

**Youth Workforce Investment Council  
Central MA Workforce Investment Board  
June 8, 2017**

**Members Present:** Robin Hooper, Isidore Nosike, Carrick O'Brien, Susan Orpilla (proxy for Collen Lanza), Kristen Mayotte, Robert McGlory, Doug Daigle, Toni Poti, Kevin Crowley  
**Guests:** Nancy Thibeault, Kassandra Davila, Tyisha Edmonds, Kate Pesa  
**Staff Present:** Ed Gagne, Roy Lucas

**Meeting Minutes**

1. **Welcome & Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 2:35 p.m. All attendees were asked to introduce themselves.
2. **Note of Potential Conflicts of Interest & Confirmation of Quorum:** It was announced that a quorum was present.
3. **Vote:**  
**Approval of Minutes:** The April 13, 2016 meeting minutes were unanimously approved by a motion from Toni Poti and a second by Isidore Nosike.
4. **Testimonials:**

Joseph Collette is a You Inc./Milford participant enrolled in the Weatherization Installation program where he obtained OSHA 10 and Lead Renovator Certification. Shortly after training he interviewed and obtained a full-time position at Quality Insulation in Milford. He plans to continue his education in HVAC training. He expressed his gratitude for this opportunity, the program and staff.

5. **Presentation:** Nancy Thibault, *Strategic Communication & Development Manager*, Rainbow Child Development Center (RCDC).

Nancy reviewed the mission of RCDC and highlighted programs features at the Center. Emphasis was placed on internships and employment opportunities for young adults. Positions available include Site Coordinator and Group Leader. Young adults pursuing a degree in Early Childhood Education are encouraged to apply for the Teacher position. To learn more about RCDC go to [www.rainbowcdc.com](http://www.rainbowcdc.com) or contact Nancy at

**Presentation:** WIOA Youth Providers – FY18 Career Pathway (CP) Opportunities

**Youth Opportunities Upheld Inc.:** K. Pesa highlighted HiSET training, Culinary, Weatherization and CNA training combined with program elements that

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compliment training. The program occurs in Worcester, Milford, Whitinsville, West Brookfield and Southbridge.

**Fieldstone School:** I. Nosike highlighted 3 cycles of CNA training and service strategy elements offered in Worcester. Students also have the opportunity to continue their training in Phlebotomy and Electrocardiography at the agency.

**Training Resources of America:** D. Daigle highlighted the Customer Service/Advanced Sale and Management training offered to Worcester students. Post training, students have the opportunity to enroll in Construction Trades and Manufacturing and obtain employment.

**Worcester Community Action Council:** C. O'Brien highlighted the agency's CP programs e.g. Culinary and CNA. Students who participate in the WIOA HiSET training can enroll in the CP training opportunities post training. Program emphasis after HiSET is on post-secondary education.

**E. Gagne** mentioned that all programs provide individual services strategies elements that include: Tutoring/study skills training, paid and unpaid work experience, occupational skills training, leadership development, support services, comprehensive guidance and counseling, integrated education and training, services that provide labor market information, pre-employment skills training, post-secondary preparation and 12 month follow-up post exit.

## 6. Discussion:

**Council Leadership:** R. Hooper highlighted the Committee Chair's Meeting Guide roles and responsibilities and discussed the opportunity, if Council Members are interested, to participate as Chair or Vice Chair of the Youth Standing Committee/Youth Workforce Investment Council. Interested participants can reach out to Ed Gagne or Robin Hooper.

## 7. Updates:

- a. **WIOA Youth Update:** E. Gagne reviewed FY17 Quarter Ending March 31, 2017 outcomes, characteristics and participant activities for WIOA programs. To date, the Central MA WIB has the highest outcomes in the Commonwealth for Entered Employments, Post-secondary Education and Degrees/Certificates attained. Also reflected in the reports is our region applied the highest number of "new elements" mandated by WIOA while serving participants with very diverse backgrounds: 52% of participants are people of color and 26% are youth with disabilities. The region also focused upon serving older youth disconnected from school or work and more than half of all enrolled participants are 19 years of age or older.

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- b. **YouthWorks (YW):** C. O'Brien mentioned the YW program is underway. Youth will complete their orientation training by the end of June, 2017. Work experience will occur July 3<sup>rd</sup> – August 11<sup>th</sup>. Approximately 300 youth will participate in Worcester, Webster and Southbridge.

E. Gagne mentioned Commonwealth Corporation has released a new RFP. They will award 5 programs at approximately \$75,000. It is an open to non-profits and institutions of higher education. To be considered, applicants are required to identify a specific career pathway.

- c. **Connecting Activities:** E. Gagne mentioned the CMWIB received an additional \$18,000 to establish a STEM Career Vocational Technical Education (CVTE) grant. This grant will provide 42 students career immersion activities in Veterinary Science. Students will participate in 3D modeling and complete a capstone project of marketing videos supporting careers in veterinary science.

**8. Announcements:**

**E. Gagne** mentioned Kevin Crowley will retire June 30, 2017. Kevin served as Counselor, Program Manager, and Operations Manager for Workforce Development in Worcester for 38 years. Over the years he has provided guidance to programs by providing eligibility/quality control to youth applications. We thank him for all his contributions and wish him the very best.

**9. Next Meeting:**

- a. **August 10<sup>th</sup> – CMWIB, 340 Main Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Worcester, MA 01608.**

- 10. Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m. by a motion from Toni Poti and a second by Isidore Nosike.

*Respectfully submitted by,  
Ed Gagne*

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