



Camden County Workforce Development Board

Supporting the Development and Retention of a World Class Workforce

Gregg T. DeBaere, Chair
Jeffrey S. Swartz, Executive Director

YOUTH INVESTMENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES, JULY 28, 2016

ATTENDANCE

Members		28-Jul	25-Aug	Meeting Dates
Verney, Matthew CHAIR	TD Bank			
Arroyo, Rosy	CPAC			
Banks, Evangeline	Juvenile Justice Commission			
Colestock, Shannon	CPAC	X		
Cooper, Diane	CPAC			
Cope, Heather	Camden City School District			
Davis, Keith	Camden Dream Center Tech. Trng. School			
Figuerroa, Victor	Housing Authority City of Camden			
Godorov, Lori	The Work Group	X		
Goodman, David	HACC Youth Build			
Hudson, Ezra	Camden County College			
Justice, Tanya	Youth Advocacy Program			
Kelly, Siobhan	Camden County Technical Schools	X		
Rhock, Kimberley	Youth Advocate Program			
MaGuire, Laurie	Camden County Resource Center	X		
McKee, David	Camden County One-Stop	X		
McKinsey, Denise	Respond Inc.	X		
Mitchell, Wilbert	Respond Inc.			
Mombo, Mien	Division of Children and Family Services			
Osorio, Angel	District Council Collaborative Board			
Rhoton, Daniel	Hopeworks			
Riggins, Matthew	Riggins Oil Inc.	X		
Rodgers, Danielle	Camden County One-Stop			
Savage, Leamon	Youth Advocate Program			
Shackleford, Jeremy	BB&T			
Sinclair, Nidia	Camden County One-Stop	X		
Stettler, Mark	T & M Associates			
Sutherland, Debbie	Camden County One-Stop			
Vasquez, Marisol	Camden County One-Stop	X		
Villa, Deja	Camden County Technical Schools			
Waller, Darchelle	Winslow Township High School			
Wardlow Hurley, Rhonda	HACC Youth Build	X		
Williams, Lauren	Youth Advocate Program			
Williams, Tasha	Youth Advocate Programs, Inc.			
Swartz, Jeffrey S., Exec. Director	WDB	X		
Primas, Theo	WDB			
Stubblefield, Lelia	WDB			
Williams, Leslie J	WDB	X		
Varallo, Kathleen	WDB	X		

Welcome

Jeffrey S. Swartz, sitting in for Chair Matt Verney, welcomed attendees, asked for round table introductions and called the meeting to order at 9:05am. Jeff introduced Nick Giella from the Philadelphia 76ers. Nick contacted Jeff several weeks ago about connecting the Youth One-Stop with some of the 76ers programs. The

76ers are building a practice facility in Camden. Jeff invited Nick Giella to speak to the committee. Nick said his position with the team focuses on several non-profits, church and youth organizations. The 76ers offer many different experiences including youth mentoring. The program entitled "Professionals in Sports" provides a player, coach or executive board member to speak to youth who may or may not have ever been to a 76ers game. It's a chance to attend a game as well as get some life experience from a player or coach. Coach Brett Brown is a big fan of helping and mentoring youth. It will be a phenomenal opportunity in January, February or March to schedule 30-50 youth to experience a game and also some support from a team or staff member. Through the history of the 76ers, we have been doing a lot of programs focused on youth.

YOUTH MONTHLY LEVEL OF SERVICE (LOS) REPORT

Jeff reviewed the Youth Monthly Level of Service (LOS) Report. This report is being forwarded to Matt Verney by the Youth One-Stop (YOS). The report shows the number of youth-served (compounded by month) has reached a total of 174 as of June 30, 2016. The report showed an increase from 11, in May, to 19, in June, or an increase of 8, in the number of youth dropouts served, which is an important focus of the YOS.

YOS One-Stop Summary PY15 as of
6/30/16

	2/15/2016	3/31/2016	4/30/2016	5/31/2016	6/30/2016
Total Youth Served	74	115	116	147	174
Carry-ins from PY'14	17	17	17	17	17
Drop-outs	4	9	9	11	19
High School Graduates	59	85	86	113	131
In-School	11	21	21	23	24
Eligibility Determination	74	114	115	134	158
Employed at Registration	22	36	36	39	44
TABE tested	70	109	110	125	142
Pre-Assessment (a.k.a Life Skills)	18	39	39	40	40
Career Planning	40	47	49	51	54
Referred to provider	0	0	0	0	0
Workforce Learning Link	28	36	39	43	56
Active	2	8	9	9	12
Exited	23	23	24	28	32
Never started	3	5	6	6	6
Obtained High School Equivalency	4	4	5	6	6
Successful Completion	11	12	13	16	19
Occupational Training	31	41	42	47	47
Active	13	12	8	11	7
Pending	1	0	1	0	0
Successful Completions	18	29	34	36	43
Credentials	10	15	23	28	30
Post-Assessment (Holding for services)	42	12	0	0	0
Entered Employment	18	20	30	32	36
Need follow-up services	34	13	50	56	65

Caseloads	74	115	115	157	187
McKee	32	50	52	67	87
Vasquez	42	65	63	90	100

Jeff reported on a discussion the Executive Committee had about the report on July 27th. The committee understands that the report is being refined or developed and requested some more data interpretation reflected in the report. Primarily in the areas of out-of-school youth and Workforce Learning Link data. Suggestions were made in terms of how we can change the report. Such information might include positive outcomes, exit information, youth obtained a job, youth assigned to a training program or how the youth exited the program. This type of data will help us to make strategic decisions. These reports are the scorecard of YOS. The committee also recommended setting a goal of 200 caseloads including active and inactive customers.

