

**Workforce Development Board
YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING**

**August 30, 2021
Zoom Format**

= BUSINESS MINUTES =

Present: A. Kerns, J. Breedlove, R. Chiurco, S. Berardo, S. Lenigar, D. Lightner, D. Smith, D. Whitney, L. Yager

Absent: K. Blankenship,

STWDB Staff: J. Meek Eells, D. Sipe, R. Harris

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER – A. Kerns, Chair 9:04 a.m.

REVIEW OF YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES 11/6/19 – A. Kerns, Chair

MOTION: SMITH MOVED TO ACCEPT THE 11/6/19 YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED. BERARDO SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CCMEP/WIOA YOUTH PERFORMANCE– D. Sipe, STWDB

- **Sipe** provided an update on our WIOA Performance for PY20 Quarter 4.
 - Sipe reviewed CCMEP WIOA Youth (Youth not enrolled in TANF). Some youth are dual enrolled between WIOA and TANF. This is the federal side of WIOA performance. It has 5 standards that are evaluated with each year. The 6th standard for employer satisfaction has not been finalized as what goes into that particular standard. Currently they have 66.3% in our Quarter 2 after exit which measures employment, education, or training. 67% was the standard agreed on and if within a certain % of the goal then it is considered to met. Noted they only had to get 53.6% to meet the goal since they are at 66.3%.
 - Under Education, Training or Employment 4th quarter after exit, currently they have 68% in our Q4 after exit. 65% was the standard agreed on. They only had to get 52% to meet the goal since they are at 68%.
 - Median Earnings 2nd Quarter after Exit- Sipe gave an example “If you have 101 youth and the youth slotted at 51 would sort them from the highest to the lowest -this is the number for performance. By doing this, it gets rid of some really high numbers that might skew the results. Currently at \$2542.00, the goal was \$2300.00.
 - Credential Attainment
 - Any youth that are in school that come into the program or starts an educational activity while they are enrolled could be an out of school youth then goes to Aspire or other occupational skills training. All of our high school youth that they serve that are in high school at time of entry go into the next two measurements.
 - Credential Attainment is- did they get them a diploma or some other credential within a year after they have left the program. Because you have a whole year to measure that amount as you can these are youth exited in December 2019-this is delayed because you have 4 full quarters that you have to collect information. They are at 48.1% and our goal is 50% and 40% was what they had to meet so they are in good shape there.
 - Measurable Skills Gains- this is the same population, and they want to know did they advance toward a diploma or degree of some sort. This could be a report card for an in-school youth that shows they are getting the necessary hours needed for credits towards graduating on time. For OST, this could be someone who finished the semester and received positive grades. For Aspire, there really isn't anything to measure intermittently until they start taking their tests, but the state does take into account. This is measured every program year with the youth in these measures. They are at 33.1% and our goal is 37.0% and required to be at 29.6%.
 - Sipe noted all WIOA numbers are in good shape.
 - The CCMEP only measures the youth that are enrolled in TANF and WIOA together. All youth in the 1st report are included in the 2nd report. Now this report only measures Stark County and there is a 3rd report from Tuscarawas County because CCMEP goes on a county level. In Stark County, everything looks good. They

are at 66.8% from Q2 and only required to achieve 53.6%. For Q4, they are at 69.4% and above our negotiated level of 67.3%. Median earnings 2nd quarter after exit (7/1/19-6/30/20) was \$2262, and our goal was \$2300 and only required to be at \$1840.

- Credential Attainment at 49.7% and negotiated amount of 50% and required 40%.
- Measurable Skills Gains at 25.7% (currently low) and the negotiated goal is 37.06% and required to meet 29.6%.
- All the numbers were based off of the system as of June 30, 2021. They have entered a lot of information since that date, and they feel good at where they are currently. They will wait to see around December or January with the final numbers coming out. Sipe is still optimistic on the skill gains for Stark County that they will meet this one.
- **For Tuscarawas County**--Education, Training or Employment 2nd quarter after exit (7/1/19-6/30/20) is at 65.2%. The goal was 67% and it was required to meet 53.6%. Education, Training or Employment 4th quarter after exit (1/1/19-12/31/19) was at 56.9% and the goal was 65% and was required to meet 52.0%.
 - **Median Earnings 2nd quarter after exit** (1/1/19-12/13/19) was \$4224, the goal was \$2300 and required at \$1840.
 - **Credential Attainment** (1/1/19-12/13/19) was at 32%, the goal was 50% and was required to be 40%. Sipe feels there were more diplomas entered after these numbers were pulled for this report.
 - **Measurable Skill Gains** (7/1/20-6/30/21) was at 49.1%, and the goal was 37.0% and required 29.6%.
 - He noted the Department of Labor is not making any allowances at this time.

CCMEP Summer Youth Programs Update 2020 and 2021– D. Sipe, STWDB

- The Summer of 2020 and Summer of 2021 had vendors procured specifically for summer programs. In Stark County it was Stark Community Action Agency and Goodwill. In Tuscarawas County, they had Goodwill. In 2020, that is right after the pandemic hits that the summer program looked a lot different in anything they have done before. They encouraged our vendors to engage the youth virtually so there was a big push to get as many chromebooks or iPads in order to help the youth be able to connect electronically. There's also a jet pack of Wi-Fi devices that allow the youth to take classes online because a lot of youth did not have Wi-Fi capabilities at the time.
- With Stark Community Action Agency in 2020, they had 27 youth enrolled and Goodwill had 34. Of the 34, 20 of those were in Tuscarawas County. There were a limited number of traditional work sites in 2020. Now for 2021, Stark Community Action Agency had 31 youth and Goodwill had 40, and 30 were in Tuscarawas County. This summer looked more traditional with youth at work sites doing regular work. About 71 that were dedicated to summer special programs but in addition to that all of our comprehensive programs also had a summer component that is just a part of their regular year-round programming that they do.

