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

# YOUTH INVESTMENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES APRIL 28, 2016

### **ATTENDANCE**

	Members	Meeting Dates								
		20-Jul	27-Aug	24-Sep	22-Oct	19-Nov	22-Jan	25-Feb	24-Mar	28-Apr
Verney, Matthew CHAIR	TD Bank	X	X	X	X	Χ	X		X	Χ
Arroyo, Rosy	CPAC					Χ	X			
Baez, Alfredo	Camden City High School Graduate		Χ	Χ						
Banks, Evangeline	Juvenile Justice Commission				Χ	Χ		Χ		X
Colestock, Shannon	CPAC	Χ			Х					
Cooper, Diane	CPAC								Χ	
Cope, Heather	Camden City School District					Χ				
Davis, Keith	Camden Dream Center Tech. Trng. School				Χ		X		Χ	Χ
Figueroa, Victor	Housing Authority City of Camden									
Godorov, Lori	The Work Group	X			Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ
Goodman, David	HACC Youth Build									
Hudson, Ezra	Camden County College		Χ	Χ						
Justice, Tanya	Youth Advocacy Program			Χ				X		
Kelly, Siobhan	Camden County Technical Schools	Χ	X	X	Χ			X	Χ	
Rhock, Kimberley	Youth Advocate Program									
Lew, Kirk	Department of Labor									
MaGuire, Laurie	Camden County Resource Center						Χ			
McKee, David	Camden County One-Stop	Χ	Χ	Χ	X		X	Χ	Χ	
McKinsey, Denise	Respond Inc.			Χ				Χ	Χ	
Mitchell, Wilbert	Respond Inc.									
Mombo, Mien	Division of Children and Family Services	X	Χ				X			
Osorio, Angel	Distict Council Collaborative Board						X	Х		
Rhoton, Daniel	Hopeworks						X			
Rodgers, Danielle	Camden County One-Stop									
Shackleford, Jeremy	BB&T									
Sinclair, Nidia	Camden County One-Stop		Χ	Х	Χ		X	X	Χ	Х
Stettler, Mark	T & M Associates		Χ							Х
Sutherland, Debbie	Camden County One-Stop									
Vasquez, Marisol	Camden County One-Stop	Х		Х	X	X		Х		
Villa, Deja	Camden County Technical Schools		Χ	Х						
Waller, Darchelle	Winslow Township High School									
Wardlow Hurley, Rhonda	HACC Youth Build	X	X				Χ			
Williams, Tasha	Youth Advicate Programs, Inc.							Χ		Χ
Swartz, Jeffrey S., Exec. Director	WDB	Х	Х	Х		Х		Х	Х	Х
Cruz, Wanda	WDB	Χ	X	X		X				
Primas, Theo	WDB									
Stubblefield, Lelia	WDB				Х		X	Х	Х	Х
Williams, Leslie J	WDB				X		X			

#### Welcome

Chair Matthew Verney welcomed attendees and asked for roundtable introductions.

# Court Presentation Update

Matt told members he and Marisol gave a court presentation to the Juvenile Justice Judges, public defenders and court personnel. Matt said Marisol did a great job providing a brief summary of the Youth One-Stop and the services the Youth One-Stop offers. Questions were asked regarding how youth obtain employment through the YOS programs and how does the Youth One-Stop prevent youth from returning to the juvenile court system.

Matt further explained the in-take process, skills training and identification documents required at the YOS. Matt said the committee needs to discuss alternative procedures for youth who are in the process of obtaining and submitting documents begin receiving services. Furthermore, Matt suggested Marisol and David do frequent visits to the Juvenile Justice Center and make personal connections with the Judges, public defenders, and the court staff to do follow-ups. Matt said it is a great avenue to get youth into the Youth Once-Stop. Nidia added Marisol and David are connected with Rosy Arroyo from CPAC and they participate in CPAC's meetings. Nidia said the numbers are increasing even though the YOS is having difficulties with out-of-school youth without a diploma. Evangeline informed members that she works in the court system and does advocate for the Youth One-Stop. Evangeline mentioned she has made recommendations and advised judges that they can make referrals to any out-of-school programs or alternative programs through the Youth One-Stop. Evangeline said she communicates with parents after the court proceedings and asked Nidia for a contact person and number so she can make the initial call. Evangeline also will provide the information to the parent and the youth. Evangeline added the court staff and probation officers can make the direct referral but you must make the connection with the youth at that moment by making a call to the YOS and scheduling an appointment.

