

Union County Workforce Development Board  
Youth Investment Council  
Union County College (Cranford Campus)  
Executive Education Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
1033 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, NJ  
FEBRUARY 19, 2016, 10:15AM

**Committee Members Present**

Peter Capodice, Co-Chair, Union County Vocational Technical Schools

Stephen Nacco, Union County College

Delacy Davis, Family Support Organization of Union County

Ella Teal, Urban League of Union County

Stacy Greene, Plainfield Board of Education

Jeffery Jackson, Youth Coordinator, Union County Dept. of Workforce Development  
Operations

Tanya Johnson, Community Access Unlimited

Josh Bornstein, Union County Ed. Serves Commission

Juanita Vargas, United Way of Greater Union County

**Guests**

Chinelo Shote, DCP & P

Mein Mombo, DCF-Office of Adolescent Services

Leila Molaie, NJDVRS

**Staff**

Antonio Rivera, Director, Workforce Development Board

Elizabeth Paskewich, Workforce Development Board

Phil Kandl, Workforce Development Board

Eric Graham, Workforce Development Board

**Meeting Summary**

I. The meeting was called to order by Peter Capodice at 10:50am.

II. Plainfield Youth Program Update

Mr. Stacy Greene provided the Council with an update regarding the Plainfield Board of Education Youth Program.

- Program end date is April 2016.
- 18 students participating in this after-school work program. Students are receiving soft skills as well.
- Students as well as BOE Staff have enjoyed working with each other.

III. WIOA Youth Consortium Report

Ms. Juantia Vargas from the United Way of Greater Union County provided the Council with a program update.

- Working to ensure focus on Out of School Youth
- Currently looking to add a tutoring component to provide one-on-one help to students to improve academic success
- Restructuring OSY model to increase student engagement
  - Career internship Program
    - Subcontracting with Blessed Ministries provide additional employment opportunities to participants. Currently in pilot phase.
  - Occupational Training to increase employability.
- Projected Level of Service: 151 participants
- Operational Updates
  - Will increase technical assistance amongst consortium
  - Additional training of case managers
  - Creation of a Policy and Procedures manual to keep programs uniform across Consortium
  - Recruitment ideas include creating a Youth 2 Youth initiative in the future.

IV. WIOA Out-of-School Youth RFP

Ms. Elizabeth Paskewich provided an updated about the recently received RFP proposals.

Currently two proposals are going to Freeholder approval:

- Union County College, \$290,000, LOS 50 participants
- Plainfield YMCA, \$290,000, LOS 40 participants

Both programs would provide GED/HS Diploma services and Occupational Training. As programs develop updates will be provided.

V. Project Search

Mr. Josh Bornstein presented to the Council, new program, Project Search. Project Search is a High School transition program for youth with disabilities. This is a 1 year school to work program. Students will report to the employer during the school day. A Union County employer has come on board and details will be available shortly. 8 students will be selected through an application process. Program has a successful 20 year history, with a 73% employment rate. Video presented.

VI. Meeting Adjourned.