

*workforce*CONNECTIONS  
YOUTH COUNCIL  
AGENDA  
Wednesday, November 18, 2009  
11 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

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

This meeting has been properly noticed and posted in the following locations:

City of North Las Vegas, 2200 Civic Center Dr., North Las Vegas, NV  
City of Las Vegas, City Clerk's Office, 400 Stewart Avenue, Las Vegas, NV  
Clark County, County Clerk's Office 500 S. Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, NV  
Esmeralda County Courthouse, 233 Crook Street, Goldfield, NV  
Henderson City Hall, 240 Water Street, Henderson, NV  
City Hall, Boulder City, 401 California Ave., Boulder City, NV  
*workforce* CONNECTIONS, 7251 W. Lake Mead Blvd., Las Vegas, NV  
Nevada JobConnect, 3405 S. Maryland Pkwy., Las Vegas, NV  
Lincoln County 181 Main Street Courthouse, Pioche, NV  
Nye County School District, 484 S. West St., Pahrump, NV  
Pahrump Chamber of Commerce, 1302 S. Highway 160, Pahrump, NV

**This Agenda is also available on the *workforce*CONNECTIONS internet website at [www.nvworkforceconnections.org](http://www.nvworkforceconnections.org).**

#### **COMMENTARY BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC**

According to Nevada's Open Meeting Law, it is the Youth Council's discretion to take Public Comment during any other time other than during a Public Hearing or during the Public Comment Session. In all other instances, a citizen may speak on any matter before the Youth Council for consideration, after receiving recognition and consent of the Chair. Public Comment will be limited to three minutes. If any member of the Youth Council wishes to extend the length of a presentation, this will be done by the Chair or the Youth Council by majority vote.

If you wish to speak on a matter not posted on the agenda, you may do this during the Public Comment Session. Please clearly state your name and address – please spell your name for the record and limit your comments to no more than three minutes. No vote may be taken on any matter not listed on the posted agenda.

**YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERS:** CHANDA COOK, SONJA HOLLOWAY, KEN LOBENE-CHAIR, ELOIZA MARTINEZ-VICE CHAIR, DANIEL ROSE, SGT. MARK SHARP, LASHAE THOMAS, MATTHEW WEINMAN.

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Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities by notifying Dianne Tracy in writing at 7251 West Lake Mead, Suite 200 Las Vegas, NV 89128 or by calling (702) 638-8750; or by fax (702) 638-8774. The TTY/TDD access number is (800) 326-6868 / Nevada Relay 711. A sign language interpreter may also be made available with twenty-four (24) hour advance notice. Equal Opportunity Employer/Program.

**NOTE:** All items listed on this agenda are for action by the Youth Council unless otherwise noted. Action may consist of any of the following: approve, deny, condition, hold or table.

**AGENDA**

1. Call to order, confirmation of posting, roll call
2. Approval of agenda with inclusions of any emergency items and deletion of any items..... 1

**ACTION**

***Public Hearings may be declared open by the Chairperson, as required for any of the items on this Agenda designated for discussion and possible action with recommendations to be forwarded to workforceCONNECTIONS.***

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes: October 14, 2009 meeting..... 2
4. ACTION: Youth Council Meeting Calendar for 2010..... 6
5. DISCUSSION and ACTION: Acceptance of the Youth Council Action Plan ..... 7
6. DISCUSSION: Educational connections with the Clark County School District ..... 8
7. PRESENTATION: State GWIB Youth Council Strategic Plan..... 11
8. INFORMATION: Summer Jobs Programs lessons learned ..... 20
9. INFORMATION: Foster Youth RFP ..... 21
10. INFORMATION: Contractor Update ..... 23
11. INFORMATION: Updates from Youth Council Members..... 24
12. Citizen Participation
13. Adjournment

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**AGENDA:** Approval of agenda with inclusions of any emergency items and deletion of any items.

**PETITIONER:** Kelly Henwood, *workforce*CONNECTIONS Staff

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approval of agenda with inclusions of any emergency items and deletion of any items.

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date: 11/18/2009

**Agenda  
Item #2**

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**AGENDA:** Approval of minutes for the October 14, 2009 meeting.

**PETITIONER:** Suzanne Potter, *workforce*CONNECTIONS Staff

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the *workforce*CONNECTIONS Youth Council review and approve the minutes of the October 14, 2009 meeting as presented or with any noted corrections.