# Youth One -Stop Summary Report

Matt discussed the youth summary report for youth served from July 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016. Matt said the committee focus is supporting the Youth One-Stop and serving out-of-school youth. Matt also said Camden County is held accountable for performance metrics, which we failed in two areas the previous year and currently failing in one area (Youth Placement). However, we are meeting the Youth Attain Degree measure.

Matt said the Youth One-Stop has served a total of 9 drop-outs since 2/15/16 until 3/13/2016. The total number of drop-outs served are low. Nidia said Assemblyman Arthur Barclay will be assigned to the YOS to help locate out-of- school youth and connect them to the YOS. Jeff said invite Arthur to attend the YIC meetings and asked who the Youth One-Stop counselors are. Nadia added, Marisol and David are the YOS counselors, Danielle Rogers is the support staff and Jyi Peterson will assist the YOS as needed.

Matt said the goal of the YIC is to adopt outreach strategies and partnership to successfully increase the number of the out-of-school youth and create a marketing plan to reach eligible youth and young adults in Camden County. Matt added he values the committee's input and as a committee the focus is the YOS and the number of drop-outs served must increase. Matt also said plans are great but how do we execute those plans. Matt wants to be sure Camden County meets the performance measures and make sure the YIC has the right action plan to support its strategic goals. Keith added the committee needs to define what success is and develop a plan around the defined success. Matt said the committee has done a lot of great things in the past

year but it is an evolving process where it will grow and change. It is important for the committee to examine what has been done, even if we have failed and make necessary changes. Nidia added, the YOS staff has revisited where they were with the WIA and now focusing on what has to be done under the WIOA. Nidia said our goals have changed, we are reconstructing and we are moving forward in a different direction. Lori said the issue is not the service design; the issue is finding out-of-school youth to receive services who fit the WIOA criteria. Nidia said youth that are served through the YOS has to be WIOA eligible. However, if a youth is not able to be served through the Youth One-Stop then they may be served through other funding streams. Jeff added, the goal for the YOS is to serve the hard to serve youth with the WIOA funding. The goal of the committee is the success of the YOS and to support the staff in achieving the goals. Jeff also said, if we continue to promote the YOS by word of mouth and by outreach strategies, then the YOS can and will be a success. Nidia added we must engage everyone to be successful.

Matt also mentioned the previous meeting discussion regarding the State allowing part-time jobs to be counted toward getting employment and vendors receiving compensation, whereas in the county, vendors receive payment for full-time occupations only. Matt said we need to address this policy.

The committee discussed the State's recognized credential policy. Jeff said, there are 175 recognized credentials. Lori explained to members if you serve a certain amount of youth, a percentage of those served have to obtain a USDOL recognized credential. Matt said training that is offered, which credential requires a high school diploma as well as credentials that do not require a diploma. Nidia said on the EPTL you can find what training is available, what the perquisites are and what would be the credential earned.

Mark said, our goal is to capture out-of- school youth and asked what defines an out-of-school youth. Nidia said, an out-of-school youth is a drop-out who does not have a high school diploma, a previously incarcerated individual who is returning back into the community and individuals who are in foster care and do not attend school. Mark mentioned to members that we need a method that is sustainable and not rely on a group of individuals to identify these group of people. We need a system or a method that is repeatable and works on a regular basis. Matt said, we have a plan in place but we need to execute that plan. Mark added, social media is big in the life of our youth and we can use social media as a means of outreach. Mark said how can we reach these youth, engage them with the YOS and inform them of the services available. Mark suggested the YOS create a Facebook page, engage the youth and get the youth to advertise for the YOS. Mark will help create a Facebook page for the YOS. Evangeline said the Center of Family Services has a calendar with scheduled events that is distributed throughout the community and suggested the YOS does a recruitment. Evangeline added this could be another way to promote the YOS. Evangeline asked youth who live in the southern part of the county, such as Winslow, Clementon, Lindenwald and Pine Hill, where do they go for services. Evangeline said transportation could be a barrier for these youth. Nidia said a bus pass will be provided to youths once they register with the YOS.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:09 am.

NEXT MEETING
The next meeting is scheduled for May 26, 2016 at the WDB at 9:00 a.m.

Submitted by,

Letia Stubblefield

Administrative Assistant