

YOUTH COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes – November 7, 2018
Crawford County Career and Technical Center, 860 Thurston Road, Meadville, PA

ATTENDANCE: Kevin Sprong, Dr. Lisa Miller, Kay Koyack, Dave Henderson, Eileen Mullen, Monica Daquilante, Ken Falkenhagen, Dawn Popvic, Dan DiTullio, Elaine Shaffer, Joan Quickle, Phil Askins, Amy Herman, Matt LaVerde, Jill Foys, Amanda Hetrick ☎

CONTRACTOR: Sara Dodeci, Russ Byler,

PFPP: Deb O’Neil, Jackie Hamilton

WELCOME

The Youth Committee of the NWPA Job Connect board met on November 7, 2018 at the Crawford County Career & Technical Center, 860 Thurston Road, Meadville, PA. The meeting began at 9:01 a.m., after a TANF discussion that began at 8:30 a.m.

VISITOR RECOGNITION/PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 5, 2018

The minutes of the September 5, 2018 meeting were included in the meeting packet and presented for approval.

MOTION

It was **moved** by Ms. Koyak and **seconded** by Ms. Daquilante to approve the September 5, 2018 meeting minutes as presented. All were in favor. **Motion passed and carried.**

REVIEW OF PREVIOUS ACTION ITEMS

1. **ResCare will notify potential bidders of the pending changes to the TANF program guidelines at the upcoming bidder’s conference.** Complete. This was covered in the TANF discussion preceding the meeting.

INTRODUCTIONS

Ms. Foys noted that an ongoing action item for the Youth Committee has been addressing membership. She asked those present to introduce themselves, then share what they bring to the committee and what they take away. Each person in attendance introduced themselves and shared their work and history with the Youth Committee.

YOUTH PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Ms. Dodeci referred to her provided report.

****ACTION****

- **ResCare will provide a presentation at the next meeting regarding the resources available to youth through the WIOA Title I Youth Program to “connect the dots”; identify the services available, as well as the challenges.**

RECRUITMENT OF OUT OF SCHOOL YOUTH PARTICIPANTS

Ms. Foys noted that some discussion was had within the introductions. She added that a psychologist, Audrey Smith, has been asked to participate in future youth committee meetings. A youth probation representative from the state had been asked to participate, but he declined the invitation, but pledged to provide a more appropriate contact at a later date. Additional suggestions from the group included a Mr. Graham from the operators union, Steve Carr of the Northern PA Regional College, Joyce Bostick of Keystone Smiles/Americorps, and JobCorps staff. It was suggested that another NWPA Job Connect board member, Dr. Ray Feroz, may have other suggestions.

Fostering a strong community connection was discussed as a strategy for engaging youth who return from military service or college. These emerging adults need help translating their resume and may feel most comfortable returning to an agency that helped them in the past, or their high school or technical school.

Another suggestion was to refer to PA CareerLink® graduating high school seniors who have not identified a plan to attend school or start a job by May of their graduating year. This process may be made less cumbersome by using a FERPA release.

It was suggested that PA CareerLink® utilize space in the IU5 trailer at the Crawford County Career and Technical Center. As an extension of the school, emerging adults may feel more comfortable approaching and entering the PA CareerLink® system there.

Ms. Dodeci clarified that though there seems to still be rumblings that people cannot “find the PA CareerLink®s” since the closing of the Crawford office, one reason the concept was implemented in the first place was because people were uncomfortable going into another social agency. She cited mobile activity in the City of Erie, where staff will meet potential clients a block away from the comprehensive site because, for whatever reason, they are not interested in visiting the actual office. The toll-free number was shared with the group again. It was suggested that this number be more visible in the community and perhaps provided to students with their diploma.

Other strategies suggested for reaching out-of-school youth included a school-initiated robocall in the fall and spring to engage parents, grandparents, and teachers, including PA CareerLink® in career exploration projects, and providing referral material to Active Aging.

****ACTION****

- **Implement a process with the schools when students graduate or dropout to have students sign a release to share information with the PA CareerLink® to provide assistance with career activities/training.**
- **Increase communication to the public of the toll-free number for mobile services delivery.**

OTHER BUSINESS

YOUTH COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

This was covered in the previous discussions.

NEXT MEETING – WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2019

The next meeting of the Youth Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, January 2, 2019 beginning at 9 a.m. An optional TANF discussion will be scheduled for 8:30 a.m.

REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS

- 1. ResCare will provide a presentation at the next meeting regarding the resources available to youth through the WIOA Title I Youth Program to “connect the dots”; identify the services available, as well as the challenges.**
- 2. Implement a process with the schools when students graduate or dropout to have students sign a release to share information with the PA CareerLink® to provide assistance with career activities/training.**
- 3. Increase communication to the public of the toll-free number for mobile services delivery.**

REPORT TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 10:21 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Hamilton
NWPA Job Connect