

UNION COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Youth Committee Meeting
James Horne, CHAIRMAN
Warinanco Sports Center
MEETING MINUTES: March 12th 2019 10:00AM

James Horne	United Way of Greater Union County (UWGUC)
Juanita Vargas	United Way of Greater Union County
Sobeida Soto,	UWGUC
Talina Knox,	UWGUC
Tracey Espiritu,	Elizabeth Board of Ed
Jeffrey Jackson,	American Job Center
Elton Armady	American Job Center
Meredith Barracato	American Job Center
Syreeta McClain	Simon Youth Academy
David Moskowitz	NJ Department of Labor/Employment Services
Scott Kuchinsky	Plainfield Public Library
Elizabeth Paskewich	Workforce Development Board
Dan Passarella	Group i&i
Toufic Hakim	Group i&i
Susana Mateo,	Union County College
Jensine Wright	Plainfield Action Services

Meeting Summary

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

JAMES HORNE

James Horne thanked everyone for attending the Youth committee meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

JAMES HORNE

ICE BREAKER

DAN PASSARELLA

Everyone was asked to find someone they didn't know and share a youth success story.

1. COMMON MEASURE FOR YOUTH

Dan Passarella discussed the following topics and mentioned that everything you do for the youth is intended to impact one or more of the following;

- Placement Rate
- Retention Rate
- Median Earnings
- Credential Rate
- Skills Gains

He added there were new requirements that incorporates career pathways as part of both the objective assessments and the development of the individual service strategy. In addition local areas must increase the percentage of youth formula funds used to serve out of school youth to 75% from 30 % and must spend at least 20% of youth formula funds on work experience activities such as summer jobs, pre apprenticeships, OJT and internships.

2. YOUTH PROGRAM ELEMENTS AND SERVICES

A review of the 14 youth program elements were discussed and each person discussed what services they offered relating to the various program elements.

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1. Tutoring, study skills training, instruction and evidence based dropout prevention and recovery strategies that lead to completion of the requirements for a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent;
2. Alternative secondary school services of dropout prevention strategies;
3. Paid and unpaid work experience that have as a component academic and occupational education. This may include summer employment opportunities, pre-apprenticeship programs, internships, job shadowing and on the job training opportunities;
4. Occupational skills training;
5. Education offered concurrently with and in the same context as workforce preparation activities and training for a specific occupation or occupational cluster;
6. Leadership development opportunities;
7. Supportive services;
8. Adult mentoring;
9. Follow-up services for not less than 12 months;
10. Comprehensive guidance and counseling;
11. Financial Literacy Education;
12. Entrepreneurial skills training;
13. Service that provide labor market and employment information;
14. Activities that help youth prepare for and transition to postsecondary education.

Juanita Vargas mentioned UWGUC offers work experience and place youth in various jobs throughout the county. In addition she added they provide tutoring and financial literacy workshops. Susana Mateo stated as part of Youth Corp in UCC her program is considered an alternative secondary school for students who have dropped out of high school. Jeffrey Jackson mentioned the AJC can offer the youth opportunities to occupational training.

Juanita from United Way mentioned their team was not successful in recruiting adult mentors and have been struggling with youth elements number 8. She also added sub-contractors were having problems with following up because the youth are hard to contact due to them changing their phone numbers.

James Horne added Rising Tide Capital, Bank of America, YMCA Entrepreneurial program offer entrepreneurial training to the youth enrolled in their program.

Every agreed Labor Market Information is important to use as part of the youth's career planning.

3. YOUTH STRATEGIC PLAN PRIORITIES

Dan Passarella discussed in detail the strategic plan sub-strategies that relate to the youth. Each committee member took turns reviewing the goal and developed ways the goal can be expanded and action steps can be taken.

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4. WIOA LISTING OF SERVICES

Dan Passarella begin the discussion on listing the services that were available to the youth in Union County and then identified the various providers. The discussion then went into if the services were individualized and how intensive the services offered were. Each committee member mentioned their experience on providing services and what were some of the challenges on providing intensive services. Hawa Bonds mentioned youth liked participating in the activities like Youthcella which has a high participation rate but will not be engaged in workshops related to financial literacy.

5. COMMITTEE ADJOURNMENT

JAMES HORNE