



Supporting the Development and Retention of a World Class Workforce

Jeffrey S. Swartz, Executive Director

Matthew Verney, Chair

**YOUTH INVESTMENT COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2022, 9:00AM – ZOOM MEETING**

ATTENDANCE

COMMITTEE INFORMATION AND ATTENDANCE		30-Jun-21	25-Aug-21	27-Oct-21	26-Jan-22	23-Feb-22
Name	Organization	Trustee Member				
<b>Verney, Matthew CHAIR</b>	Truist Bank	X	X	X		X
Arroyo, Rosy	Camden County Youth Services Commission			X	X	
Banks, Evangeline	Juvenile Justice Commission		X	X	X	X
Barbella, Sarah	Camden Probation Division				X	
Boucher, Shaneka	City of Camden		X	X	X	X
Cirii, Frank	Camden County One-Stop	X	X	X	X	
Davis, Pastor Keith	Camden Dream Academy			X		
Fetty, Brett	CCTS					
Godorov, Lori	The Work Group	X	X	X	X	
Gorman, Ginger	Winslow Township High School				X	X
Hill, Lauren	Camden County College			X	X	X
Lofton, Vance	Respond, Inc.		X	X	X	X
Maguire, Laurie	Camden County One-Stop				X	X
Pasiglao, Marion	NJ Youth ChalleNge Academy			X	X	
Peterson, Jyi	Camden County One-Stop		X	X	X	X
Scott, Kenneth	Winslow Township High School		X	X	X	X
Selby, Andrew	CPAC		X	X	X	X
Sinclair, Nidia	Camden County One-Stop					X
Taguwa, Denise	NJ Dept. Of Labor & Workforce Development					
Vasquez, Marisol	Camden County One-Stop		X	X		
Velasquez, Gil	Camden Probation Division		X	X	X	
Waller, Darchelle	Winslow Township High School					
Wardlow Hurley, Rhonda	HACC Youth Build		X	X	X	X
Washington, Daquan	CPAC					
Williams, Jen	Covenant House					
Swartz, Jeffrey S.	WDB		X	X	X	X
Levitt, Alex	WDB		X	X	X	X
Vaughn, Debra	WDB				X	X
Williams, Leslie	WDB		X	X	X	X

Welcome

Jeff Swartz led the meeting in the absence of Matt Verney, WDB Chair/Youth Chair. He welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order at 9:00am. The Committee reviewed the minutes from Wednesday, February 23, 2022. Jeff asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Lori Godorov made the motion, seconded by Laurie McGuire. By unanimous vote to the affirmative, the motion carried, and the minutes for February 23, 2022, were approved.

2022 Summer Youth Employment Update

Jeff called on Leslie Williams to provide an update on the Summer Youth Employment Program. Leslie Williams stated that, to date, there are 12 employer worksites from locations that include the southern part of Camden County. Applications for participants have been very slow to come in. The application deadline is May 13<sup>th</sup>. The participants will work 23.5 hours per day for a rate of \$15 per hour, Funds are available to pay for 45 positions. There is a need for interviewer

volunteers from the Committee members to conduct virtual interviews with the applicants. In addition, volunteers are needed to facilitate segments of the mandatory work-readiness session during the week of June 27<sup>th</sup>. Two daily segments are in-person, for just under 4 hours, and the full curriculum will be provided. A volunteer does not have to be on-site for the entire day, only for the days and segments they volunteer to serve. Jeff reminded the Committee that any county resident in the required 16-24 age range can apply for summer employment and stated that he and Leslie would be attending area high school events to promote the summer employment program. Lori Godorov offered a position at The Work Group's store with a mentor, for a youth summer employment with an interest in learning about the retail clothing business.

### Youth One-Stop Update

- Laurie Maguire started by stating that a new Success Story was submitted to the State for the latest quarter for a young man that Jyi Peterson worked with. The young man, who has a learning disability, earned his CDL and is employed.
- The State has not refreshed the performance data and Laurie commented that she would be finding out the reason for the delay at the Zoom meeting for State MIS later in the day.
- Jyi Peterson has continued to see people for the Youth One-Stop. Short one counselor, Laurie stated that Jyi is doing a great job and Nidia Sinclair will be providing support staff.
- The Youth Work Experience Program has been mapped and submitted to upper management for review and possible edits, before being presented to the Youth Committee.
- Jyi spoke of the young man who became the Success Story of the quarter and thanked Laurie, the Committee, Frank and Nidia.
- Frank Cirii noted that there was nothing specific to provide any update on, but noted Jyi, Laurie and Nidia have been working hard. He stated they all continue to do the research and work to get the Youth Work Experience Program off the ground.

