



**Broward Workforce Development Board  
Youth Committee Meeting**  
Tuesday, February 6, 2024  
12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Zoom Meeting ID:** 869 0318 7415  
**Zoom Password:** 420681  
**Zoom Call-In:** +1 646 876 9923

**MEETING MINUTES**

**CareerSource Broward Board Conference Room  
2890 W. Cypress Creek Road, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309**

**The Committee was reminded of the conflict-of-interest provisions.**

**ATTENDEES:**

**Youth Committee Members:** Heiko Dobrikow, Dr. Lisa Knowles, Rufus James, Traci Schweitzer, Jill Denis-Lay, and Dawn Liberta who chaired the meeting.

**Staff:** Carol Hylton, Kimberly Bryant, Ron Moffett, Mark Klinecicz, Yushika Florence, and LaTanya Brown.

**Guests:** RaShani Boynton

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of the Minutes of the 11/6 meeting.

**On a motion by Traci Schweitzer and seconded by Dr. Lisa Knowles, the Youth Committee unanimously approved the minutes of the 11/6 meeting.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Accept Funds for the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP)**

The committee considered the acceptance of \$385,000 from Broward County for the SYEP. The funding will serve up to 83 economically disadvantaged youth who have and/or had contact with the Juvenile Justice continuum residing in one of the six distressed zip codes ages 16-18. The SYEP will provide each youth with three days of employability skills training and an eight-week meaningful summer work experience.

Ms. Liberta expressed her support to accept these funds as they are targeted to serve justice-involved youth.

**On a motion by Dr. Lisa Knowles and seconded by Traci Schweitzer, the Youth Committee unanimously approved the acceptance of \$385,000 for the SYEP.**

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## **2. Youth Committee Strategic Planning Matrix Updates**

Considered approval of the final updates to the Strategic Planning Matrix.

Ms. Bryant reviewed the updates to the youth committee matrix.

Regarding youth work experience and internships, Ms. Liberta asked if the employer was required to have an open position to hire the youth afterward.

Ms. Bryant responded, no, for work experience, CSBD is the employer of record, and employers are not required to hire a youth in order to participate in the program. Our staff assists the youth with finding unsubsidized employment during the work experience.

Ms. Hylton added that work experience is great because it connects youth with work and with an employer who may hire them afterward. Even if they are not offered employment, the youth still benefit from gaining real-world work experience, which they add to their resume and obtain a letter of recommendation from the employer.

**On a motion by Dr. Lisa Knowles and seconded by Traci Schweitzer, the Youth Committee unanimously approved the Youth Committee Strategic Planning Matrix updates.**

## **REPORTS**

### **1. Update on Worlds of Work (WOW) Youth Career Exploration Summit**

CSBD, in partnership with the School Board of Broward County, will host the 2024 WOW Youth Career Exploration Summit on 3/14, from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm at the Amerant Bank Arena. WOW is an immersive experiential learning event where over 800 youth in the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades will learn about different career pathways that align with their interests. At the event, students will engage in several hands-on career experiences in nine growth industries 1) aviation 2) healthcare 3) information technology 4) manufacturing 5) construction, energy and utility 6) hospitality 7) logistics, transportation and automotive 8) marine and 9) public safety and service. CSBD Intermediary staff have engaged businesses related to the specific industries, education and community partners who have expressed interest in supporting the event. Exhibitor and Supporter forms are being sent to confirm commitments. A social media campaign will be released the week of February 5<sup>th</sup>, followed by a press release announcing the event.

Ms. Bryant provided an overview on the updates for the WOW event occurring in March. We have invited over 1,100 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders from 29 high schools in Broward County to attend. So far, the three technical colleges, McFatter, Sheridan, and Atlantic, have committed to being exhibitors. Ms. Bryant reviewed the attachments with the committee members and asked them to share with their networks.

Ms. Liberta shared that she plans to attend the event.

Mr. Klincewicz added that we have weekly meetings with the School Board of Broward County team and the planning is progressing well. He expressed that this event will be beneficial for the youth to assist them in choosing their careers.

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## **2. Update on WIOA Youth Performance for Program Year 23/24**

This Youth Performance report provided the Youth Committee with provider performance as required under their agreements and in accordance with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. CSBD funds four (4) Out-of-School (OSY) and two (2) In-School Youth (ISY) programs. Programs are on target for the first quarter of the year.

