

**Masshire Central Region Workforce Board
Youth Council
February 13, 2020
2:30 pm
MassHire Central, 340 Main Street, Suite 400, Worcester, MA**

Members Present: Laura Farnsworth, Judy Freedman, Robin Hooper, Howard Lucas, Kristen Mayotte, Isidore Nosike, Kelly Penrod, Marci Skillings, Dave Trendi (proxy for Colleen Lanza)
Staff Present: Ed Gagne
Guest: Kathe Coll

Meeting Minutes

Welcome & Introductions: The meeting was called to order at 2:35 p.m.

Note of Potential Conflicts of Interest: None were noted

Approval of the December 12, 2019 Minutes: Unanimously approved upon a motion and second by members.

Presentation: Kathe Coll, Transition Service Coordinator, DDS

Kathe discussed services at the Department of Developmental Services. The State agency provides services and supports for individuals with Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities, as well as adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder. There are seven offices that offer: Family Supports, Medical Waiver Program, Planned Respite, Family Leadership, Home & Community Support Services, DESE/DDS Program, Parent Networking, and Community Connection Resources. For additional information go to <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/department-of-developmental-services>

Program Updates

- a. WIOA: R. Hooper mentioned the FY21 WIOA RFP and the many benefits of becoming a proposal reader e.g. in-depth knowledge of the program and what is proposed, input in local programs that impact our community, insight that will assist you when writing your agency's future proposals, and knowledge of what a well-written proposal looks like. Interested readers are asked to contact Robin or Ed for additional information,
- b. YouthWorks (YW): E. Gagne highlighted the recent YW 2020-2021 application requested approximately \$918k for 342 youth participating in 3 models: Service and Project Based Learning model (sixty-four 14-15 year old youth enrolled in summer project based subsidized learning, mentorship, and Signal Success), Early and Career Trajectory Employment model (two hundred and sixty six 16-21 year old youth enrolled in subsidized summer and year round work-site mentorship, leadership development and Signal Success/Building a Professional Self), and Career Pathway Training and Support model (twelve 17-21 year old youth enrolled in career pathway planning with case management supports, occupational training, industry credential, subsidized work based learning with Signal Success/Crafting a Career Path).

The City of Worcester does not discriminate on the basis of disability, The MCRWB will provide auxiliary aids and service, written materials in alternative formats, and reasonable modifications in policies and procedures to persons with disabilities upon advance request. Please contact MCRWB at 508-799-1590 or the ADA Coordinator at disabilities@worcesterma.gov.

- c. **Connecting Activities:** E. Gagne mentioned in Blackstone Valley STEM career exploration occurred at Dell Technologies, Waters Corporation, Lenze Americas, and Omni Control Technologies. The experience focused on education and successful skills within multiple STEM careers. Worcester CA 9th grade students participate in College and Career Readiness to map out their high school plans. 10th grade students explore future interests through career assessments to learn options after high school. Ninety-four (94) students from WTHS toured AIS manufacturing and learned about advanced manufacturing careers. Sixty middle school students from Burncoat HS, South HS, University Park, and Claremont Academy attended manufacturing day at QCC, and 144 middle school students participated in an Information Technology awareness day at WTHS.

Announcements:

K. Mayotte mentioned You Inc. plans to join Seven Hills. The nonprofit agencies' affiliation will take effect April 1, 2020.

Next Meeting:

- a. **April 9, 2020 , 340 Main Street, Suite 400, Coghlin Room, Worcester, MA**
2. **Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned upon a motion, seconded, and approved unanimously at 3:45 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by,
Ed Gagne*