

**MARICOPA WORKFORCE CONNECTIONS
YOUTH COUNCIL
Maricopa County Human Services Department
234 North Central, Suite 3201, Phoenix, AZ 85004
Arizona Conference Room
Minutes
October 15, 2009**

I. Call to Order

Don Smith called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

II. Roll Call: Quorum

| Present | Excused/Absent | Staff |
|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Patrick Burkhart | Che Collins | Todd Berndt |
| Julie Estrada (T) | Dennis Ichikawa | Cheryl Rossiter |
| Randy Kimmens | Tony Maldonado | Bill O'Brien |
| Angelo Maisto | | Barb Rorwick |
| Bob Neckes (T) | | Laurie Ontiveros |
| Ignacio Pesqueria | | Dawn Zimmer |
| Don Smith | | Tina Schoville |
| | | Guests |
| | | Sharlet Barnett – ACYR |
| | | Yolanda Carrothers – GICA |
| | | Mike Graser – Las Artes |
| | | Julie Sater – VSUW |
| | | Adam Soto – Call A Teen |
| | | Larry Stevenson – GICA |
| | | Eric James – Las Artes |
| | | Anthony Rivera – ACYR |

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes—Action

Patrick Burkhart made a motion to approve the minutes from July 16, 2009. Angelo Maisto seconded the motion. The motion carried.

IV. Nominations for Youth Council—Action

Barb Rorwick reported that we have two nominees for the Youth Council Board, a former WIA participant, Kaci McCutchen and her mother, Sheryl McCutchen. Kaci started out at the age of 14 with WIA services in the East/West Services sponsored by the Governor's Council. Kaci was also involved in the first PLOT camp and has been active in volunteering with the Food Bank. Her mother, Sheryl has supported her daughter in her endeavors and very involved in programs such as AWEE.

Ignacio Pesqueria made a motion to approve the appointment of Sheryl McCutchen and Kaci McCutchen to serve on the Youth Council Board. Randy Kimmens seconded the motion. The motion carried.

V. Program Report Summer Youth Employment Program—For Information Only

Todd Berndt reported that so far this program year Cheryl and he have facilitated eight workshops through the PLOT program. Last evening they were at Sunshine Residential and instructed the first of three resume writing workshops. In addition to that they were out at three different schools where they conducted mock interviews with 16 students and conducted two work readiness workshops for 145 students at local high schools so they serviced 377 students during the month of September.

Todd also reported on the numbers for the Youth Center, they had 457 visits at the Center which totals 1339 for the year and for first time customers, there were 68, for a total of 298 new youth for the year so far. Cheryl Rossiter shared that they have started their volunteer internship program this year and have five students from both Raymond Kellis and Peoria High Schools and are fulfilling 100 hours of volunteer services at the West Valley Career Center at the Youth Center, the lab and the Business Services center.

Patrick Burkhart reported on the future of the PLOT program, the funding for this program from the Governor's office is on its last year. About a week ago, we had a technical assistance visit from DOL consultant, Oscar Grant. He shared that there was an opportunity for funding through the Department of Justice. The white paper requirements for this funding requires a visit from a technical assistant consultant from the Department of Justice to do an assessment of the program and once that happens the path is somewhat cleared to do an unsolicited proposal unto the Department of Justice to receive three years of funding for this program.

Barb Rorwick shared the numbers of the enrollment report. Except for Las Artes, which is on a different reporting time, enrollments have increased quite a bit compared to last year. The providers will be able to give a more detailed report.

GICA – Larry Stevenson reported that they have enrolled and transitioned from the Summer Youth Work Experience program 16 youth over into the year round program and 12 of these are youth offender specific. Four of these youth are starting employment today, two with Farmers and two with Boeing. He has been working on contacting employers that are Green specific and has recently met and created a partnerships with a couple of companies in the valley that have agreed to bring youth into employment.

