

DATE: August 3, 2007

TO: Youth Technical Workgroup

FROM: Jim Coley
Michael D'Annibale
Terry Snyder

SUBJECT: May 9, 2007 Youth Technical Workgroup Meeting
Pennsylvania Partners Annual Employment, Training and
Education Conference – Hershey, PA

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Jim Coley, Southern Alleghenies, was unanimously elected as the workgroup's Co-chair. Terry Snyder, BWDP Liaison, was unanimously elected as the workgroup's Recorder.

UPDATE REPORT - Earl Geiger

WIA YOUTH ALLOCATIONS

- PY 2007 State Youth Allotments were announced in the Federal Register dated April 6, 2007.
- The youth allotments were e-mailed to LWIAs on April 13, 2007.
- Preliminary PY 2007 Youth Area Formula Allocations were issued to LWIAs on May 1, 2007 along with clarification that the amount each state received for the PY '07 first youth increment (25%) was based on PY '06 state allotments.
- Although, nationally, WIA youth allocations were level funded, PA received a funding cut of 7.12 percent.
- That funding cut was not reflected in this first increment of funds awarded.
- Therefore, the first increment awarded is likely more than 25 percent of the total funds that will be available for PY '07.

Fiscal Coordination Services is processing Local Area WIA Youth allocations for PY 2007 and these should be announced shortly.

TANF YOUTH FUNDING

- The Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare (DPW) has again awarded \$15 million in TANF Youth funds to be used by local areas for year round youth program activities in PY 2007.
- The PY 2007 TANF Youth Funds Local Area distribution and instructions will be e-mailed soon.
- As you know, Local TANF distribution amounts are based on the total number of TANF youth by county.
- For PY 2007, based on this formula calculation, a total of 6 Local Areas received increases in funding, while 17 LWIAs received decreases.
- This year the Departments of Labor & Industry (L&I) and Public Welfare (DPW) are working together **to increase the numbers and percentages of youth in TANF families** who are served with TANF youth development funding.
- Local Areas have also been directed to focus on **increasing the number of TANF teens being served.**

REGIONAL CAREER EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS (RCEP)

Pennsylvania's statewide network of RCEPs (youth intermediary organizations) in support of the Commonwealth's high school reform agenda:

- Brings together a range of local resources to promote young people's self confidence about their abilities,
- Increases their connections to adults and opportunities, and
- Fosters the personal, academic, and work-related competencies they need to succeed.

Since March 2006, nineteen RCEPs have been developed and are implementing strategies to meet these objectives.

Data captured for the first nine months of the initiative indicated that through the efforts of the 12 originally funded RCEPs alone:

- More than 32,000 students have been exposed to various career awareness and exploration opportunities through active involvement of business through job shadowing, mentoring, company tours, etc.

- More than 2,300 students have participated in paid and unpaid internships.
- Approximately 300 employers are assisting teachers/counselors with curriculum in various careers.
- More than 340 teachers and counselors have participated in Educator in the Workplace sessions with the opportunity to earn Act 48 credits.
- 57 Project 720 schools and 69 other schools committed to Project 720 principles are actively engaged with RCEPs.

PENNSYLVANIA YOUTH IN TRANSITION (PAYT) PROGRAMS

- The PAYT program is a collaborative partnership that includes: Pennsylvania Departments of Labor & Industry, Public Welfare, Education, and the Pennsylvania Workforce Investment Board, PA CareerLink system, local Youth Councils, and the Pennsylvania Partnership for Children — and is funded with a PY 2004 WIA Incentive Grant of approximately \$853,000.
- The purpose of PA Youth in Transition (PAYT) is to reconnect Pennsylvania dropouts and youth aging out of foster care to high quality educational options earning a high school diploma, GED, or GED leading to postsecondary education credential and successful careers.
- PAYT is designed to establish community partnerships that will examine the issues around improving the educational options and life outcomes for the large and growing numbers of these youth populations.
- Through PAYT Project, the Commonwealth will award approximately four to six grants, ranging from a minimum of \$150,000 to \$200,000, to new and existing community partnerships.

YOUTH SERVICES ACADEMY (YSA)

- A YSA planning committee has been formed that includes staff from various state agencies, PA Partners and the Local Areas.
- Planning for this fall's Third Annual Youth Services Academy began with a conference call on April 19.
- Based on evaluations received from attendees, the committee discussed what worked and what didn't work last year.
- The next conference call is scheduled for May 24th.

- If anyone has suggestions or recommendations for this year's Youth Academy, please contact me or Mike D'Annibale and we'll forward your ideas to the committee.
- This year's Youth Services Academy is tentatively scheduled for October 30 and 31 in Grantville, PA. Visit www.papartners.org/ for more information on the upcoming academy.