Respectfully submitted,

**Agenda  
Item #3**

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**Date: 11/18/2009**

**MINUTES**  
*workforce***CONNECTIONS**  
**YOUTH COUNCIL**  
Wednesday, October 14, 2009

**Members Present**

Ken LoBene, Chair  
Chanda Cook  
Dan Rose  
Sonja Holloway  
Matthew Weinman

**Members Absent**

Sergeant Mark Sharp  
LaShae Thomas  
Eloiza Martinez, Vice Chair

**Staff Present**

John Ball, Executive Director  
Rosie Boulware  
Jenaya Butler  
Kelly Henwood

Suzanne Potter  
Tameca Ulmer  
Wendy Villanueva

**Others Present**

Stacy Smith, Director-Nye County Communities Coalition  
Lloyd Platson, WIA Program Coordinator-Nye County Communities Coalition  
Students, Meagan and Melinda, participants Nye County Communities Coalition  
Asha Jones, Nevada Partners  
Karl Rostrom, HELP of Southern Nevada  
Tiffany Tyler, Nevada Partners  
Denise Gee, HELP of Southern Nevada  
Matt Hirsch, United Way  
Odalys Carmona  
Dana Wiggins

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

**Agenda Item 1** - Call To Order, confirmation of posting, roll call. The meeting was called to order by Mr. LoBene at 11:36 a.m. Staff confirmed the meeting had been properly noted and posted in accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

**Agenda Item 2** - Approval of agenda with inclusions of any emergency items and deletion of any items.

***Motion was made to approve the agenda as presented by Dan Rose and seconded by Chanda Cook. The motion carried.***

**Agenda Item 3** - Approval of Youth Council meeting Minutes of September 9, 2009.

***Motion was made to approve the minutes as presented by Matthew Weinman and seconded by Dan Rose. The motion carried.***

**Agenda Item 4** – PRESENTATION: Nye County Communities Coalition

Stacy Smith conducted a PowerPoint presentation, and discussed the differences with Clark and Nye counties as it relates to collecting and defining the information through the Clark County Mapping Project. Discussed youth demographics, areas of concern and what needs and services will be best served when funds are granted. Currently, student data is reliant upon the 2007 survey; 2009 student survey was done this past April and will be released soon.

Mr. Loyd Platson described the youth programs, activities, and results. Participants, Melinda and Meagan, shared their personal experiences with the program.

**Agenda Item 5** – PRESENTATION: ARRA Summer Data:

Kelly Henwood distributed information packets with summarized information of the Summer Youth Programs, pertaining to contractors, youth, and regions served. Requested suggestions for how the information can be used by other community groups or in other programs, such as Project 5000 Kids campaign, or in any other programs promoting the summer stimulus program. Funds were allocated to Lincoln County; however, they were not able to execute a contract with *workforce*CONNECTIONS.

Approaching contract closeouts, a request was made for contractors to validate their data for the information to be passed on to DOL regarding activities and demographics, for accurate reporting of information for those served in the program.

A summary discussion of individual contractors' service information and demographics ensued with comments on particular issues; i.e. lack of daycare for the pregnant/parenting youth, due to lack of funding and lack of awareness of the need. There is a plan to bring a condensed version of this information to the *workforce*CONNECTIONS Board meeting or any other organizations suggested.

Chanda Cook gave a brief overview of the education data information which was distributed. Issue of poor attendance by students, and its affect was discussed.

**Agenda Item 6** – INFORMATION: ARRA Financial Report

Kelly Henwood provided an update of where the summer youth provider contracts are versus actual in relation to the stimulus expenditures. Contract dollars are at 75% spent out; overall we are at a 62% spent out, based on what we invoice the State for our allocation. Chair Ken LoBene asked for possible suggestions on how we might utilize the balance of dollars for discussion at the next meeting. The one item not reflected in the report is the \$600,000 approved at the last meeting for the extended work experience programs for older youth.

**Agenda Item 7** – DISCUSSION: Update on Project 5000 Kids

Mr. LoBene discussed the presentation that he and Ms Henwood made to the North Las Vegas City Council last week. Presentation was accepted favorably and they voted unanimously to participate in the Program. Copies of the presentation were distributed. This was the first formal presentation made to the Council; however, informal presentations have been made to each of the municipalities. Two letters were sent out this week: MGM and Venetian, to see if they can make a presentation, anticipating to gain a champion from the Strip to get involved in this project. A meeting is planned with the Superintendent of Schools to enlist their participation. Matthew Weinman suggested making presentations to the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. LoBene stated, "Ultimately, we will expand this to serve 5000 kids every summer, as well as build up a fund that will help us keep the same type of involvement that we have with our service providers".

Mr. LoBene discussed the need to consider other issues such as transportation, providing appropriate clothing for the workplace, health care, and homelessness.

(Mr. LoBene had to leave, Chair turned over to Mr. Weinman).

**Agenda Item 8** – ACTION: *Chandra Cook moved to approve a no-cost extension for the Governor’s Reserve funded for Boulder City ARRA Summer Youth Contract from October 1, 2009 through March 31, 2010. Matthew Weinman seconded, and the motion carried.*

Tameca Ulmer stated that Boulder City received Governor’s Reserve funding with approximately \$70,000 remaining. Therefore staff is requesting an extension so they continue their work.

