

**MassHire Central Region Workforce Board
Youth Council**

December 9, 2021

2:30 pm

Conducted by WebEx:

<https://cow.webex.com/cow/j.php?MTID=m693215317c954b866cb5a0a9c18c8fe0>

Meeting number (access code): 172 319 7694; Meeting password: kiBvyPs78a3

Tap to join from a mobile device (attendees only)

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Members Present: Amy Partelow, Kathe Coll, Roberto Diaz, Judy Freedman, Robin Hooper, David Trendy, Howard Lucas, Kristen Mayotte, Isidore Nosike, Kelly Penrod, Kate Pesa.

Guest Present: Carlene Arambula, Leslie Baker, Vanessa Chandler,

Staff Present: Ed Gagne, Mildred Currie

Meeting Minutes

Welcome & Introductions: The meeting was called to order at 2:33 p.m.

Approval of the October 14, 2021 Minutes: The meeting minutes were unanimously approved by a motion from Isidore Nosike.

Presentation

Google – Vanessa Chandler, Manager, discussed the non-profit FREE services offered to programs through Grow with Google’s free virtual workshops designed to help clients get the most out of digital tools while searching for their next job. Grow with Google workshops are designed to help students prepare for success while teaching valuable job search skills. Students learn how to build a professional brand for themselves, craft a resume that stands out, and network their way to new opportunities.

Presentation

Center for Childcare Centers (CCC) – Leslie Baker, Workforce Development Coordinator, discussed Project Flourish – a grant funded by the Executive Office of Labor & Workforce Development – is an apprentice program that partners with child care providers to identify entry-level staff seeking to advance their career in the early child care workforce. CCC’s training include: Career advising and guidance on career path ways, developing competencies through coursework and credentials, and coaching and mentoring to develop and improve competencies in working with children and families. Apprentices become credentialed to meet state qualifications to secure employment in licensed child care centers, preschools, and family child care homes.

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Presentation

The Fieldstone School – Isidore Nosike, Director, provided an overview of services offered through the WIOA grant: Certified Nurse Assistant, Electrocardiography Technician, Phlebotomy Technician, and Home Health Aide.

Presentation

Youth Opportunities Upheld, Inc. – Kate Pesa, Program Director, provided an overview of WIOA GED/HiSet programs in Central MA. The program provides services in Worcester, Whitinsville, Webster, and Milford. Funding also provides vocational training in health care and culinary/food services.

Presentation

Worcester Community Action Council, Inc. – Roberto Diaz, Director of Jobs and Education Center, discussed the GED/HiSET WIOA youth program in Worcester. The program provides High School Equivalency Test (HiSET) preparation. Students participate in several other WCAC services.

All three WIOA youth programs provide pre-employment skills training, education and career counseling, internships and job placement, life skills workshops, case management, and several other individualized WIOA elements to assist students with college and/or work readiness.

YouthWorks (YW)

YW year round will serve 25 youth at various worksites with an additional 35 early spring. Additional funding from Commonwealth Corporation of approximately \$250,000 will increase the number of students served next year.

Connecting Activities

In collaboration with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, HS seniors looking to work in the school/education field will have an opportunity this spring. Connection with UMASS have occurred to hire several youth, and there's been a number of speakers an recruiting events that have reached 2,400 students through agencies such as the Worcester Police, Universal Tech Institute, Army/National Guard, and Polar Park.

Council Announcements

D. Trendi – provided an overview of programs, activities and enrollments at the Grafton Job. Carlene Arumbula – DCS Field Oversight Monitor, talked about the DCS monitoring file review at the Board and the quality of service evident in the detailed Individualized Service Strategies (ISS's) and other file documentation. It was mentioned that Central's ISS has been shared with other regions as a best practice.

Next Meeting

February 10, 2022, conducted by WebEx. Information provided on page 1.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned upon a motion, seconded, and approved unanimously at 3:45 p.m.

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*Respectfully submitted by,
Ed Gagne*

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