CCMEP / WIOA Youth Operations During COVID– R. Chiurco / S. Berardo

Overview

The CCMEP Unit currently has seven case managers, in the process of filling one vacancy and 1 clerical staff.

Each case manager has an average case load of 33 clients (270 in total). Active clients must be contacted once monthly. They have a follow-up case load of an average of 43 additional clients per case manager. Follow-up clients must be contacted quarterly to report employment or to help youth reengage if necessary.

Currently client appointments are done on the phone and a one-time face to face meeting to sign documents.

Work through the Covid year 2020

Stark and Tuscarawas Combined Three Year Review	PY 17 July 2017 to June 2018	PY 18 July 2018 to June 2019	PY 19 July 2019 to June 2020	PY 20 July 2020 to June 2021
Total Number Referred by JFS	687	570	619	519
Total Number of Volunteers Referred	128=815	149=719	117=736	124=643
Eligibility/CCMEP Assessment Appointments	511	539	546	509
Youth Completing Framework Activities	434	438	488	465

Only a 13% decrease in those they served from 2019

Total Number of Referrals (JFS and Volunteers)	2017	2018	2019	2020
Clients Showing to First Appt.	63%	75%	74%	79%
Clients Signing a Plan for Service	85%	81%	89%	91%

Previously a client would have 3 appointments at our offices before a client would sign their plan of service on that 3rd appt. Because they worked remotely, they were able to condense that into 1 phone call. And they noticed statistically they had more clients keep their appts and sign a plan compared to the previous 3 years. They also were surprised that they only had a 13% decrease in the number of people they saw last year compared to the year before. They saw 643 in PY20 and the previous year they saw 736 in PY19. Some of those are not individual appointments with one person as it may be the same person who comes back for services throughout the year. Because our vendors went virtual and added self-paced work online some of them also saw a bit of an increase in their numbers. One had almost 50 active clients at once which has never happened when they had in person services. So, there have been important technological wins in this past year that they hope to incorporate into our daily work. But they are still working all of that out.

One of the areas they are looking into is “Document Sign” software so clients can sign their forms via their phone or laptop and is State approved. They are looking at Form Stack and others as well.

They are also using MS Teams to do face to face appointments with clients. This has worked very well as it can be done on the phone.

Vendor Services

They worked with four contracted vendors this past year- Next Level Employment, Goodwill, Early Childhood Resource Center and Jobs for Ohio Graduates/Aspire program. Our active numbers at our vendors are currently very low at about 5 -15 on average The Vendors just went back to in person services in the past 6 weeks. The program is struggling because clients do not want to meet in person, some they work with are resistant to working or putting their child in daycare. And the fear of Covid is still very real.

Our vendor the Early Childhood Resource Center was not able to have new enrollments this past year because of Covid. They are working with them currently on a new plan with Virtual classwork as the only activity for 12 weeks and then the in-person observation at the childcare centers the last 5 months. Hoping to increase enrollments into that program.

Occupational Skill Training

This past year and a half they saw an additional 88 people for tuition assistance on top of our mandated JFS referrals. 28 completed their application and were approved
3 are in process

Those approved are going to Canton City Schools-9, Buckeye Career Center-6, Larock-4, Hamrick-2, Portage Lakes-1, Stark State-1 CDL

Fields of Study are: LPN, Medical Assistance, Medical Billing and Coding, Linesman, HVAC, 1 in Police Training

Chiurco said it has been a very stressful year but when they look back, they see what all was accomplished in light of the crisis. They are trying to keep pace with the everchanging health crisis and still provide services to clients in need. Because the agency has provided us with new technology the past year it made it easier, they had very little down time and they were able to be there for our clients.

COMPREHENSIVE CASE MANAGEMENT AND EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM UPDATES – J. Breedlove

COVID 19 immensely impacted our work this past year as anticipated. You’ve heard some of the amazing work adjustments staff/vendor staff have made to serve participants and keep everyone safe. As such they were granted some allowances by the state that permitted us to receive verbal signatures from clients for plans, assessments, etc. since the centers and vendor sites were closed/shut down. That allowance that was granted in March 2020 ended July 31, 2021. They are exploring the use of electronic signatures with a product called “Formstack” to test as a pilot with some case managers.

Another allowance granted during COVID-19 was for TANF recertification. For those participants that are TANF eligible, Ohio will still allow TANF eligibility recertification to be extended one time for 6 months. The lead agency is responsible to be aware that the participant has not lost their TANF eligibility such as if they are placed in employment and their wages exceed 200% of the FPL.

CCMEP Local Plans will be due September 30th, 2021. The plans provide information as to how CCMEP services are delivered in the Stark and Tuscarawas workforce area as well as who they are partnered with in delivering those services as well as the policies in place for service delivery. These plans will be in place for the remainder of the biennium (until 6/30/23). They will provide the plan to our JFS partners for additional feedback in advance of the plan’s due date. Breedlove would like to get them to our partners on 9/21/21.

Our state partners, ODJFS, facilitates bi-monthly CCMEP webinars for information sharing, policy review, etc. Our local area was invited to present at one of the state’s monthly **CCMEP webinars** in February 2021. Our presentation was titled “**Engaging and Enrolling Out of School Youth - Choose Your Path**” where they shared how CCMEP services are delivered in our area as it relates to our CCMEP OWF Work-Eligible participants, those individuals interested in occupational skills training, and highlighting our contracted youth vendors and the comprehensive services they provide.

Next meeting – TBD

Adjourned 9:32 a.m.