**Agenda Item 9** – INFORMATION: Results of Summer ARRA Contract Extensions.

Ms. Henwood discussed last month’s approved contract extensions as per the summary of negotiations shown on pages 14-15 of the meeting packet. Several no cost extensions were given. Within the next month or two, if staff sees additional funds, an option to consider for use of these funds would be for the older out-of-school youth. Desert Rose may not be extended due to some issues with older youth. The school district is not able to fund youth who have already graduated from school.

**Agenda Item 10** – INFORMATION: Contractor Update

Asha Jones, Nevada Partners, Inc. (NPI) gave a brief update. The Fellows programming began this fall; classroom size has increased. NPI added a parent component this year, involving the parents in an earlier stage of the process. The Explorers Program, with the Las Vegas Metro Police Department (LVMPD) involvement, gives a more positive experience with law enforcement. The LVMPD has also been willing to work with the youth who do not qualify for the program, due to background check or GED requirements. NPI’s summer program experience has pointed out the need to address the lack of appropriate communication skills in the youth and the need to teach them how to bridge the gaps in speaking with authority figures. The Positive Parenting program is expanding to include both parents and/or family members in order to address the different challenges of parenting and how it relates to educational success. NPI will launch a program, sometime in January, which will give access to childcare as well as some type of training towards working in childcare. NPI launched the Student Ambassador Program which enlists students as leaders to work with youth groups. They will lead programs that *will keep youth engaged* in continuing accomplishments in education.

Karl Rostrom with HELP of Southern Nevada gave a brief status report.

**Agenda Item 11** – INFORMATION: Updates from Youth Council Members

None

**Agenda Item 12** – Citizen Participation

None

**Agenda Item 13**– Adjournment

*The meeting adjourned at 12:34 PM.*

Next scheduled meeting date would be on Veteran’s Day. Therefore, a rescheduled date is needed, which may be on November 18<sup>th</sup>. Notices will be sent out.

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**AGENDA:** ACTION: Youth Council Meeting Calendar for 2010

**PETITIONER:** Tameca Ulmer, *workforce*CONNECTIONS Staff

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve the Proposed Youth Council Meeting Calendar for the Calendar year 2010.



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PEOPLE. PARTNERSHIPS. POSSIBILITIES.

## 2010 Youth Council Meeting Schedule

January 13, 2010

February 10, 2010

March 10, 2010

April 14, 2010

May 12, 2010

June 9, 2010

July 14, 2010

August 11, 2010

September 8, 2010

October 13, 2010

November 10, 2010

December 8, 2010

\*\* The second Wednesday of each month in the *workforce*CONNECTIONS Conference Room at 11AM \*\*

Respectfully submitted,

Agenda  
Item #4

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Date: 11/18/2009



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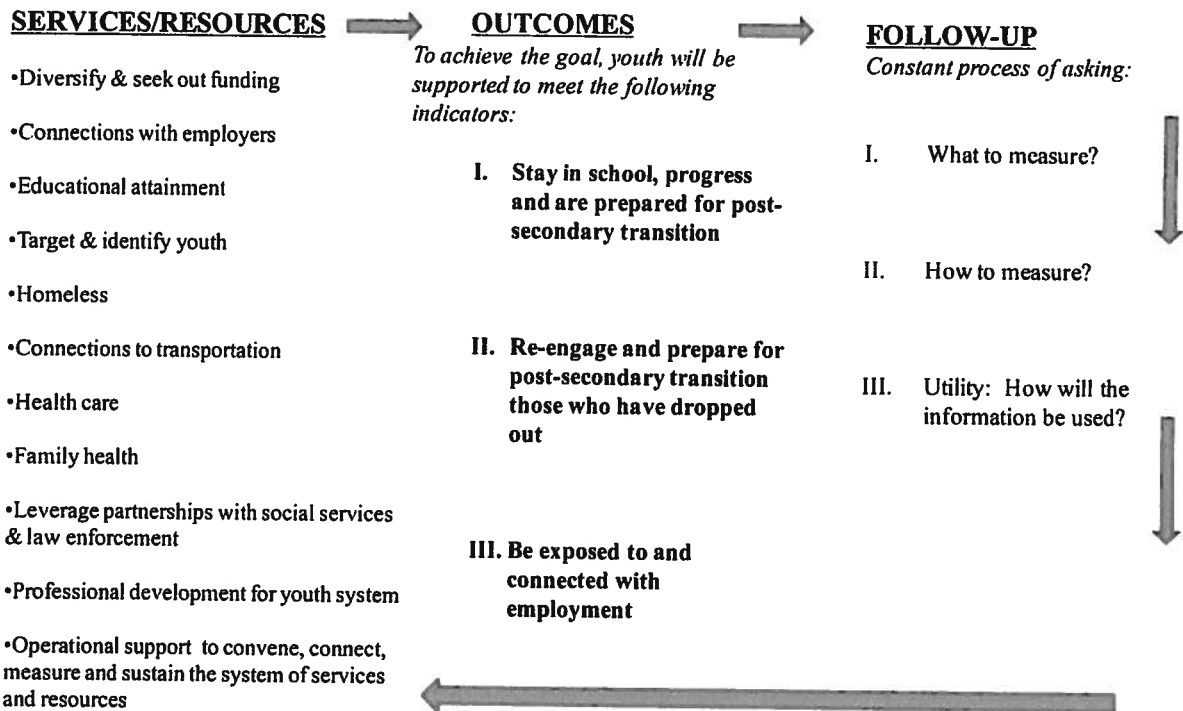
<b>AGENDA:</b> DISCUSSION and ACTION: Acceptance of the Youth Council Action Plan
<b>PETITIONER:</b> Kelly Henwood, <i>workforce</i> <b>CONNECTIONS</b> Staff
<b>RECOMMENDATION:</b> To accept the Youth Council Action Plan