Ms. Bryant reviewed the youth provider's performance updates with the committee. There was no further discussion.

## **3. Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) 2024**

The SYEP will serve approximately 1,130 youth this year. The SYEP youth application portal opened on 12/1/23 and will close on 2/29/24. We have already received nearly 1,900 applications. The program begins on 6/12 with a three-day employability skills training. New for this year is that CSBD is incorporating mental health awareness into the work preparation component. This will be followed by an eight-week meaningful summer work experience. Youth will start working at their assigned workplaces on 6/17, and the program runs to 8/6. To prepare for the intake process, which starts this month, SYEP has begun hiring staff and will be sending out eligibility packets to be completed by the youth. We are also in the process of recruiting employers who will provide meaningful work experience for youth this summer.

Ms. Hylton gave a status update of the work that has been accomplished in support of the SYEP program. She explained now that we know in advance that we have the additional \$1.4 million for SYEP, we are able to plan and start the process earlier for those employers such as Broward Health and Boys and Girls Club who require a level II background check.

The committee viewed a video highlighting the success of the 2023 Summer program.

## **4. Update on Request for Proposals (RFP) for WIOA Youth Providers**

CSBD released an RFP for WIOA out-of-school (OSY) and in-school (ISY) services on 1/16. The RFP is to select youth service providers who will work with youth who meet the eligibility criteria of the WIOA youth grants. The services must encompass the WIOA 14 elements as required by the statutes. Flexibility in the ratio of expenditures and numbers of youth served is incorporated into the RFP for providers serving both OSY and ISY. Youth service providers interested in applying must submit a proposal by Friday, 2/23, at 1:00 p.m.

Ms. Bryant reviewed aspects of the WIOA Youth RFP with the committee. There was no further discussion.

## **5. Inaugural State of the Workforce Breakfast**

On 1/24, CSBD, in partnership with the chambers of commerce in Fort Lauderdale, Hollywood, Pompano Beach, and Tamarac, hosted the inaugural State of the Workforce Breakfast and Job Fair at the Broward County Convention Center. The event featured a 1) networking breakfast where over 300 business leaders learned about the latest workforce trends and uncovered the

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dynamic relationship between AI and the workforce 2) Business Marketplace showcasing local vendors that offer services designed to help the companies operate efficiently and 3) job fair where over 100 employers discovered top-notch talent by coming face-to-face with over 1,200 job seekers. Visit Lauderdale provided complimentary parking and Broward County Transit provided complimentary transportation to job seekers from economically distressed zip codes. In addition, students who are soon to graduate from the School Board's three technical colleges, Atlantic, McFatter, and Sheridan attended the event with their teachers. This was the largest event that CareerSource Broward has brought to the community in our 51-year history! By all accounts, the event was an incredible success!

Mr. Moffett provided an overview of the event. He highlighted the keynote speakers, the partnership with 1) Broward County Transit, who provided free transportation to and from the event for over 200 job seekers, and 2) Visit Lauderdale, who provided complimentary parking. Overall, it was a tremendous success.

Committee members viewed a video from a local television station that covered the event.

**MATTERS FROM THE YOUTH COMMITTEE CHAIR: None**

**MATTERS FROM THE YOUTH COMMITTEE**

Mr. Dobrikow shared information he received from attending the State of the County meeting. He stated the youth committee is the most important committee because of the impact it can have on building tomorrow's workforce. This is important locally as the data shows our labor force is declining due to the workforce leaving the county and because of so many aging out of the workforce. Mr. Dobrikow asked the members to start thinking about ways to 1) connect the Youth to businesses year-round 2) partner with the Employer Services Committee to bring employers and the youth together and 3) get the chambers more involved in the schools and in the classroom.

**MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR: None**

**MATTERS FROM THE PRESIDENT/CEO:**

Ms. Hylton expressed appreciation for the number of Board members who attended the State of the Workforce Breakfast and invited everyone to attend the WOW Event. Ms. Hylton shared that it will be a half-day event and requested that the committee share the Exhibitor Forms and encourage others to sponsor the event.

Mr. Klincewicz added that employers are enthusiastic about participating in the event.

**ADJOURNMENT - 1:19 p.m.**

<b>THE NEXT YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2024.</b>
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