

MINUTES

Youth Council Meeting September 12, 2012 11:00 a.m.

*Workforce*CONNECTIONS
7251 W. Lake Mead Blvd.
Suite 200 Conference Room
Las Vegas, NV 89128

Members Present

Sonja Holloway, Chair Vida Chan Lin Dan Rose Willie J. Fields
Stavan Corbett

Members Absent

None

Staff Present

Ardell Galbreth Suzanne Potter Carol Turner Heather DeSart
Clentine January Rick Villalobos Jim Kostecki Byron Goynes
Jennifer Padilla Kimberly Colagioia

Others Present

Sharon Morales, LCCCF Matt Hirsch, Andson Foundations
Sonia McTaggart-Anderson, Andson Foundation Anthony McTaggart, Andson Foundation
Denise Gee, HELP of Southern Nevada Terrie D'Antonio, HELP of Southern Nevada
Keith Hosannah, DETR WISS Michael Simmons, GNJ Family Life Center
Arneller Mullins, Nevada Partners, Inc. Sharaf Rogers, Nevada Partners, Inc.
Dr. Tiffany Tyler, Nevada Partners, Inc. LaTanya Runnells, Nevada Partners, Inc.
Stacey Bostwick, SNRHA Pamela R. Posten, HELP of Southern Nevada
Capucine Holmes, LCCCF Donna Bensing, New Horizons CLC

(It should be noted that all attendees may not be listed above).

1. - CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chair Sonja Holloway at 11:05 a.m. Staff confirmed the meeting had been properly noticed and posted in accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law. Roll call was taken and a quorum present.

2. - DISCUSSION and POSSIBLE ACTION: Approve the agenda with inclusion of any emergency items and deletion of any items

MOTION: A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented by Willie J. Fields and seconded by Dan Rose. Motion carried.

3. - FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION

Dr. Tiffany Tyler, Nevada Partners, Inc. (NPI) – Nevada Partners, Inc. received a grant to begin on June 1 to provide services to adjudicated youth at Spring Mountain Youth Camp (SMYC) and partnered with Clark County Summer Business Institute (SBI) to prep their

youth prior to entering the SBI process and partnered with the City of Las Vegas Batteries Included program to provide services to address the high youth unemployment rate during the summer. Upon being awarded the grant, the Workforce Connections' Board directed NPI and other Youth Funded Partners to set aside 10% of their grant for summer school activities; however, Dr. Tyler noted that expending 10% of their grant on summer school assistance would have exceeded the number of clients they were required to serve by 50. NPI's contract was to serve 200 clients, which they exceeded. Dr. Tyler noted that having received their contract three months after the summer school registration process started in the school district posed certain challenges. To overcome these challenges, NPI held weekly summer school registrations, distributed flyers about their program community wide and attended Commissioner Weekly's town hall meeting to notify others that NPI had received funds to assist youth with summer school.

Sharaf Rogers, Nevada Partners, Inc. – Ms. Rogers reported that NPI had some issues with the Summer School funds received this summer due to untimely receipt of information and funds, which limited their ability to identify, outreach and provide summer school assistance to the youth, who were required to register for summer school through school counselors before NPI could pay for any classes.

Ardell Galbreth, Executive Director stated that staff has already begun to address these issues to ensure the process begins in a timely manner to allow the funded partners time to identify, enroll, and register youth in summer school activities.

Sharon Morales, Latin Chamber of Commerce Community Foundation (LCCCF) & Stacey Bostwick, Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority (SNRHA) – Latin Chamber of Commerce Community Foundation and the Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority are working together on the GIFT program. Ms. Morales (LCCCF) and Ms. Bostwick (SNRHA) had the opportunity to set-up summer work experiences throughout the valley this summer with various employers. Rocky McGee from Sierra Air and Adriana Johnson, a WEX participant at Sierra Air, shared about their experience from an employer and participant perspective.

4. – **DISCUSSION and POSSIBLE ACTION:** Approve the Youth Council Meeting Minutes of August 8, 2012

MOTION: A motion was made to approve the Youth Council Meeting Minutes of August 8, 2012 as presented by Willie J. Fields and seconded by Vida Chan Lin. Motion carried.

5. – **INFORMATION:** Welcome Stavan Corbett to the Youth Council

Stavan Corbett was welcomed and shared a few words with the Youth Council. Mr. Corbett currently serves as President on the Nevada State Board of Education District 5 and has prior work experience as a WIA case manager.

6. – **INFORMATION:** Sgt. Mark Sharp retired from the Las Vegas Metro Police Department and resigned from the Youth Council. A new representative from LVMPD will be considered to replace Sgt. Sharp.

