

**MassHire Central Region Workforce Board
Youth Council
October 12, 2023
2:30 pm
TEAMS Meeting ID: 243 189 160 987; Passcode: FVMXD5
Join by phone: 1-469-998-7682**

Members Present: Robin Hooper, Robert McGlory, Isidore Nosike, Amy Partlow, Kate Pesa, Kim Stowe, Jenna Wills

Guest: Melissa Hidalgo, Troy Stefanski

Staff Present: Ed Gagne

Meeting Minutes

Welcome & Introductions: The meeting was called to order at 2:37 p.m.

Approval of the April 13, 2023 Minutes: The meeting minutes were unanimously approved by a motion from Isidore Nosike.

Presentation

Penn Foster – Troy Stefanski, Workforce Solutions Specialist, highlighted career training programs for in-demand industries, from healthcare to skilled trades; Medical Assistant, IT Support Specialist, Pharmacy Technician, Medical Billing and Coding, and Bookkeeping to name just a few. Penn Foster offers career-focused diplomas, degrees, and certificates that are online, accredited and self-paced.

To learn more go to: <https://pennfoster.edu>. Troy can be reached at: troy.stefanski@pennfoster.edu

Program Updates

A) Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act FY24 Program Subcontractors
WCAC, M. Hildago, Instructor: Program offers HiSET, GED Instruction, Customer Service Training, Program located at: 18 Chestnut St Ste 500, Worcester, MA 01608. Phone:(508) 754-1176.

Seven Hills - Youth Opportunities Upheld, Inc, K. Pesa, Program Director: Program offers HiSET, IT, Phlebotomy, CNA, ECG, GED Instruction. Programs located in Worcester, Milford, Webster, and Whitinsville. Phone: (508) 463-9503.

The Fieldstone School, I. Nosike, Executive Director: Program offers CNA, Phlebotomy, and ECG. Program located at: 90 Madison Street, Suite 200, Worcester, MA 01608. Phone:(508) 752-0778.

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Note: All WIOA programs provide job placement and variety of WIOA elements that include tutoring and study skills training, dropout recovery services, paid and unpaid work experiences, education offered concurrently with and in the same context as workforce preparation activities, leadership development opportunities, supportive services, follow-up services for not less than 12 months, comprehensive guidance and counseling, financial literacy education, entrepreneurial skills training, services that provide labor market and employment information, and postsecondary education exploration.

B) YouthWorks (YW) (J. Wills)

- Summer: 582 youth, 80 employers.
- Spring (anticipated): 125 youth. 10 weeks March – May, 10 – 15 hours/wk for 10 weeks. Previous cohorts partnered with Worcester Tech Innovation Pathways Program as well as previous employers

C) Connecting Activities (E. Gagne)

- Working with the Worcester Public Schools and 12 area school districts served through the Blackstone Valley Hub
- Anticipates serving more than 1,200 students this school year with planned activities that includes paid and unpaid internships, STEM conference, skill readiness workshops, and the introduction of virtual reality career exploration services. This year the program is also supporting part of the salary for the employer outreach coordinator housed within the Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Council Announcements

No Council announcements.

Next Meeting

December 14, 2023, conducted by TEAMS. Information provided on page 1.

Adjourn

Hearing no other business, the meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm upon a motion.

*Respectfully submitted by,
Ed Gagne*

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