



**LCWDB Youth Committee Board Meeting
Friday, September 13, 2024 8:00 a.m.
Via Microsoft Teams**

Minutes

Members Present: Jean Martin, Francis Miliano, Melissa Reed, Mike Moeller, John Robbins, Bryant Heng, Victor DeSantis, Susan Richeson, Joy Tien, Valdijah Brown

Staff, Contractors, and Guests: Carrie McCullough, Anna Ramos, Shane Howell, Robert McKenzie, Gloria Lopez, Marisol Santos

I. Welcome/Roll Call and Request for Public Comment

At 8:03 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. Consent Agenda

Francis Miliano presented the minutes from the July 12th 2024, meeting to the board. Minutes were to be amended based on statement made by Equus of visiting 69 boroughs; amend to say there were 69 boroughs in county and will move forward to visit many regularly.

After discussion and on motion duly made by John Robbins and seconded by Mike Moeller, it is:

RESOLVED, that the meeting minutes from July 12, 2024 are hereby approved. (Motion carried unanimously. There were no abstentions.)

III. Youth Providers Progress Report

Equus (WIOA OSY, TANF YDP and Business Service Team)

Chairperson Frances Miliano set flow of updates to include introductions,



updates, and questions all within 15 minutes.

Youth program provider Equus presented starting at 8:12AM represented by Shane Howell and Robert McKenzie. Progress noted included connecting with several different hubs throughout the county, and working on how to understand and get new information into the Kiosks. Currently they have 3 pending employers for the Kiosks. They are on-site consistently the 2nd and 4th weeks at McCaskey High School, have a presence at the Housing Authority, and are working on being on site at other schools. They currently have 30 youth enrolled in WEX at 7 different sites. They have 3 in PWE, and are looking at intentional placements. They have had a high demand for their VR goggle experiences.

Hurdles have included slow enrollment of youth after an orientation brought 50 youth. They are going through the eligibility process. Robert shared that he feels that the next orientation will go smoother now that the team has a better understanding of programs and have established themselves. They are also working alongside the business services team to reset commitments within the community.

Questions included the number of students vs. the target number. Robert McKenzie reported that they have 8 new youth enrolled and 245 inherited from the previous provider. Their overall targets per year are 150 TANF youth and 175 OSY youth. They currently have 42 pending eligibility. A follow up question was if they could take on more; Mr. McKenzie indicated yes. Melissa Reed requested to connect with the staff providing services at McCaskey.

Youth program provider The Mix presented at 8:30 represented by Gloria Lopez and Marisol Santos. They shared that they have developed a worksite list and training. They had 10 active PWE, and since they started, 10 students have been hired through WEX. 1 former PWE received a promotion. There are 7 new worksites, and they are working on 2 more. They have 1 student interested in welding and have connected him with Tec Centro. They are partnering with Tec Centro for a job fair in October. They have are providing financial literacy training in conjunction with Truist Bank and are solidifying a date. They are also connecting with Assets Lancaster to provide a workshop on Entrepreneurship and solidifying dates. Their target is to serve 20 students through PWE and they have 5 pending interest forms currently in process.

Questions included if the target number included carryover from last year. Ms. Lopez shared that the goal is to have 20 enrolled at all times; they have 10 active from last year, but their goal is review the budget and monitor it to serve more youth. A Question was then asked about their target number of 75 youth; Ms. Lopez indicated their program has not started yet and it begins in October. They



currently have 15 students aged 12-16 years set to go through the program, and as time goes through they will bring students on. A question on the process was asked, and Ms. Santos indicated that youth complete an application for the after school program, then for PWE, and then parents come in to discuss. They have a partnership with the School District of Lancaster and promote their programs through the district, as well as social medial platform and community events. Joy Tien requested a flyer; Melissa Reed has already met with them.

IV. Discussion Items

The committee reviewed the provided Youth Committee goals plan. Assistant Director Carrie McCullough presented the goals that were developed in conjunction with Chairperson Francis Miliano. She requested feedback, and commitment to create action steps.

Mike Moellen shared that it was great to see the goals written out, as that creates more buy in and support. It is clearer to see how members can be more involved. He also indicated that the transportation sub committee has been working for a long time, and he was glad to see summer work experiences coming back.

Victor DeSantis was very heartened to see the large scale research that was done closing the loop through the goals set. It shows that we are being data driven through the committee.

Anna Ramos, Executive Director, agree that while the committee cannot solve some of the barriers, they can collaborate and work together for individuals to own it and do something for advocacy and solutions.

Joy Tien asked if the Chambers mentorship program would be an adequate place to advertise some of the programs. Feedback was given that those students are already engaged in a program; goal should be to engage students not already within another program. Chairperson Francis Milliano shared that going back to the zip codes outlines within the disconnected youth study will be key to bring awareness and target them. She invited group to her presentation at the next CRL! Meeting talking about the disconnected youth study.

Valdijah Brown shared that it will be important to directly engage youth. Is there a survey being done to get impact on the youth from these programs directly from the youth? How can we be thoughtful in measuring this. It may be possible to utilize and bring in feedback through a more timely cycle doing things such as focus groups.

Materials would be sent out again to the group.



V. Upcoming Meeting Dates

Friday, November 8th, 2024 8AM at the LCWDB board room.

VI. Adjournment

Chairperson Francis Miliano adjourned the meeting at 9:22 a.m. without objection.