

Youth Council
 Workforce Investment Board of Will County
 Workforce Center of Will County
 2400 Glenwood Avenue, Joliet, IL
March 6, 2018
Minutes

Council Members					
Name	Present	Absent	Name	Present	Absent
Nancy Baldwin		X	Monica Lowe	X	
Colleen Brooks	X		Cheryl McCarthy	X	
Gloria Dollinger	X		Judy Mitchell		X
Susan Flessner	X		Marieta Pergi	X	
Mike Hennessy		X	Keri Peter	X	
Mark Jepson		X	Michele Stipe	X	
Neal Kauffman		X	Ben Stortz		X
Elizabeth Kaufman	X		Pamela Thomas	X	
Staff and Guests					
Sue Davinger	Mary Gajcak		Caroline Portlock		

Welcome and Approval of Minutes

Cheryl McCarthy called the meeting to order and introduced Michele Stipe as new co-chair of the Youth Council. The minutes of the November 7th meeting were approved on a motion by Flessner, seconded by Dollinger.

Youth Provider Events: The “Suicide Awareness Workshop”, presented on February 22nd was well attended and well received. The presentation was video-taped, and will be made available on the Workforce website along with resource sheets.

Portlock asked the Committee for recommendations for future topics. Social-Media/Cyber-Bullying has been requested often. Speaker Chris Banker, of Ink 180, was recommended for his presentation on this topic. Drug abuse is another topic that is in high demand. Brian Hazzard has offered to return to share insights on this topic in the future.

Portlock announced that the new State of the Youth Report will be available electronically on the WIB website, with interactive access to data-sets used. The ‘Youth Service Provider Network’, an online service providing youth resources for youth workers, will be linked to the WIB site as well. Illinois WorkNet will update this data every six months. There will be no charge for WIB to link to the ‘Network’.

Connect to Your Future youth program: Keri Peter presented the Occupational Training report with examples of success stories gained. She noted that over the last eight months, more and more customers are using services because of word-of-mouth referrals. Internships are at an all-time high, with twenty-seven clients in internship positions. Healthcare internships have expanded to doctors’ offices and clinics. An intern in the IT field created an entire website for ‘Tucker Doggie Delights’ in New Lenox.

Marieta Pergi gave the GED report. Six students that recently completed their GED are working with Keri to transfer into Occupational Skills Training. Libby Budd is now on site at the WCWC to present GED. GED classes are now available on demand, without the need to wait for formal start dates to begin. Libby and Ramien are now able to work very closely together to assist individuals with the flow from GED to Occupational Training.

RFPs for youth services yielded two proposals. Holstein Human Capital, a consortium from Joliet, and Joliet Junior College responded. The review committee met on February 28th, and overwhelmingly decided to retain Joliet Junior College for PY18. Portlock referred to the consortium, saying that while they were not able to meet the requirements outlined in the RFP, it might be good to partner with them to recruit older Joliet youth for GED and Occupational Skills training. The contract for Youth services will go before the Executive Committee on April 2nd, WIB on April 9th, and the Will County Board on May 17th. The contract will then be negotiated with JJC, and services under the new agreement will begin on July 1st.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Youth Council will be May 1st, 2018, at the Workforce Center of Will County, 2400 Glenwood, Joliet, at 7:30 am.