
 Uppaluri, Amruth Uppaluri, Nalini  
 Uppaluri, Alex White

**3. Approval of Meeting Minutes –** Patrick made a motion to approve the minutes from May 19<sup>th</sup>, Ignacio seconded the motion; minutes approved.

**4. MCLE Program Presentation**

Victoria Sanchez reported that the Maricopa County Leadership Experience (MCLE) program had a final enrollment of 149 youth ages 12-17, with 21 county departments participating. Last year there were only 30 enrollments and 7 completions. The program started May 23<sup>rd</sup> and will end with a graduation on August 13<sup>th</sup> at 9am at Animal Care and Control with presentations by County Manager David Smith and Assistant County Manager Dr. Silva.

Tony asked the volunteers to name their most and least favorite experiences in the program. One participant noted that he enjoyed the street sign making assignment, another enjoyed the case review teen core session, and another enjoyed the I.T. experience at the Human Services building. No one noted a negative experience.

Curtis asked if anyone had an experience that made them want to pursue that as a career. One participant said that the experience with the county library made her interested in working at a college library when she was older. Another participant said he was impressed with the high tech equipment at the Air Quality Monitoring center and would be interested in pursuing that as a career. Victoria noted that the participants had met with different staff members who laid out the career and education requirements for their positions.

Patrick congratulated Victoria on the success of the program and thanked everyone for coming. He noted the enrollment comparison with last year and said that the County Manager is enthusiastic about the program. Patrick said there will be talk about having this program next year and would like to discuss having something like this year round. It would be a great opportunity to collaborate to provide a work experience with the partners.

## 5. MWC Benchmarking Review and Discussion

Patrick presented the PowerPoint on Youth Performance Benchmarks that were inspired by a DOL Guidance Letter warning that current performance measures may create a false incentive to focus on quantity rather than quality. The team worked together to create benchmark performance measures to ensure program quality. The focus is to meet youth skills and needs to move forward to college, obtain certificates, or gain employment. Data has been collected for about 7 months with revised data collection in April through June, which is considered the most reliable data. This is the first review.

Measure # 1	Complete High School or GED
Measure # 2	Complete High School or GED Obtainment – All Dropouts
Measure # 3	Stable Living Condition
Measure # 4	Dropouts Return to Secondary School
Measure # 5	Remaining in Secondary School
Measure # 6	Enrolled in Post Secondary Training
Measure # 7	Non-Incarceration for former offenders
Measure # 8	Credential Attainment (besides HS/GED)

Results: April – June Data may be considered for FY12 benchmark goals, but there are variations in the data, so it is difficult to ascribe strength/weakness to only 3 months worth of data. Q/A analysis is needed to identify areas for improvement – not all providers are consistent. Tony noted that outside forces such as the economy could be a factor, but Patrick said that measurements are immune to outside effects because they measure what is going on with the participant while they are enrolled in the program. There may not be a way to factor or measure outside forces, but it is focused on individuals.

### General Discussion:

- Do the data appear to be good proxies for Quality Participant Experiences?
- What are the data trends telling us at this point?
- How can we and should we correlate the data to budget, resources and expenditures?
- What frequency should we be reporting the data during FY12?

Tony suggested that the council analyze what a quality experience means. The group discussed that experiences will vary according to individual goals/plans and measured based on achieving milestones and exiting to college or employment. The experience is supplemented with a Q/A review and individual interviews. Each participant comes from different backgrounds with different barriers, so they create a plan, and success is measured by if they accomplish things on that plan by the time they exit.

### Long Term Vision:

- After FY12 – the MWC Youth Council should consider adding evidence-based practice measures to this data set.
- In July 2012, the MWC Youth Council should consider publishing a white paper on this project

Tony noted that 50% of his students drop-out between first and second semester, so that tells him that kids aren't prepared for college. Devin noted that the program is intended to help eliminate barriers, not necessarily track them for future choices or circumstances. Patrick noted that he'd like to implement a longitudinal follow-up study on participants 5 years after exit. Tony noted that we should ask if the system is designed to do what we want it to do, which draws the baseline for the benchmarks.

Patrick motioned for a consensus to consider at the August MWC Board Meeting, to take the last 3 months of data and put in place some soft floor benchmarks to accomplish by year end. The benchmarks need to align with the Two Year Plan. Motion received consensus.

## 6. Call to the public

Bridget Johnson with Jobs for AZ's Graduates introduced Alexandra Rodriguez who presented her success story and a tour of a work experience she did. She entered the program having accumulated only 4 high school credits after attending for two years. In the program, she attended school from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. to finish high school. Now she is 17 years old and already a sophomore at Mesa Community College with aspirations to become a Medical Examiner. Alex said she is very grateful for the agencies that helped her including Aspire, Valley of the Sun United Way and Jobs for Arizona's Graduates.

## 7. Adjournment

Chair Maldonado adjourned the meeting at 9:55 a.m.