## YOUTH COUNCIL IMPACT STATEMENT



*workforce***CONNECTIONS**  
 LOCAL BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP STRATEGIES

### Overall Goal: INCREASE THE GRADUATION RATE



Respectfully submitted,

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Item #5**

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**AGENDA:** DISCUSSION: Educational connections with the Clark County School District

**PETITIONER:** Kelly Henwood, *workforce*CONNECTIONS Staff

**RECOMMENDATION:** None

Chanda Cook, Youth Council Member and Co-Executive Director of the Nevada Public Education Foundation, will share successes and lessons learned from the partnership with Clark County School District.

This past summer, as part of the ARRA Youth Programs, a contract was developed to provide educational connections to youth participating in *workforce*CONNECTIONS funded summer jobs programming.

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**ARRA Summer 2009**  
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**Academics and Work Experience Credits**

Total Seats: 507 (plus adult education classes)  
Unique students: 408  
Academic Classes: 130 credits attempted - 81 credits earned (60%)  
Work Experience: 377 credits attempted - 292 credits earned (78%)

**14 Participating Contracts/Providers**

- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Boys & Girls Clubs
- Boys Town
- CIS
- College of So. NV
- Expertise
- Help of So. NV
- Nevada Partners Inc.
- Nevada Partners Inc - Year Round
- Police Athletic League
- Summer Business Institute
- Summer Business Institute - Governor's Reserve
- Shade Tree
- Southern Nevada Children's First (adult education – not included in these numbers)

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**Academics**

A special six-week summer school program were created by CCSD for WIA youth and offered at two schools. Regular summer school locations/classes were also available.

- Morning - Eldorado
- Evening - Canyon Springs
- Counselors tracked the student's attendance and notified providers of absences.
- 39 youth participated in this special program (80% success rate for students who attended at least one class)
- 91 youth participated in regular summer school (69% success rate for students who attended at least one class)

Counselors worked with youth in the special summer classes on:

- Graduation requirements
- How to read a transcript and having students determine credits earned
- How to determine a GPA
- Students creating an academic plan to graduate
- Attendance requirements
  - Individually reviewed history of student attendance
  - Explained the importance of an excused absence
  - Taught students how to write a note to excuse an absence

**Work Experience**

CCSD created a special ½ credit work experience class for youth who worked 120 hours participating in the ARRA summer program. Youth may repeat this class for a total of one (1) high school elective credit.

**Lessons Learned**

- A significant number of youth involved in the ARRA Summer 2009 program had academic deficiencies (see attached sample). The academic needs assessment was eye opening and provided insights for service providers, students and parents. It is important for parents and students to understand all educational options and requirements.
  - Counselors working with youth in summer program had a very positive impact – it underscored the importance of having adults in the system provide students with the skills and information to understand the system to be successful. Youth who had access the counselors were more aware of the requirements for graduation, attendance requirements, schedules/locations for proficiency exams, etc.
  - According to providers, many of the students participating in the summer program said that they are planning to attend college, yet the vast majority of them have never taken the PSAT or SAT and most are unaware of the need and opportunities to do so. It is important to improve communication about the requirements, opportunities, and expectations for college-bound students, particularly for those students whose parents do not have the experience necessary to assist them.

