

Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board
YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board
41 Lewis Street, Geneva, NY 14456
Monday, May 7, 2012

ATTENDANCE: **Members:** Menzo Case, Chair, Pat Pavelsky, Sarah Rowe, John Mueller, Patty D'Amico, Brandon Mead, Betsy Russell-Orr, Debbie Veltkamp, Lori Greene
Staff: Pat Gopen, Youth Systems Coordinator
Guests: Erika Martin, Cathy Jinks, Deb McGrimley, Nathalie Sigler, Loree Martin

ABSENT: **Members:** Colleen Combs, Brian Young, Karen Beals, Jessica Bacher, Chris Edgar, Kathy Swartout, Johnny Robinson, Kathy Templar, Barb Delpriore, Peg Birmingham, Valerie Mallard, Chris Keear

CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS: Mr. Case called the meeting to order at 4:00pm. New members Betsy Russell-Orr, Yates Cty. Workforce Development and Debbie Veltkamp, JobCorps introduced. The Youth Council also welcomed potential new member Erika Martin as a guest.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes from March, 2012 meeting approved. Motion to approve by Mr. Mueller, second by Lori Greene. All in favor, motion carried.

Guest Speaker: Patty D'Amico presented information on new, Ontario Cty. advisory group With Youth, For Youth. This is a county-wide initiative in development; over 100 adults and 200 youth are participating in a series of meetings to determine the service, community and employment needs of young people. Co-funded by the Rochester Area Community Foundation and Ontario Cty. Mental Health, FB link is <http://www.facebook.com/#!/WithYouthForYouth>

Guest Speaker: Debbie Veltkamp presented on services and application process of JobCorps. JobCorps accepts youth aged 16-24, 75% of enrollments are high school dropouts. There is an income eligibility criterion; all public assistance recipients are eligible; foster youth, homeless youth are a target audience. JobCorps students select up to 3 trades or 2 trades plus one college preparatory class. JobCorps offers healthcare and support service expenses, prepares for the workforce and refers to One Stops. Graduating students earn \$1,200 and have transitional counseling services to assist them with finding employment. Counselors continue assistance during 21 months following graduation.

YOUTH PROGRAM UPDATE:

- Ms. McGrimley provided an update on the youth summer jobs program. This is a TANF funded program (Temporary Aid to Needy Families) All four Finger Lakes Counties have considerable funds for employing public assistance youth in summer work experiences. For information on becoming a worksite for these youth, contact your local OneStop.

- Cathy Jinks, Youth Counselor from Wayne County Workforce Development, reported on a series of employment preparation workshops she has facilitated with our partner Wayne Finger Lakes BOCES for their graduating seniors.
- Ms. Martin reported in month's Youth Council Trend Report that she is seeing an increasing amount of pregnant and parenting youth on her caseload. The upswing in unplanned pregnancies seems to be most common with high school dropouts 17-20 years old. Loree states that these youth have severe barriers to employment and that services available in the rural areas are sparse. Loree said the youth programs we offer assist these young parents with skills and support they require to be productive in their communities. She estimated that approximately 20% of youth she serves are pregnant or begin parenting at some time during the average 3 years they spend in the youth program. Counselors assist youth in obtaining services that support future employment; child care, healthcare, parenting skills training, employment skills training and work experience.
- Ms. Gopen reported on Youth Summer Job Fair to be held on May 10. FLWIB partnering with FLCC to facilitate job fair for local employers who have seasonal employment opportunities available. The fair, located at the FLCC new Canandaigua Student Center, will be attended by high school and college age youth.
- Ms. Sigler reported on May is OneStop Month. The day will be recognized with Open House events at Finger Lakes area OneStop locations. Youth staff of each of the four county contractors will highlight WIA Youth Success stories by prominently displaying posters of selected youth and the stories of their employment and training achievements. Success stories viewed on FLWIB website; <http://fingerlakesworks.com/youth.php>

SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES:

- A. Membership Committee; five new member reconciliations will be brought up for vote at the September FLWIB general meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Adjournment at 5:00

NEXT MEETING: **Monday, September 10, 2012** in Conference Room B, Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board, 41 Lewis Street, Geneva, 4:00-5:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pat Gopen, Youth Systems Coordinator