

Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board
YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Finger Lakes Works One Stop Office
70 Elizabeth Blackwell Street, Geneva, NY 14456
Monday, May 3, 2010

ATTENDANCE: **Members:** Menzo Case, Chair, Peg Birmingham, Patty D'Amico, Kathy Swarthout; Sarah Rowe, Barb Delpriore, Johnny Robinson, Susan Acquisto, Brian Young, Lynne Freid, John Mueller
Staff: Pat Gopen, Youth Systems, Jen Horton, Internship Program
Guests: Deb McGrimley, Lindsay Harris, Cathy Jinks, Brandon Mead, Margaret Moore

ABSENT: **Members:** Lori Greene, Fabriela Rivera, Zulieika Rodriguez, Bianca Thomas

CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS: Mr. Case called the meeting to order at 4:05pm. Welcome to Johnny Robinson (FLACRA) and Jessica Bacher (Hampton Inn.) (absent)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes from March '10 meeting- Motion to approve by Ms. Birmingham, seconded by Ms. Rowe. All in favor. Motion carried.

GUEST PRESENTATION: Margaret Morse, LMSW, Clinic Manager from FLACRA (margaret.morse@flacra.com), spoke to the committee regarding the agency's youth services in addictions counseling and referral. Margaret explained how the youth in FLACRA services are most often referred by the legal system, the schools and other community service providers. She elaborated on the different facilities and programs FLACRA offers, and suggested that they are dedicated to improving and building their youth programming. Margaret told the group that FLACRA usually keeps the younger youth (age 14-17) together in group sessions unless the youth is an offender where adult programs might be more suitable. They counsel youth in group as well as individual sessions, teach GED classes and offer other, non-addiction related services. FLACRA and the Workforce Youth Counselors in Ontario, Yates and Wayne Counties are active partners.

Sarah Rowe, Asst. Executive Director of the American Red Cross in the Finger Lakes provided the Youth Council with information regarding the many faceted services provided by the Red Cross locally, as well as internationally. The group learned about emergency food, clothing and shelter services for victims of emergencies or disasters during their first 1-3 days of recovery. They teach job skills classes in CPR, Lifeguarding, Family Care giving and Babysitting. The Red Cross is made up almost entirely of volunteers. Sarah told the group about volunteer needs for both adult and youth assistance. The Red Cross partners with many local service providers, and currently has a fulltime position available in the AmeriCorps Vista program. The position begins with a one year volunteer commitment. Volunteers are also needed at the Wayne Cty. Food Pantry and Meals on Wheels.

ANNOUNCEMENTS and DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Deb McGrimley reported that at this time there is still no Summer Youth Employment Program funding for 2010 but that our representatives continue to actively campaign for the cause. The contractors are moving forward cautiously in preparation. She provided an update on the performance measures: currently 5 youth are enrolled in training, surpassing the goal of 3. Counselors are assessing youth participants for additional training slots made available with unspent ARRA monies.
- b. Deb McGrimley reported a new program she is facilitating in Seneca County that addresses the impending independent living needs, including job search and job skills training, of youth currently incarcerated. This has been identified as a critical area of need for older youth. There was considerable further discussion on this subject, and Lynn Freid reported on a conference she had attended that addressed the issue and highlighted a prisoner entrepreneur program seeing much success in Texas.
- c. Jen Horton reported on the FLWIB Internship Program's continued success in the development of quality, career-focused internships in our 4 county area. She elaborated that several of the FAME (Finger Lakes Advanced Manufacturing Enterprise) Regional Skills Alliance members have participated in the program. The FLWIB Internship Program has recently been awarded grant funding for its 3rd consecutive year.
- d. New Chairperson Menzo Case welcomed the Youth Council and shared his vision for the coming year. Mr. Case expressed interest in soliciting input from the local business

- community regarding its needs and suggestions for providing youth with the tools to become valuable employees. Further planning to be discussed. Mr. Case is also interested in further developing the participation of the Youth Council youth members.
- e. Pat Gopen reported on completion of the quarterly monitoring of WIA contract performance and her positive findings in the review. She also provided an update on Youth Services Days at the 4 OneStop offices for May is OneStop Month and on the progress of plans for the 5th annual Finger Lakes Works with Their Hands event scheduled for Oct.7, 2010.

SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES

- a. Ms. Gopen reported she sent out a committee preference request form that was returned by most members. If you haven't selected your committee preference, please do so (attached).

ADJOURNMENT: Adjournment at 5:30

NEXT MEETING: Monday, July 7, 2010 in Conference Room A, Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board, 41 Lewis Street, Geneva, 4:00-5:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pat Gopen
Youth Systems Coordinator