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- Flexible scheduling important especially for credit retrieval. Deadlines for independent study, distance learning and summer school were barriers for youth 16 and under to gain credits during the summer. Youth 17 and above could attend adult education.
- Attendance in school was the largest reason students weren't successful in summer school
- Transportation - Many students with good intentions were unable to complete the courses only because they did not have transportation to get there. Transportation was a challenge for summer school, proficiency exams and for youth re-engaging in education not going to a comprehensive high school.
- Childcare was identified as a challenge for our teen parents trying to stay in school and/or return to school.
- It is important to link academics with work experience - The providers are in a position to leverage student behavior in connection with the expectations of the job, and are also in a position to be a strong mentor for the students in their program.

**Respectfully submitted,**

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Item #6**

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**Date: 11/18/2009**

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**AGENDA:** PRESENTATION: State GWIB Youth Council Strategic Plan

**PETITIONER:** Kelly Henwood, *workforce*CONNECTIONS Staff

**RECOMMENDATION:** None

Maite Salazar, Chair of the State Youth Council, will present information regarding the states' strategic plan for youth workforce services.

Respectfully submitted,

**Agenda  
Item #7**

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**Date: 11/18/2009**

# GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

## YOUTH COUNCIL

### STRATEGIC PLAN

#### VISION

*That all Nevada youth are connected to education and/or productive employment by the age of 24.*

#### MISSION

*To convene and coordinate a statewide workforce development system that ensures youth are educated, prepared for lifelong careers, and able to transition to productive adulthood.*

#### OVERVIEW

The establishment of the State Youth Council (the Council), offers the Governor's Workforce Investment Board (GWIB) a unique opportunity to provide policy direction and leadership for the development of future workers through access to opportunities in education, productive employment, and career development.

#### STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Over the next three years, through 2013, the Council has adopted the following priorities:

- *Support a system that creates pipelines to employment for youth, including demand-driven occupations.*
- *Increase Nevada's high school graduation rate 10% by 2013.*

The following initiatives will be undertaken during the next three years:

I. **Long-Term Goal:** Provide statewide leadership that facilitates the implementation of a

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comprehensive statewide system of workforce development programs and services for youth.

a. **Short-Term Goal:** Assess overall effectiveness and capacity of the current system of services and recommend necessary improvements.

(1) **Objective Initiative:** Identify “best practices” among Local Workforce Investment Boards and service providers’ and programs, and facilitate performance recognition.

(2) **Objective Initiative:** Utilize existing data to set benchmarks and measure success.

(3) **Objective Initiative:** Analyze data and information system infrastructure at the state and local levels and determine the most effective methods for collecting, compiling, and reporting data and explore possibilities for data sharing across systems.

(4) **Objective Initiative:** Determine how successful programs and services can be expanded, developed, and/or leveraged.

(5) **Objective Initiative:** Serve as a “clearinghouse” for Local Workforce Investment Board (WIB) youth councils and training services information, and disseminate information via DETR’s website and other communication means.

(6) **Objective Initiative:** Increase awareness of community resources and services available to families and youth, including promoting the expansion of the Ready for Life Resource Map and its connection to Nevada 211.

II. **Long-Term Goal:** Support local boards and other non-WIA youth service providers in their specific goals to engage disconnected youth (out of school, at-risk of dropping out, disabled, foster, juvenile justice involved, pregnant and parenting, and limited English) with work based learning, educational attainment and career path development opportunities.

a. **Short-Term Goal:** Utilize WIA Governor’s Reserve Funds to prepare disconnected youth for successful entry into employment.

1) **Objective Initiative:** Increase leadership and life skills development opportunities for all youth and families.

2) **Objective Initiative:** Ensure youth development approach in all funded services to engage and retain youth.

3) **Objective Initiative:** Utilize data to target resources in the high schools in the state with the lowest educational attainment rates and highest dropout rates.

4) **Objective Initiative:** Conduct outreach to the most disconnected youth and families.

5) **Objective Initiative:** Ensure in-school youth receive targeted career guidance services emphasizing secondary and post-secondary career and technical education opportunities.

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III. **Long-Term Goal:** Strengthen connections with key stakeholders throughout the state including businesses.

a) **Short-Term Goal:** Develop a communications plan and media campaign to build a community ethic that values education and promotes the importance of a high school diploma.

1) **Objective Initiative:** Determine the needs and expectations of the various key stakeholder groups.

2) **Objective Initiative:** Based on needs and expectations, expand business partnerships by informing and recruiting employers to increase the number of student internships and mentorships.

3) **Objective Initiative:** Encourage businesses to support employee and family education.

b) **Short-Term Goal:** In partnership with Nevada Public Education Foundation, integrate the goals of the Ready for Life® Nevada with the GWIB State Youth Council to provide leadership for the following areas:

1) **Objective Initiative:** Facilitate progress on statewide goals and actions identified in this strategic plan and the Ready for Life® Action Plan.

2) **Objective Initiative:** Address related policy issues.

3) **Objective Initiative:** Measure and report progress annually on employment and education statewide goals.

