

Youth Workforce Investment Council Agenda
Straight Ahead Ministries (791 Main St Worcester, MA 01610)
December 11, 2014

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Ron Scott, Isidore Nosike, David Tirendi (proxy for Mark Riolo), Yaritza Rivera (proxy for Maurie Bergeron), Jena Adams, Charla Hixson, Donna Kilgore, Miguel Lopez, Samuel Martin, Michael Quigley

Members in Process/Guests: Penny Welch, Denise Perrault, Maria Kefallinou

Staff Present: Sean McGauley, Ed Gagne

1. **Welcome & Introductions:** R. Scott called the meeting to order and all guests were asked to introduce themselves.
2. **Note of Potential Conflicts of Interest & Confirmation of Quorum:** R. Scott announced that a quorum was present and there were no conflicts noted at this time.
3. **Vote:**
 - a. **Approval of Minutes of October 9, 2014 :** The October 9, 2014 meeting minutes were approved upon a motion by D. Tirendi and a second by J. Adams.
4. **Partner Presentation:** P. Welch presented on Straight Ahead Ministries. Please see handouts section for more information.
Action: S. McGauley to send out the full PowerPoint presentation to the members.
5. **Presentation: Career Pathways Partners:** E. Gagne noted that there are four agencies that provide services to adults: Ascentria Care Alliance, Quinsigamond Community College (QCC), Webster Public Schools, and Training Resources of America (TRA). Ascentria Care Alliance provides English as a Second Language (ESOL) using contextualized curriculum in the health care industry. QCC provides ESOL instruction in healthcare/personal care aide prep and career/college advising. Webster Public Schools provides Advanced ESOL, Pre-ASE and ASE instructional services with contextualized curriculum in health care/Pre-CNA. TRA provides ESOL instruction and contextualized curriculum in electric schematic reading, cable assembly and wire harness.
M. Kefallinou from QCC and M. Quigley from TRA presented on their programs (please see handouts section for more information).
6. **Discussion:**
 - a. **Review of YWIC Workplan:** This discussion was tabled for the next meeting.
 - b. **Youth Career Center:** This discussion was tabled for the next meeting.
 - c. **South Worcester Neighborhood Initiative:** R. Scott reported that a small group has been meeting including representatives from QCC, Clark University, CMWIB, and others are starting to talk about an initiative to connected education and job training. The group will be meeting in January. More information to come.
7. **Updates:**

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- a. **WIA Youth Update:** E. Gagne informed the group that under the WIA programs there is a skills requirement to teach responsible living, crisis management, and personal relationships. A curriculum for these topics has been developed and E.Gagne noted he is willing to share the license with other interested programs. Please contact E. Gagne for more information.
- b. **YouthWorks :** C. Hixon reported that Worcester Community Action Council (WCAC) has contracted with the CMWIB to run the YouthWorks Year Round program. WCAC is currently taking applications. The Year Round program will have 2 cohorts of roughly 22 youth with one starting in January and another in March. The program will incorporate Bounce curriculum and Commonwealth Corporation's Signaling Success during the training portion followed by six weeks of work experience. A new element of the program will include a participant reflection that will take place once a week at WCAC.
- c. **Job1 Group**
 - **Suitable You:** S. McGauley reminded YWIC members of the Suitable You program that offers dress clothes for local male youth. Please contact mcsauleys@worcesterma.gov for more information.
 - **GROW Awards:** A group of YWIC members will be meeting in the coming weeks to begin planning for the 2015 Growing & Readyng Our Workforce (GROW) Awards event. Nomination forms were emailed out to the committee and included in the meeting packet (please see handouts section).
 - **YWIC Professional Development Series:** More information to come. CMWIB staff is working with You, Inc. to schedule a date for the first of the series which will be focused on 'ice breakers'.
 - **Connecting Activities:** The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) will be offering a comprehensive professional development training through the Office of College and Career Readiness (CCR) in school year 2014-15 for schools, districts and community partners to support college and career readiness for all students. For school year 2014-15 the series will take a blended approach of sponsoring monthly webinars (decreasing travel impact and "time out of building") and regional face to face meetings to better support the collective professional development needs of CCR service providers. The next session will take place on Thursday January 15, 2015 in Westford, MA at the Westford Regency Hotel. CCR professionals will leave the day with the start of (or expansion of – depending on starting place) a CCR action plan that emphasizes coherence across CCR initiatives, as well as connections to other key education initiatives. Representatives from workforce development, workforce investment boards, community based organization, and education providers will make up the Central Massachusetts Youth Service Collaborative team.
- d. **YWIC Member Program Updates:** M. Quigley announced that the YouthBuild will be working on a project at one Kilby St. The eight unit house is a project partnership between YouthBuild and Main South CDC. The program is now recruiting youth with a high school equivalent and an interest in carpentry. Contact mquigley@tra-inc.org for more information.

D. Tirendi reported that he has been serving on a committee that will be issuing the Point in Time Survey for the Round Table on Youth Homelessness. The region-wide survey will be used to track the numbers around youth homelessness. The survey is important because it will help determine funding for the region.

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8. Announcements

9. Next Meeting:

- a. February 12th- Next partner presentation/host site? :** J. Adams suggested Ma AHEC may be interested in hosting the February meeting.

10. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned on a motion by D. Kilgore and a second.

Respectfully submitted by,

Sean McGauley

CMWIB Staff

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