

Region 2 Youth Standing Committee Meeting

Date: Monday, December 10, 2018

Time: 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Present: Heather DeGroote, Patti Hanson, Mistie Johnson, Cindy Davis, Joe Weigel, Terri Ewers, Amber Kratz, Jordon Monahan, Jane Nelson, Brian Pauley, Heather Stubbe, Angela Backhaus

1.0 Welcome

2.0 Action Items to approve agenda and previous meeting minutes dated November 2, 2017, April 12, 2018, and May 3, 2018 - Motion to approve minutes made by Mistie Johnson; Seconded by Heather Stubbe. Unanimously approved.

3.0 Youth Standing Committee Meeting Discussion

3.1 Purpose and Guidelines of Young Adult Program – 75% of funding must be used on out-of-school youth. All enrolled participants must have a barrier to employment such as pregnant/parenting, high school dropout. 25% of funding left for in-school youth, who are attending school but also have a challenge or barrier to employment AND are low income. Age groups range 14-21 years of age for in-school youth; 14-24 years of age for out-of-school youth. We can help individuals without enrollment. 20% of total funding has to be spent on experiential learning – on-the-job trainings (OJT), work experience placements (WEP), internships, etc. State of Iowa has been asked to file a waiver requesting change to 50% in-school youth and 50% out-of-school youth in order to include more in-school youth, which is still under consideration.

3.2 Goals of the Committee – Patti Hanson reports that someone has offered to offer to come in and help us decide what our goals should be. This person is training to be a TOPS facilitator and offered to do it for free. Discussion ensued regarding whether committee should wait for realignment vote in February 2019, but all agreed that the assistance would be helpful. Reviewed realignment initiatives pursued by State of Iowa leadership. We could spend time on developing goals now, but there is a possibility that the committee will be dissolved if State does go forward with 2-district realignment. Decided to wait until after February realignment vote.

3.3 Current Members, Potential Members – Continued brainstorming list of potential new members to approach, but will wait to talk to them until after February 2019 realignment vote. Additional suggestions included public defender's office and Hunter Callanan with North Iowa Corridor.

4.0 Updates From Partners

Brian Pauley, Mason City Parks & Recreation – Downtown project is moving forward, which will help us attract and retain younger professionals.

Amber Kratz, North Iowa Vocational Center (NIVC) – NIVC moving forward with merger with North Iowa Transition Center. The 'A' Game curriculum being presented in Northwood.

Barb Kellogg – Cerro Gordo Public Health encouraging everyone to get their flu shot and encourage others to do the same. Betty Kroner has a unique program that she does with the alternative school – suggests she might be a good person to connect with.

Cindy Davis, North Iowa Community Action Organization – Outreach program is now housed in Central Park location as of July 2018, which helps with transportation issues. Heating assistance program keeping everyone busy. Housing program received funds from the United Way to help people create savings.

Jane Nelson, Iowa Department of Corrections – 2nd Judicial District covers a lot of territory – to help with that issue, department wrote a federal grant request and received an award to help implement technology for high risk population and how to increase supervision through technology.

Joe Weigel, Iowa Department for the Blind – There is a big push for transitional services starting at age 14, which is earlier than usual. They are partnering with schools to gain work experiences, administering assessments, and tapping into all the resources that are available in the community to better help clients.

Terri Ewers, North Iowa Area Community College (NIACC) – Discover Day being held at NIACC on December 18th – over 800 8th graders will spend the day at NIACC learning about their occupational interest areas.

Jordon Monahan, NIACC Adult Education & Literacy – HiSET classes resume January 14, 2019. Certified Nurse Aide info session held at IowaWORKS today to generate interest in integrated CNA class, which will include additional training in math and reading paired with CNA curriculum.

Mistie Johnson, Work Incentives Planning & Assistance (WIPA) – Still only 2 people covering entire state. WIPA grant is back up for bid in 2020, meaning July 1st could possibly be their last year with DEI grant. WIPA staff traveling around state talking to community resource providers and to each of the Ticket to Work Employment Networks (EN). WIPA refers to ENs all over the state, so this helps them match potential Ticket holders with the EN that will be the best fit for them.

5.0 Young Adult Program Update

5.1 Current/Past Quarter Work Experiences – Patti Hanson reports WEPs in place: Garner for auto restoration; DealerBuilt in Mason City, Henkel Construction WEP recently ended unsuccessfully; Pioneer Animal Hospital in Mason City ended successfully; another at an auto body shop.

5.2 Human Services Club – partnership gaining interest from students. Next project with club will resume after Spring semester begins in January.

6.0 Moving Forward

6.1 Next steps for committee – to be determined after realignment vote in February.

6.2 Meetings for 2019 – February 25th, May 13th, August 12th, and November 18th

7.0 Adjournment – Adjourned at 3:55 p.m.