4) **Objective Initiative:** Develop a statewide communications plan to build a community ethic that values education.

5) **Objective Initiative:** Facilitate a statewide Ready for Life® networking, communication, and collaboration.

6) **Objective Initiative:** Support and seed strong local collaborative Ready for Life® activities.

III. **Long-Term Goal:** Ensure the sustainability of coordinated system to effectively serve youth who are most in need.

a) **Short-Term Goal:** Increase communication and information sharing between youth-serving agencies and organizations from all sectors to improve collaboration and more effectively reach and serve targeted youth.

b) **Short-Term Goal:** Scan for and develop relationships that lead to leveraged funding opportunities.



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- 1) **Objective Initiative:** Submit collaborative statewide and/or regional proposals in response to federal, state, private sector funding opportunities. (Including the Department of Education, OJJDP, U.S. Department of Labor, HUD solicitations).

## WHAT IS THE STATE YOUTH COUNCIL?

The Council is a collaboration of GWIB members with partnerships among businesses, educators, governmental agencies, labor organizations, youth and the nonprofit community. The Council reports to the GWIB, and is the primary body for statewide youth issues as they pertain to workforce initiatives under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA).

The Council will assist the GWIB by developing a statewide youth workforce blueprint, championing initiatives, and spearheading statewide coordination activities. To achieve its' goals, the Council has partnered with Ready for Life® Nevada and supports a statewide movement to connect all Nevada youth to education or productive employment through age 24.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND VALUES

**The Council values:**

Youth involvement	Education	Employability
Self-empowerment of youth	Employer-driven	Technology literacy
Community involvement	Positive approach	Career planning
Economic awareness	Career exploration	Workforce connection
Workforce preparation	Lifelong learning	Training

## MEMBERSHIP ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

**Membership**

The GWIB State Youth Council will be comprised as follows, with a maximum of 11 voting members (other members can be invited to participate in an advisory capacity only):

- 3 Members of the GWIB, to include a chair appointed by the GWIB chair
- 2 Members from DETR
- 2 Chairs and/or designees for each Local WIB Youth Councils (North / South)
- 1 Representative from Ready for Life® Nevada
- 1 Representative Nevada System Higher Education
- 1 Representative Department of Health & Human Services
- 1 Representative Department of Education K-12

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**Voting & Quorum**

Each Youth Council member shall have one vote. A simple majority of members shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of transacting business and less than a majority may adjourn. Proxy votes will not be allowed in accordance with the GWIB bylaws with regard to State Workforce Investment Board Committees.

**Roles and Responsibilities**

- To further the objectives of the GWIB as they pertain to the statewide workforce investment act system and Nevada's youth.
- To collaborate with the Ready for Life® Nevada Statewide Initiative in the management and implementation of the Ready for Life Movement and Shared Youth Vision. (See Attachment A)
- To collaborate with the Local WIB Youth Councils.
- To report to GWIB with pertinent information related to the local and statewide collaborative initiatives, services, measurements, progress, and future plans.
- To facilitate productive utilization of GWIB Youth discretionary funds.
- To foster, and help develop plans, initiatives and statewide activities focusing on youth job skills training leading to long-term gainful employment and career progression.
- To continuously identify potential sources of partners, resources, and best practices.
- To meet at least quarterly, with extraordinary sessions to be called when necessary.
- To meet with enough lead time so that necessary reporting and actions can be presented at the GWIB Meetings.

**TARGET AUDIENCE**

The WIA and Department of Labor Youth Vision specify the age groups and economic populations to be served. Accordingly, the Council will focus on the neediest "disconnected" youth, ages 14-21, with the following characteristics:

- Out-of-school
- Most at risk of dropping out
- In or aging out of foster care
- Disabled
- Homeless and/or have runaway
- Indian and Native American
- Migrant
- Incarcerated parents
- Court-involved
- At risk of court involvement
- Skill Deficient —Low reading and math levels including those who have a high school certificate, but have not passed the State of Nevada High School Graduate Proficiency Examination.

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## **STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES, OPPORTUNITIES, THREATS**

The Council recognizes the workforce system is demand-driven. With the Council's oversight, Local WIBs will continue to collaborate with employers to promote and develop programming of statewide youth employment and training activities. By focusing on the human capital needs of employers and businesses, the Council can more effectively facilitate the delivery of statewide youth employment and training activities. This will assist Local WIBs in preparing the neediest youth for relevant lifelong careers that yield the greatest and broadest workforce opportunities.

### **Strengths**

For the youth who are most in need of services, a vast array of innovative services are offered by service providers throughout the state. Currently, youth have access to many quality programs. Utilizing Governor's Reserve Funds, at-risk, out-of-school youth who traditionally have been disconnected from mainstream services, can be given a high priority under the WIA. This allows the Council to put forth its greatest effort to make a difference by overseeing the formulation of comprehensive Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for service delivery to our future leaders and workforce.