Executive Director Galbreth expressed his appreciation for Sgt. Sharp and the other members of the Youth Council all of whom are deeply engaged with helping our youth. Because of the Youth Council members, the Youth Department is excelling in every way possible – hitting all performance measures, connecting with the youth and getting them into employment and training programs and addressing educational skills deficiencies.

Ricardo Villalobos, Youth Director, offered to prepare a letter of appreciation for Sgt. Sharp and submit it to Ms. Holloway for signature.

7. – DISCUSSION and POSSIBLE ACTION: Nomination and Appointment of new Vice-Chair

Chairwoman Sonja Holloway opened the floor for nominations for Vice-Chair. Dan Rose nominated Willie J. Fields; a vote was taken, all members were in favor.

8. – DISCUSSION and POSSIBLE ACTION: Approve one of the Summer School Remaining Expenditure Strategies

Mr. Villalobos provided an overview and the pros and cons for the three staff recommended strategy options to expend remaining Summer School funds, including:

1. Keep remaining 10% within each Summer Component/Year-Round Funded Partner budget aside for Summer School 2013
2. Utilize remaining 10% for credit retrieval/high school proficiency exam activities
3. Incorporate educational line item which specifically contributes to attainment of high school diploma

Mr. Villalobos reported a significant challenge with the summer school program this summer was starting the process too late. Funded partner's budgets and program scopes were not approved until April, which is too late in the year to properly identify and recruit WIA eligible youth. Moving forward, the process will begin earlier to allow funded partners sufficient time recruit WIA eligible youth. Also, a summer school voucher process will be in place to help expedite the process for enrolling youth in summer school classes.

Mr. Villalobos noted that out of the 400 expected enrollments, not all would require summer school. Only credit deficient youth and youth who had issues with the high school proficiency exam were identified for summer school. Other credit was gained through work experience credit, which is an equivalent of .5 credits.

Executive Director Galbreth stated that all three options are solid for moving our youth forward academically and commended the Youth Staff for their good work.

Dan Rose suggested that the funded partners provide input in this matter, Dr. Tiffany Tyler (NPI), Monique Harris (SNCF), and Sharon Morales (LCCCF) provided input and they all recommended expenditure strategy option 3 for its flexibility to provide youth all types of support that contributes to the attainment of a high school diploma.

Executive Director Galbreth suggested that the Youth Council direct staff to start planning for next year's summer school initiative as early as January 2013.

Staven Corbett stated that currently there are not enough diverse offerings for summer school so many youth who needed certain classes to make up credits were not able to do so because the classes were just not available. Mr. Corbett suggested that with coordination and data collection on some of the youth, certain classes can be offered to increase participation and provide support that specifically meets the needs of youth that are credit deficient. Mr. Corbett stated that although he does not know precisely how the process will look, he is available to assist in any way he can.

A motion was made to approve strategy option 3 (incorporate educational line item which specifically contributes to attainment of HSD) by Willie J. Fields and seconded by Staven Corbett. Motion carried.

9. – INFORMATION: Youth Funding Plan – August 2012

Carol Turner, Workforce Connections staff, provided an informational overview of the Youth Funding Plan on page 18 of the agenda packet. Ms. Turner noted that the report includes all of the July invoices through August 22nd. SBI has a small balance which is expected to be expended in their August invoice. There is a small amount of PY2011 Youth funds remaining, which should be expended by October, and by the second quarter of program year 2012, funded partners will begin expending PY2012 Youth funds and essentially, spending will be back on track. Approximately \$1.6 Million is remaining in funded partner contracts that end of September 30th. The only contract pending is for NPI’s carry-forward youth in the Out-of-School Program.

10. – INFORMATION: Awards & Expenditures Report – August 2012

Jim Kostecki, Workforce Connections staff, provided an informational overview of the Awards & Expenditures Report on page 20 of the agenda packet. Mr. Kostecki noted that the report format has been updated; each contract is on a separate line item and contract dates have been added. Staff will continue to review and revise this report as needed.

This report includes all expenditures through July 2012, with the exception of CCSD, which was received after this report was produced. HELP of Southern Nevada has until September 30th to spend their existing PY2011 and they are on schedule to begin spending PY2012 funds by October 1st.