The youth committee discussed statistical data and outcomes that they are most interested in and agreed that the report could be further refined to match goals listed in the strategic plan. More breakdown information in the bigger areas of service is needed to give YOS and the committee more insight and direction.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Jeff led a discussion about further outreach and pointed out that the population of youth the YOS wants most to serve is transient, out of school, perhaps without housing or is sleeping on someone's couch or in other words a very difficult population to serve. They are not the type of youth that will come into the YOS voluntarily. Trust building is a big factor when it comes to outreach. Building trust with youth takes time and patience. The committee discussed ways to reach out to the first responders that come in contact with these youth such as school guidance or drop-out counselors, faith based individuals, and partner agencies that have an overflow of youth they might refer to the YOS.

David McKee and Marisol Vasquez shared some contacts they made such Juvenile Justice and the Center for Family Services. They have two appointments coming up on August 3rd & 13th, 2016 to visit their Blackwood and Clementon locations. David said they might be able to register those youth at these locations that do not have transportation to make it to the Camden location. Marisol said she has a very good relationship with a counselor in Winslow. Marisol also made contact with the counselor of the Youth Aging Out of Foster care program. Marisol and David are able to see whole groups and filter registrants to the YOS from these group presentations.

Leslie Williams brought up the subject of outreach thru social media platforms like FACEBOOK or Instagram. All YOS staff at the meeting agreed that not having access to the internet is greatly effecting their ability to reach out to a population that communicates solely by smart phones or social media platforms. The committee discussed the need to get some kind of approval from the County to incorporate internet access and a cell phone for each YOS counselor as important communication tool to accomplish the goals. The committee agreed on the prudence of creating a professional profile/identity over using the staff's personal information or phone to accomplish this youth communication goal. The committee also discussed the policies of other agencies who are currently experiencing successful connections to youth via cell phone, text and social media. Jeff suggested the possibility of assigning a tablet or cell phone to each of the YOS counselors once approval of access was obtained through proper channels. Leslie said that while there may be liability issues involved, putting the right security measures in place can be done. Marisol also brought up the WIOA mandate of tracking youth after exit and how difficult this becomes without the use of a cell phone. Matt Riggins asked if there is a standard policy used in County government where internet access or cell phones are allowed. Denise McKinsey

suggested limited access to the two counselors in the areas that are connected to their work. In her position she has this type of limited internet access as it pertains to her work.

YOUTHBUILD GRANT

Rhonda Hurley, Housing Authority of Camden City (HACC) reported on the YouthBuild Program Grant. The YouthBuild program will provide dropout youth with education, job skills, leadership training and placement. Recruitment will target school dropouts from low income neighborhoods in Camden. Youth participants will alternate between classroom and worksite training. They will receive extensive OSHA worksite safety training, the use of hand tools and powered tools. They will also learn to read blueprints and specifications. Trainees who successfully complete Home Builders Institute (HBI) Certifications coursework will receive industry recognized certificates. The “worksite” for the YouthBuild Trainees will be a new low income apartment building for seniors based on “section 3” guidelines, which require contractors that perform work in the city to use labor from within the city. Eligible participants to this program will be referred through the One-Stop. Rhonda said her agency uses Facebook to track participants. Rhonda invited YOS to participate and take an information table at a National Night Out being held in Camden City on Tuesday, August 2nd 2016.

CAMDEN CORPS PLUS UPDATE

The Camden Corps Plus the first cohort currently has 19 participants. Some of these youth were sent for evaluation to Marisol and David at the YOS. It is a requirement that youth must sign up with the YOS in order to participate in this program. The second cohort will start in September. Over the course of one year, youth will have an opportunity to take classes on a college campus and study for the high school completion test. Participants will receive occupational training in one of six areas, including:

- Website Design
- Certified Nursing Assistance
- Advanced Manufacturing
- Culinary Arts
- Carpentry Construction
- Cisco Networking

To support the youth, Camden Corps Plus will offer mentoring and stipends for community service activities, job sampling, and paid internships.

OPEN DISCUSSION

The committee discussed barriers to connecting with youth such as youth from low income families whose reported income might affect the family’s eligibility for assistance. Some of these youth are bound to work part time or work in positions that pay cash.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:11 am.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for August 25th, 2016 at the WDB office at 9:00 a.m.

Submitted by,

Kathleen Varallo

Administrative Assistant