

**GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE BOARD RI  
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (YDC)  
September 23, 2009**

**Minutes**

**Members Present:** B. Melton, Chair, R. Coia, S. Maurano, S. Moylan

**Members Absent:** L. Ricci, M. Trueb, S. Powell

**GWB Staff Present:** D. Brown, M. Mooney

**DLT Staff Present:** L. Norris, M. Palumbo, J. Buck, D. Tremblay, C. Ribeiro

**Others Present:** A. Walsh

Chair Melton welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**Minutes of Youth Development Committee meeting**

Chair Melton asked for a review of the meeting minutes of the 6/10/09 Governor's Workforce Board Youth Development Committee (GWBRI – YDC). He asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes.

**Vote:** S. Moylan motioned to approve the minutes of the GWBRI-YDC meeting as presented. S. Maurano seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous; the motion passed.

**Youth Programs Update**

Chair Melton asked Maureen Palumbo, Acting Chief of Youth Services to provide an update to committee members on youth programs.

**2008 Statewide Youth Program**

M. Palumbo reviewed the handout entitled PY2008 Statewide JDF/WIA Outcomes. Her report noted that the total of youth served for period ending PY08 was 7508 which did not include the 243 youth involved with the Cranston School Project (WOW). M. Palumbo reported that JDF/WIA contracts involved 13 youth centers, 32 program vendors and 45 programs and that the per unit cost averaged \$892. She reviewed youth statistics by age, race, gender, education level and risk factors as well as services received and specific outcomes. The full report is available in the meeting packet.

**2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) Summer Program**

M. Palumbo reported on the \$4m allocation providing employment opportunities for youth for the summer program period of May 20 – August 31, 2009. She indicated that the total number of youth placed in summer employment opportunities was 1573 and provided statistics by gender, ethnicity, education level, school status and age. She noted that there were 30 contracts in total and that average per unit cost was \$2,391. The full report is available in the meeting packet. Two brief video clips of students working in the summer program were viewed by committee members.

**2010 Request for Proposals**

Chair Melton asked Maureen Palumbo to provide information on the 2010 statewide youth system Request for Proposals (RFP).

### RFP Changes

M. Palumbo reported that the intent of the RFP is to fund all youth centers, WIA stand alone programs, JDF components and summer programs. She indicated that the effective date of the contract will be from April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011 and that the Bidder's conference will be held on October 28, 2009. M. Palumbo reported that there were some changes to the RFP process including the delivery of RFP information at the bidder's conference and holding separate information sessions for JDF and WIA programs. She noted that bonus points would be awarded for private sector engagement, partnering and collaboration. It was indicated that as part of the contract non negotiable participation in the YouthWORKS411 annual confab, vendor expo, youth resource fair and summer showcase will be required.

### Work Readiness Curriculum

Jen Buck reported on the development of the YouthWORKS411 Curriculum and noted it was customized specifically for youth that are enrolled in the youth center system. She noted that this curriculum was developed using a holistic approach so that skills can be incorporated in every day experiences and would encourage participation. It was noted that the lessons can be taught individually or used as an entire curriculum. Vendors will be encouraged to use this curriculum.

### Events and Professional Development Update

Chair Melton reported on the recent BEST training and noted that 40 graduated from this program. M. Palumbo reported on the Annual Confab, a conference held to bring in stakeholders to share information on updates of the youth system. She also reported on the Summer Showcase where representatives from the summer program including youth provide exhibits and information. She mentioned a partnering event facilitated by the School in Maine to be held on October 1<sup>st</sup> for the purpose of collaboration for future funding. She noted the upcoming pre-proposal and bidder's conference on October 28, 2009 for the RFP for Statewide Youth Workforce Services for 2010.

### Shared Youth Vision Project

Chair Melton asked Lori Norris, Administrator of Workforce Development, to provide an update on the Shared Youth Vision project. She reported that the project goal is to develop an integrated system impacting Rhode Island's neediest youth and resulting in a collaborative case management system. L. Norris noted the recent approval of funding by the GWB in the amount of \$500,000 to expand this 24 month replication project into five regions across Rhode Island and to expand participation. L. Norris indicated that she and J. Uvin have been meeting with prospective funders to secure a challenge grant for matching funds. She mentioned that the Rhode Island Foundation should be in touch soon about their interest in providing additional funding for this project.

### Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, Chair Melton asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting of the GWBRI-YDC.

**Vote:** R. Coia motioned to adjourn the meeting of GWBRI-YDC. S. Moylan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous; the motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Mooney