

## YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board

41 Lewis Street, Geneva, NY 14456

Monday, March 2, 2015

**ATTENDANCE:**   **Members:** Eileen Rucinski, Erika Martin, Betsy Russell-Orr, Michael Whirtley, Lori Parish, Chris Edgar, Kathy Templar, Patty D'Amico  
**Staff:** Pat Gopen, Dinah Brennan  
**Guests:** Loree Martin, Deb McGrimley, Marsha Foote, Amanda Johnson, Angel Cook, Greg Maine, Derek Mehlenbacher (Youth), Jacqueline Shrader

**ABSENT:**       **Members:** Barbara DelPriore, Karina Anderson, Brandon Mead, Marisa Pennetta, Valerie Mallard, Chris Keear, Johnny Robinson, Tim Bailey, Caleb Slater, Brian Young, John McGregor, John Donahue, Eric Israel, Jennie Erdle, Reggie Walton

### CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

#### **Guest Speakers/Trend Alert:** The Growing Heroin and Opioid Addiction Epidemic

As requested by several Youth Council members, the meeting was a continuation of the January meeting on heroin and prescription drug addiction. The speakers have experienced the devastation of addiction firsthand and spoke about the heart-wrenching situations taking place right here in our area at an alarmingly increasing rate. Derek Mehlenbacher, a WIA Youth participant who is in recovery from heroin addiction, and Jacqueline Shrader, an Addictions & Mental Health Clinical Specialist, were the guest speakers. Both gave information to the council regarding the local heroin issues. The council spent the meeting doing a Q & A with the speakers. Ms. Shrader's contact information is (607) 727-4407 [shraderja@aol.com](mailto:shraderja@aol.com)

Ms. Gopen distributed information regarding the upcoming FLWIB Health Care career exploration event and a new brochure celebrating last year's **Finger Lakes Works...with their hands!** event, and introducing the upcoming 10th year anniversary.

Discussion on the changes regarding the Youth Council (membership, name, function) and the overall youth program (eligibility, services, etc.) as a result of the transition from WIA (Workforce Investment Act) to the new WIOA (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity act) was addressed and will continue at the May Youth Council meeting.

The next Youth Council meeting will be held on Monday, May 4, 2015 in Conference Room B, Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board, 41 Lewis Street, Geneva, 4pm-5pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dinah Brennan  
Executive Assistant, FLWIB