



**LCWDB Hybrid Youth Committee Board Meeting
Friday, March 8, 2024 at 8:00 a.m.**

Minutes

Members Present: In-person: Valdijah Brown, Jean Martin, Francis Miliano, Kimberly Patrick, Susan Richeson

Via Teams Video Conference: Victor DeSantis, Melissa Ostrowski, Kimberly Patrick, Melissa Reed, Susan Richeson, John Robbins

Staff, Contractors, and Guests: In-person: Ivy Berry, Kyonna Bowman, Gizela Burnside, Mary Byrd, Gloria Crespo, Ana Hernandez, Joseph Mobley Marisol Santos

Via Teams Video Conference: Priscilla Acosta, Jennifer Boley, Karen Kerper, Faith Lex, Stella-Marie McKittrick, Larry Melf, Laurie Stephens, Rosemarie Whiteley, Jonathan Zeigler

I. Welcome/Roll Call and Request for Public Comment

At 8:02 a.m., Chairperson Francis Miliano called the meeting of the Youth Committee of the Lancaster County Workforce Development Board (“LCWDB”) to order and made a request for public comment. No public comments were presented to the Board.

II. Action Items

A. Approval of January 12th Meeting Minutes

Francis Miliano presented the minutes from the January 12, 2024 meeting to the board. No discrepancies were noted.

After discussion and on motion duly made by Jean Martin and seconded by Susan Richeson, it is:

RESOLVED, that the meeting minutes from January 12, 2024 are hereby approved.

(Motion carried unanimously. There were no abstentions.)

III. Discussion Items

A. Disconnected Youth Study - Transportation

Chairperson Francis Miliano discussed the Disconnected Youth Survey completed by TPMA, and the major issues found within it. A major topic of discussion was the issue of transportation, both within Lancaster City and in more rural areas. Jennifer Boley of South-Central Transit Authority attended the meeting to discuss what they've accomplished in transportation needs in Lancaster County, as well as to discuss ways to alleviate the need for transportation. Discussed was how the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce, Hyde Associates, and Four Seasons partnered with Red Rose Transit (a subdivision of South-Central Transit Authority) to help provide transportation from Lancaster City to other rural areas. The cost was offset by the employers, with a \$10 price being passed onto the employees. With numbers dwindling, the only partner currently is Four Seasons in this program. Board Member Jean Martin raised the question as to if smaller buses could be utilized for paths that have less demand. Kimberley Patrick mentioned that she had reached out to Hyde Associates and that they provided that the reason the program didn't work for their employees was due to their shift times.

IV. Youth Providers Updates

At this point, all providers not currently presenting (EDSI, Eckerd, and The Mix) were asked to leave the meeting to ensure fairness during the RFP process.

A. EDSI – TANF Youth and Out-of-School Youth

Ivy Berry, Faith Lex, Stella-Marie McKittrick, and Larry Melf were all present from EDSI to present how their programs have performed. After being introduced by Ivy Berry, Larry Melf discussed how the Out-of-School Youth Program's spending was, including that both participant and paid work experience spending was on track to what EDSI projected. For TANF Youth, Paid Work Experience, Training, and Stipend spending were all on track. Stella-Marie McKittrick presented on both Out-of-School Youth and TANF Youth participants served and enrolled. For both metrics, they achieved over their negotiated 67% enrollment goal (69% enrolled for OSY and 78% for TANF Youth). McKittrick also discussed expanded programs going forward, including serving entire households, improving GED enrollments, and building better relationships with local partners.

B. Eckerd – Out-of-School Youth Program

Gizela Burnside and Ana Hernandez were present from Eckerd to present how their program has performed. Ana Hernandez updated the committee on the number of enrollments they have, compared to their negotiated amount. At the time of the meeting, they had 6 enrollments out of 40 needed. Gizela

Burnside mentioned programs that they were implementing to better their services to the local communities. These included a redesign of their current staffing, hybrid access to their programs – allowing both virtual and in-person programs, and increased outreach. Mentioned was the program spending being behind, at 32.4% instead of the projected 60% at this point in the program year. Concerns were raised about the number of enrollments currently compared to the projected enrollments.

C. The Mix – TANF Youth Program

Kyonna Bowman and Gloria Crespo were present from The Mix to present how their program has performed. This was their first year receiving a WIOA-funded contract. They had an initial goal of 20 paid work experience participants and did not disclose how many of those were currently enrolled. Different facets of their program included paid work experience, career readiness, and career exposure. These were done through workshops, training sessions, partnering with local businesses, and other strategies. They discussed the ways they were doing outreach to eligible participants, including doing targeted outreach to targeted demographics. Currently, The Mix has 86 youth interested in their programs, 31 youth placed at worksites, and 15 youth waiting in pre-placement. The budget is targeted to use 92% by the end of their contract in June. As of February 2024, they've spent 23% of the money obligated to them. A question was raised as to whether there was any indication if the Paid Work Experiences were looking to lead to employment. The Mix responded that they were hoping the experiences would lead to future employment or education.

V. Career Ready Lancaster! Updates

Board Member Kimberley Patrick will gave updates on Career Ready Lancaster! on April 19, 2024 at Garden Spot Village. Judd Pittman, Pennsylvania Director of the Bureau of Career and Technical Education, as well as Jenn Gilbert, Pennsylvania Deputy Secretary of Technology Entrepreneurship, will both be featured speakers at the event. Garden Spot Village will also be presenting best practices regarding transportation and employees. Pennsylvania College of Art and Design will also be featured for their work on a video about the wide scope of jobs in Lancaster County. Updates were provided on work-based situational cards made to allow students and jobseekers to gain an understanding of situations that may happen on the job. Kimberley Patrick asked for suggestions for video creation companies in the area to make a video about Career Ready Lancaster!. The Career Ready Lancaster! board members will also be meeting to review and update their strategic plan.

VI. Educator Industry Tours Update

Youth Program Coordinator Mary Byrd gave an update on the Educator Industry Tours, including the fact that almost all the needed businesses were contacted and scheduled. A fourth day was added to partner with Lebanon County businesses and the Lebanon County Chamber of Commerce. The added day will highlight those businesses in Lebanon County. Due to this,

Lebanon County educators will now be allowed to register for the tours. The highlighted industries will include Energy, Healthcare, Information Technology, Transportation, Logistics, and Manufacturing.

VII. Adjournment

Chairperson Francis Miliano adjourned the meeting at 9:28 a.m. without objection.