Another potential strength lies in coordinating and collaborating with faith and community-based organizations for matching resources to help deliver more and better youth employment and training services. The Council is poised to build upon the significant work already completed and underway by groups such as school to careers partnerships; local area colleges; technical and vocational schools; boys and girls clubs; and other partnerships or establishments that serve youth.

A further significant strength is our newly initiated strategic partnership with the Nevada Public Education Foundation's Ready for Life movement. With several hundred partners across the state already working together to more effectively serve Nevada's youth and connect them to education or employment through age 24, the Council is well-positioned to "hit the ground running" with powerful collaborative relationships and systemic efforts to accomplish our goals for youth workforce development.

### **Weaknesses**

The paramount weakness facing the Council is a lack of available resources. Due to the large number of youth throughout the state who either are economically disadvantaged, out of work, out of school and/or on the streets; the Council has an uphill battle—as funds and other resources are in short supply.

Other challenges include overcoming "turf" issues among agencies and concerns such as: program sustainability; coordinating or mapping the existing services offered by service providers; and marketing youth service plans to employers who are confused about where to go to access youth workers or have lost hope in hiring youth due to inadequate job skills and/or poor work ethics. Another serious weakness is that many basic skills fall far below the norm and improvement efforts are only slowly being implemented.

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**Opportunities**

The Council is well-positioned to make changes that positively affect the future of our youth. Multiple opportunities exist for the Council including:

- Sponsoring statewide and regional area youth summits and/or conferences to organize an array of youth service providers toward building an integrated, seamless workforce development system that includes youth, while being responsive to businesses needs, i.e., focusing on demand-driven occupations;
- Ensuring in-school youth receive career guidance and counseling, with an emphasis on awareness of secondary and postsecondary career and technical education opportunities;
- Facilitating and providing guidance as to how federal and state funds are used in order to create the most complete menu of services for our youth;
- Improving dialogue among and between state agencies, external organizations and youth service providers;
- Promoting the improvement of quality and quantity of workplace learning, and experiences for youth of all ages and backgrounds;
- Working with the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR) in developing meaningful performance indicators that highlight effective goal achievement accountability for Local WIBs; and
- Encouraging Local WIBs to offer a system network of services that instill our future leaders' growth in confidence, commitment, competence, and connected citizenship.
- Leveraging partnerships and resources through unity of effort with Nevada Public Education Foundation's Ready for Life movement and statewide action plan.

**Threats**

The biggest threat to the success of the Council is the continued loss/reduction of allocated WIA funding, followed by the potential lack of buy-in and support for the Council's plan from key business stakeholders. As such, it is imperative for Committee members to engage with businesses and GWIB members, and to be responsive to their employment needs. It also is critical that the Council work collaboratively with Local WIBs; youth service agencies; faith and community-based organizations; local area schools; and other youth advisory groups. Failure to assume such initiatives risks alienating support that is vital to implementing the Council's vision.

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**Attachment A**

**NEVADA Shared Youth Vision**

**READY FOR LIFE®**

The priorities in this strategic plan are supported by NEVADA SHARED YOUTH VISION, a unification of the federal Shared Youth Vision Partnership led by the Nevada Department of Employment, Training, and Rehabilitation with Nevada Public Education Foundation's Ready for Life statewide movement.

The mission of the Shared Youth Vision Partnership is to serve as a catalyst at the national, state, and local levels to strengthen coordination, communication, and collaboration among youth-serving agencies. The partnership will support the neediest youth and their healthy transition to successful adult roles and responsibilities.

**READY FOR LIFE® VALUES**

- ◆ All youth are educated and ready to learn.
- ◆ All youth are experienced and ready for careers.
- ◆ All youth are connected to adults, peers, and services.
- ◆ All youth are confident and ready for life.
- ◆ A connected, operational infrastructure that supports youth success.

Ready for Life® is a collaborative effort to improve Nevada's success in engaging and graduating "ready for life" students and re-engaging those who left school prematurely. A statewide movement convened by Nevada Public Education Foundation, Ready for Life is neither a specific program nor intervention but rather a systemic effort to support youth by facilitating collaboration among youth-serving organizations, with the end goal of connecting Nevada youth to education or employment through age 24.