### Success Story Video

- Alex Levitt commented that the Youth One-Stop Video has been spliced into social media ready clips and inquired about the roll-out and to whom they should be distributed. Frank Cirii commented that the video clips should be sent to the One-Stop website administrator to be uploaded to the Youth One-Stop and that it will be translated to view in Spanish in the future.

### Youth Committee Update

- Jeff Swartz stated a Youth Job Fair will be held in Clementon on May 4, 2022 at the Clementon Fire Hall from 3pm to 6pm with employers and county agencies offering support services. He invited Committee member to sign up for a table at the Job Fair.

### Workforce Development Update

Jeff Swartz, Executive Director

- Committee members were invited to attend "PTSD in the Workplace" at the Camden County Boathouse on June 7, 2022 from 8:30am to 12:30pm. The event, presented by the Abilities Committee with Cooper University HealthCare, will focus on the challenges of employers in hiring and providing information to assist Veterans returning to the workforce and other employees who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder.

- The Operations Committee authored a White Paper, which tells how the Workforce Board and One-Stop partners addressed challenges to successfully relocate their office and provide services during the pandemic. The final document is entitled “*Government Works” Does Not Have To Be An Oxymoron; How Empowering Local Leaders Created an Integrated and Effective One-Stop Career Center in Camden County* and it will be uploaded on the Camden County Workforce Development website.
- The small cohort for the Atlantic City Electric Program is currently running through Camden County College. After delays for multiple reasons, the Physical Abilities School, which includes the Line School Training, will start at the Tony Canale Training Center in Egg Harbor Township with 26 people enrolled.
- The Incumbent Worker Training Program (IWT): Up to 20% of workforce funds can be utilized for incumbent worker training. A conglomerate of ShopRite stores, which offers a certification program as well as college credits tied in, will be the first participants in the IWT program. Jeff noted that Frank, Laurie and the One-Stop staff have worked diligently to get the program off the ground.

#### Additional Committee Updates

- Vance Lofton, Respond  
Respond will hold a block party on June 18<sup>th</sup> to commemorate the organization’s 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and to celebrate the graduates of their child development centers. He will be discussing participation as a summer employment worksite later in the day.
- Rhonda Wardlow-Hurley, Housing Authority of Camden County  
Victor Figueroa, Executive Director, is retiring after 26 years, so they are in search of his replacement. HACC is currently working in its “Choice Neighborhoods” and relocating residents from Ablett Village, one of the last older housing developments. She stated that HACC is doing some great things in Cramer Hill.
- Rosie Arroyo, Camden County Youth Services Commission  
Rosie mentioned attending a Cherry Hill School District Board meeting which included discussion of a partnership with the WDB’s summer youth employment program. The school district is implementing the “career track education pathways” for 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students and wants to partner for on the job training and direct pathways to careers. Jeff commented that it is refreshing that high school guidance recognizes that they must present choices and career options, other than college after high school.
- Marion Pasiglao, NJ ChalleNGe Academy  
An upcoming class is seeking about 70-100 students for the Fall. Marion commented that a class will be graduating soon, some of whom are residents of Camden County who may qualify for the summer employment program, so he and Leslie Williams will discuss what may be available.
- Sarah Barbella, Camden Probation Division  
A youth ceremony was held a few weeks ago and a family partnership will be held with a family support organization for the parents with children placed on probation. Sarah stated she is excited to share information about the WDB’s summer youth employment program with the youth and their families.

- Carrie McCormack, NJ ChalleNGe Academy  
ChalleNGe Academy is a tuition-free alternative HS program that offers GED education and physical fitness in a military environment. An upcoming class for new cadets starts on July 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Raul Ludizaca, NJ DOL & Workforce Development  
Work-based learning training is being offered with EDSI. Currently, targeted TA sessions are being held with local areas stemming from the AOSOS technical guide published a few months ago. The guide is being updated with the feedback received from the TA sessions. Information and FAQs can be found in the March newsletter that is posted on their website. Anyone interested in holding a TA session should contact Raul.
- Lori Godorov, The Work Group  
Orientation is starting for the next diploma class, which starts on July 6<sup>th</sup>. Counseling services are available for anyone for individual, and group behavioral health and substance abuse who has Medicaid. Spanish-speaking counseling will be available group and individual treatment for substance abuse services. The WorkGroup is seeking a clinician who can offer bi-lingual counseling., Lori noted that, unbeknownst to her, the person responsible for referring clients to the One-Stop had not been doing so, but that going forward, the referrals will be done.
- Alex Levitt reiterated for Matt Verney that the Committee needs a volunteer for Vice-Chairperson.

### Adjournment

Jeff Swartz asked for a motion to adjourn. Frank Cirii motioned, seconded by Lori Godorov. The meeting adjourned at 9:40 am.

### Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 29, 2022, at 9:00 am via Zoom.

### **Submitted by:**

Debra Vaughn  
Administrative Assistant