11. – INFORMATION: Negotiated Common Measures for Program Year 2012

Mr. Villalobos presented he statewide WIA Common Measures negotiated performance levels for PY2012:

Common Measure	PY2011	PY2012 Negotiated
<i>Placement in Education/Employment</i>	40%	47%
<i>Attainment of Degree/Certificate</i>	40%	47%
<i>Literacy/Numeracy Gains</i>	29%	29%

Heather DeSart, Workforce Connections Staff, reported that performance measures are negotiated every year by DETR and DOL, with input from the Southern and Northern Local Workforce Boards.

12. – INFORMATION: Graduate Advocate Initiative / MGM Resorts Int’l Work Experience

Byron Goynes, Workforce Connections staff, provided an overview and presentation on the Reclaim your Future Initiative.

Last year there was a big push in Southern Nevada to increase the graduation rate. The class of 2012, comprised of 20,969 senior high school students, had 10,766 students who were credit deficient and/or did not pass the High School Proficiency Exam. Superintendent Dwight Jones came on board with a focus to increase graduation outcomes; hence the Reclaim your Future initiative. Jones solicited organizations and business professionals to literally walk around neighborhoods and knock on doors where youth live that have dropped out of the school system. They specifically targeted senior students who had not reported to school this year. As a result, approximately 2,000 youth were reengaged at some capacity with their school. A partnership was developed with the Clark County School District, United Way of Southern Nevada, and Workforce Connections as well as funded partner, HELP of Southern Nevada. Ten schools have been identified with the highest drop-out rate as well as 2,000 students who need services through the Reclaim your Future Initiative. Through the

program over 300 students were assisted and received their high school diploma and some participated in four week work experiences.

One of the partners, MGM Resorts International hosted a breakfast for all 2,000 youth. With this partnership approximately 50 youth had the opportunity to be involved with MGM's four-week paid internship program and an estimated four to five youth were offered full-time employment at MGM Resorts.

Dietrich Sanford, MGM Resorts International Corporate Philanthropy Manager, expressed his gratitude for this partnership and opportunity to positively impact the community by hosting this summer work experience program at the MGM Resorts. Ten MGM properties hosted the program and sponsored youth in several areas including housekeeping, wedding chapel, the Shark Reef, legal, human resources and other non-gaming departments within the organization. The youth were mentored by department vice presidents, executives and supervisors and they all received a six hour workshop focused on job readiness and work skills. Mr. Sanford said the program was successful overall and MGM is looking forward to partnering again next summer.

Larry Lovelett, HELP of Southern Nevada shared about the program and working with the youth. Mr. Lovelett has worked with homeless youth for the past five years and has been involved with youth programs for about ten years. Two youth participants, Claudia and Jaime, participated in the Youth Internship Program and shared how completing the program has made a difference in their life.

Nevada Partners, Inc. has since joined the Reclaim your Future initiative and on Saturday, September 15th they will join Mr. Goynes and others to conduct another door-to-door solicitation for youth who have not shown up for the 2013 school year.

Mr. Goynes provide a video presentation highlighting the MGM Resort International Youth Internship Program.

Mr. Villalobos commended Mr. Goynes and the Youth Department staff for their efforts behind the scenes that made this program possible, HELP of Southern Nevada for their support and MGM Resorts International for facilitating the program.

13. – INFORMATION: Youth Department Director's Report ~ Ricardo Villalobos

Mr. Villalobos reported that senior students that did not graduate on schedule will have the opportunity as super seniors (5th year seniors) to continue their education the following year to obtain a legitimate high school diploma. The option for these senior students is to enroll in Adult Education.

Mr. Villalobos and Ms. DeSart attended a partnership pilot working session hosted by the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition/Committee on Youth. The purpose was to bring together policy and program experts to discuss a cross-system collaborative to specifically target multiple system users, such as WIA, Foster Care, Housing, and Welfare recipients. Ms. DeSart stated that the idea is to saturate not duplicate services to our youth and provide them with everything they possibly need without duplicating services from multiple agencies.

14. – SECTION PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION

Matt Hirsh, Andson Foundation: Mr. Hirsch introduced two of his colleagues from the Andson Foundation, Sonia McTaggart-Anderson and Anthony McTaggart. Ms. Anderson is the Founder and Director of the Andson Foundation and Mr. McTaggart is the Co-founder and Director of Programs. The Foundation provides tutoring throughout the Boys & Girls

Clubs of Henderson and St. Jude's Ranch and also specializes in financial education and empowerment for youth and young adults in partnership with United Way of Southern Nevada. For the past two years, the Andson Foundations has provided afterschool tutoring by CCSD certified tutors, Monday through Thursday at seven sights, soon to be nine. The Foundation is privately funded with seed funding to begin its operations. As the Foundation grows and is able to demonstrate the quality of it services, other funding streams will be sought.

15. – Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.