- **YMCA** – Mike Graser shared with the group that they now have two different centers opened, he will be reporting the numbers from his center and Eric James will be reporting for the new center. Mike reported that they currently have 11 attending at their site, which normally has 20, but they have had several GED's. They are currently TABE testing for the new site and have 18 youth in this process. They have an art project at Saguaro Ranch in Glendale and will be doing a mural there plus the ASU art display until January. Eric shared that the new center opened their doors on September 28th and they currently have five youth enrolled, have received files for six more approvals and have three more youth starting next week. They are in the process of interviewing for the Art Coordinator position, the person that was originally hired for this position declined the job on their start date so they currently have another candidate but they are waiting for paperwork to be processed.

- **VSUW** - Julie Sater reported that they are wrapping up the paperwork for the Summer Youth Work Experience program. They had 185 out of 199 that completed the program, both the work readiness and experience which is 93%. They will be enrolling 12 of those youth into the year round program and have 11 of the youth that are still working from the summer program, some that were working at Gateway Community College child care center are still employed there. They enrolled six in August so for the first quarter they have enrolled 25 youth. They now have 119 and are contracted to serve 135 so they should make their goal very soon. They also have several youth that are interested in training, they were previously year round youth, but two of these youth will be attending RSI for refrigeration training. They have also identified two youth that are interested in the daycare program and four that want pharmacy tech training and three interested in physical therapy assistant training and all of these classes are expecting to start on November 19th.

VI. ACYR – Sharlet Barnett reported that they have ten new enrollments this month and have 62 youth from the summer program that they are considering turning into enrollments for the year round program. They will be calling these youth to see if they require any additional services especially now that the summer is over and they may require services. They have had 27 youth enter training programs, in medical, dental and nursing and they are hoping to pair them with work experience programs. Buckeye is moving along, they have been offered space at West Valley Bank free of charge and at the end of the month there will be a site visit to see how this space will work out for them.

VII. Lessons Learned Report Summer Youth Employment Program—*For Information Only*

Bill O'Brien shared with the group a presentation on the success of the Summer Youth Work Experience program. He shared the program development process, the recruitment and outreach services, a breakdown of the different worksite requests, how the application process worked and a breakdown of the number of youth enrolled vs the number of applications received. He also shared that there were eligibility events held and that there were WIA barriers that had to be met along with race/ethnicity ratios to fulfill and in-school and out-school participant ratios. He reviewed the DOL visit that was made and reported out the strengths and weaknesses/challenges that were reported. Our original enrollment goal was 600 youth and we actually served 602 youth because our providers were all able to meet or exceed their number of youth served. The overall work readiness attainment for the providers was 87% and we expended \$1,423,638 of our original budget of \$2,022,856. Because of the DOL visit,

the providers were assigned to submit their year round plan to us and focus on the work experience program and the green initiative program. The next steps for this program are to submit the transition plan to DOL by October 22nd, report the final SYEP expenditures report at the November Youth Council meeting and update the progress on the ARRA year round program.

VIII. Assistant Director's Report—*For Information Only*

Patrick shared that we are currently forming two new task force groups and he will be sending out information regarding this new groups to the board members to review and consider joining. This is a strategic planning year for us and we will need to write our new two year plan so these groups have been formed. The strategic planning task force group will take a look at all the issues and trends that will affect us and how that should be considered when writing our next two year plan. The second task force group is specifically targeted to economic recovery. Since no one has any real plan on how the recovery will take place, especially since plans for reemployment have been unsuccessful, we need to evaluate this situation and come up with some strategy. The first meetings of these groups will be in November so an invitation to Youth board members will be sent out prior to the meeting dates for anyone that wants to become a member of either task force.

Another event that Patrick wanted to share with everyone was the Summer Youth Employment graduation that took place in Guadalupe hosted by Friendly House. They had a total of 75 youth participate and employers, families attended and staff was recognized. There was also a tour of the facility and the South Mountain Community College extension which was very impressive.

IX. Call to the public

Anthony Riviera from ACYR announced that they will be recognizing the employers that they worked with during the summer work experience program on November 13 at the West Valley Career Center at 3:00 they will officially recognize them. They are doing this with the City of Phoenix so there will be 133 departments/companies that will be recognized.

X. Adjournment

Don Smith adjourned the meeting at 9:38 a.m.