CASSP CONFERENCE

- The **Child and Adolescent Service System Program (CASSP)** held its annual conference at the Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel on April 24-27, 2007.
- CASSP is a comprehensive mental health system of care for children and adolescents with serious emotional disturbance and their families.
- CASSP is funded by the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare and is part of the Child Study Center in the Department of Psychology at The Pennsylvania State University.
- BWDP was asked to present information about the PA CareerLink System
- Kate Lomax and Carole Pearce from the Central PA Workforce Investment Area and Mandy Cluck from the Southcentral Workforce Investment Area did an excellent job of explaining the PA CareerLink system and the services that are available for youth.
- There were many positive comments about the presentation by those who attended.

COMMONWEALTH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM (CWDS)

- Development of the CWDS is moving along and on schedule to "go live" this September.
- Systems Integration Testing (SIT), which examines the functionality between each screen on the CWDS, is currently being done.
- Staff Training is scheduled to begin on July 30, 2007, and will be held throughout the state.
- Stay tuned for further developments.

SHARED YOUTH VISION

- In 2004, USDOL sponsored three Regional Youth Forums throughout the country.
- The first forum was held in Philadelphia on November 9-10, 2004 and Pennsylvania's team was represented by all of the agencies that DOL requested to attend.
- The focus of the forum was for states to develop an understanding of and develop plans to implement the New Youth Vision being adopted within USDOL's funded youth programs as outlined in TEGL 3-04.
- Since Pennsylvania had already developed the types of collaborations being promoted by the New Youth Vision, we were not actively engaged in this initiative.
- DOL has asked states to become re-engaged in this effort, and PA is once again forming a team of the required state agencies and Local Workforce Investment Areas.
- Terry Snyder, my colleague from Planning Coordination Services, is BWDP's lead person in this initiative.

NEW YOUTH WAIVER

- As part of the submission of the Strategic State Workforce Investment Plan, the Commonwealth requested five new waivers.
- One request asked for a waiver of the statutory membership requirements for Youth Councils.
- This request only seeks to waive the cumbersome membership composition requirements, and not the elimination of youth councils.

STATE YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING

- The next State Youth Council meeting is scheduled for June 6th, at a Harrisburg area site to be announced.
- The meeting is tentatively scheduled to run from 10am – 2pm.
- An agenda will be forthcoming.

RETIREMENT CORNER

Workgroup members celebrated Earl Geiger's retirement from BWDP and recognized Earl for his involvement with the workgroup and his advocacy for youth. Visit the following site to view photos of this occasion.

<http://pg.photos.yahoo.com/ph/kawkawpa/album?.dir=/8ef2re2&.src=ph&.tok=phKIHWGB7EeouGwx>

NEXT MEETING

The workgroup recommended coordinating their next meeting with the Youth Services Academy scheduled for October 30-31, in Grantville, PA. More information will follow.

ATTENDEES

Leona Annaguey (BWDP), Kristen Arendash (NW170 Northwest PA WIB), Don Bender (Dept. of Corrections), Jim Brenner (SW095 City of Pittsburgh), Dana Chambers (SW165 Southwest Training Services), Jim Coley (SA100 Southern Alleghenies), Doran Condon (SC180 Southcentral Employment Corp.), Cynthia Ellis (SC180 Southcentral), Cindy Evans (LV070 Lehigh Valley), Sherry Felten (NT130 Northern Tier), Helen Garvey (LV070 Lehigh Valley), Earl Geiger (BWDP), Judy Galsick (NC125 NCPRPDC), Mark Hauch (CE175 Columbia County), Claudia Hunold (CE175 STEP, Inc.), Elaine Jones (NE075 The ReDCo Group), Ted Josey (SE080 Montgomery County), Maranda Kapish (SE020 Bucks County), Kate Lomax (CE175 Central PA WDC), Deb Mathers (NT130 Northern Tier), Roberta McCann (SE105 Arbor), Dawn McFall (NW145 West Central Job Partnership), Gordon McNamara (SE105 Ardor), Laura McOdrum (SE030 Chester County), Shannon Miller (CE175 Central PA WDC), Bill Moulfair (BWDP), Donita Ramino (CE175 STEP, Inc.), Deb Shifflet (SC180-Southcentral), Dr. Robin Smith (Pottstown School District), Terry Snyder (BWDP), Don Spangler (Philadelphia Youth Network), Virginia Turano (NE055 Lackawanna County WIB), Elizabeth Vicente (BWDP), Paul Weifenbaugh (SW110 Tri-County), Keith Ward (BWDP), Linda Whidden (NE135 Monroe County), Gale Zalar (CE175-Central Susquehanna)

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