**Statewide** Ready for Life collaborative work includes:

- **Action plan, network, and communication**
- **Ready for Life Nevada: Nevada Shared Youth Vision** state-level leadership
- **Local and regional community collaboratives**
- **Ready for Life® Resource Map:** searchable, map-based, statewide database of services for youth at [www.readyforlifenv.org](http://www.readyforlifenv.org)

*workforce*CONNECTIONS  
YOUTH COUNCIL  
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**AGENDA:** INFORMATION: Summer Jobs Programs lessons learned

**PETITIONER:** Tameca Ulmer, *workforce*CONNECTIONS Staff

**RECOMMENDATION:** None

During the summer of 2009, through ARRA and Governors Reserve funding, *workforce*CONNECTIONS was able to support a summer jobs program that provided over 1500 youth with summer work experiences and educational connections. This was done through 23 contracts with various service providers. These contracts were an important step for *workforce*CONNECTIONS to build new relationships with both the community of youth serving agencies and employers.

As part of the contract closeout process, summer program contractors were asked to provide feedback on successes and lessons learned. Staff will present these lessons learned to Youth Council for discussion in an effort to provide information that may be helpful for future programming.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Agenda  
Item #8**

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**Date: 11/18/2009**

*workforce*CONNECTIONS  
YOUTH COUNCIL  
AGENDA

<b>AGENDA INFORMATION:</b> Foster Youth RFP
<b>PETITIONER:</b> Kelly Henwood, <i>workforce</i> CONNECTIONS Staff
<b>RECOMMENDATION:</b> None

The *workforce*CONNECTIONS Youth Council is partnering with United Way’s Financial Stability Partnership Council to fund a pilot project to support transitioning foster youth in Clark County with workforce, education and training supports. This request for project proposals is for services delivered to approximately twenty-five transitioning foster youth specifically referred by Clark County’s Department of Family Services (DFS). These youth, ages 17-21, are receiving housing supports in partnership with the Las Vegas Housing Authority’s Section 8 voucher program.

Proposals are being requested through a competitive procurement and will result in one contract which will commence on or about March 1, 2010. The RFP will be available electronically on or about November 3, 2009 at the *workforce*CONNECTIONS website, [www.nvworkforceconnections.org](http://www.nvworkforceconnections.org).

There will be an optional Bidders’ Conference on November 13 from 10 am to 12 noon at 7251 W. Lake Mead Blvd Ste 200, Las Vegas, NV 89128. The deadline for proposal submission is December 7, 2009 at 4pm. Proposal submissions must be in accordance with RFP requirements. Late proposals will not be accepted. All information regarding this RFP including specifications, forms, timelines and any addendums will be available via the *workforce*CONNECTIONS website at [www.nvworkforceconnections.org](http://www.nvworkforceconnections.org). Questions regarding the RFP can be directed to [youthrfp@snwib.org](mailto:youthrfp@snwib.org)

**RFP Timeline\***

<b>Youth RFP Release</b>	<b>November 3, 2009</b>
<b>Optional Bidders Conference</b> <i>workforce</i> CONNECTIONS Offices: 7251 W Lake Mead Blvd Suite 200 Las Vegas, Nevada 89128	<b>November 13, 2009</b> <b>10:00am-12noon</b>
<b>Last day to submit RFP Questions</b> All questions must be submitted by email to <a href="mailto:youthrfp@snwib.org">youthrfp@snwib.org</a>	<b>November 19, 2009</b>

*workforce*CONNECTIONS  
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<b>RFP Proposal Submissions Due</b>	<b>December 7, 2009</b>
<b>Evaluation of Proposals</b>	<b>December 8 – 16th, 2009</b>
<b>Contract Recommendation Presented for Approval</b>  Contract recommendation will be presented to the United Way’s FSP Council and Board as well as <i>workforce</i> CONNECTIONS Youth Council and Board.	<b>December 17, 2009 – January 26, 2010**</b>  **specific times & dates to be announced
<b>Awards Announced</b>	<b>January 26, 2010</b>
<b>Contract Negotiations</b>	<b>January 26, 2010 - February 26, 2010</b>
<b>Contract/Program Commence</b>	<b>March 1 , 2010</b>
<i>*All dates are subject to change as directed by the funding agencies</i>	

Respectfully submitted,

**Agenda  
 Item #9**

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**Date: 11/18/2009**



*workforce*CONNECTIONS  
YOUTH COUNCIL  
AGENDA

**AGENDA:** INFORMATION: Contractor Update

**PETITIONER:** Kelly Henwood, *workforce*CONNECTIONS staff

**RECOMMENDATION:** None

Staff and/or providers shall share an update regarding current WIA funded Youth programs.

**Respectfully submitted,**

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**Date: 11/18/2009**

**Agenda  
Item #10**

*workforce*CONNECTIONS  
YOUTH COUNCIL  
AGENDA

**AGENDA:** INFORMATION: Updates from Youth Council Members

**PETITIONER:** Kelly Henwood, *workforce*CONNECTIONS Staff

**RECOMMENDATION:** None

Youth Council members who wish to share information Youth Council issues or other relevant youth activities affecting the region.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 11/18/2009

Agenda  
Item #11