



Workforce Investment Board of Tulare County

Youth Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 2, 2023, 8:00 a.m.- 9:00 a.m.

YOUTH COMMITTEE MEMBER PRESENT: Yolanda Valdez (Chair), Mary Alice Escarsega-Fechner, Marie Pinto, Margarita Luna, Galen Quenzer, Donnette Silva-Carter, Kelsey Jones

YOUTH COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Tim Hire, Michelle Engle-Silva

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Yolanda Valdez called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** During the public comment section, presided over by Yolanda Valdez, Desiree Landeros provided feedback from the State Monitoring Unit's review of the youth@Work program. The State Monitor commended the exceptional performance of Proteus, Inc. career coach Ramiro. According to the State Monitor, Ramiro demonstrated a comprehensive and thorough understanding of the WIOA Youth Program, delivering detailed and outstanding results for Tulare County's youth.

3. **CONSENT ITEMS:**

- a. Approve August 3, 2023, Youth Committee Meeting Minutes.

Motion by Donnette Silva-Carter, second by Marie Pinto to approve the Consent Items; carried by unanimous vote.

4. **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- a. Review State and Local Performance and Expenditure Report Card (PY 23-24 Quarter 1) WIOA Youth Services by Subrecipient:

Youth Services Coordinator Desiree Landeros discussed the PY 23-24 Quarter 1 Report Card for WIOA Youth Services.

- i. Tulare County Office of Education for Employment and Education (TCOE/SEE) for Area I – (Porterville, Lindsay, Strathmore, Terra Bella, and Woodville)
- ii. Community Services Employment Training (CSET) for Area II – (Tulare, Earlimart,

- Pixley, Tipton)
- iii. Community Services Employment Training (CSET) for Area III – (Visalia, Goshen)
- iv. Community Services Employment Training (CSET) for Area IV- (Dinuba, Cutler, Orosi)
- v. Proteus, Inc. for Area V – (Exeter, Farmersville, Ivanhoe, Woodlake)

The Youth Committee members requested that the report card include planned and actual goals. This addition will enable a clear comparison between the intended objectives and the outcomes achieved.

b. Equity Target Population Fund (ETPF)

Gicel, a Workforce Analyst, presented a comprehensive ETPF program overview detailing its goals and objectives. In addition, she provided an update on the program's progress in the first quarter. Key highlights of this update included:

ETPF Updates

- 13 Referrals
- 22 Enrollments
- 3 Worksite Placements
- 5 Occupational Skills Training

c. Youth Grant Opportunities

Desiree gave an overview of upcoming grants for which we have applied in collaboration with partner agencies to explore funding opportunities.

i. Student Training and Employment Program (STEP)

- Funding Request: \$750,000 Enrollments
- Grant Period: January 1, 2024-December 31, 2024
- Enrollment Goal: 100
- Expanded to all youth service areas

ii. Edison STEM Internship Project

Stipend Opportunities

Stipends range from \$250 - \$1,000.

- For students who reside within SCE Territory
- Internship or Project Based
- Tied to STEM related pathways or project

iii. Economic Development Pilot

Collaborative with Community Colleges and Adult Schools

Incentives

- Jump Start
- HSD/GED
- Testing Fees

d. Highlighted Success Stories

Desiree shared that two of the four categories for Innovators by Design award winners were part of the youth@work program. Desiree shared the following success story videos-

- Workforce Professional winner, Nou Cha, Youth Development Specialist – youth@work TCOE/SEE
- Youth of the year- Ivan Hernandez Rios

5. **GOOD OF THE ORDER/ADJOURN:**

The meeting was adjourned by Yolanda Valdez at 8:51 a.m.

Next Meeting date:

Note: The next meeting was originally scheduled for February 8, 2024. However, the Youth Committee meeting has since been rescheduled to February 21, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

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