

**MINUTES OF A MEETING  
LAKE COUNTY YOUTH COUNCIL**

**March 3, 2015**

**2:00 P.M.**

**At**

Lake County Department of Job and Family Services

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Gale Leonard-Stawieri  
Lisa Sturgil  
Carol Darr  
Mindy Hughes  
Mark Rosborough  
Michael Stanic

**STAFF IN ATTENDANCE**

Bob Dawson  
Leslie Ryan

**CALL TO ORDER**

**Ms. Leonard-Stawieri called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM.**

**PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

**A Motion was made by Mindy Hughes and seconded by Michael Stanic to approve the minutes from the March 22, 2014 meeting. All were in favor; motion carried.**

**Connecting the Dots**

Mindy Hughes provided a handout and gave an overview of the “Connecting the Dots” (CTD) collaborative effort among the Ohio Department of Job & Family Services, the Workforce Investment Boards, the Mentoring Center of Central Ohio and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Ohio (and their county affiliates). The program is designed to dramatically improve the educational and employment outcomes of youths in the foster care system. State funding for this initiative began in 2013 and is scheduled to end June 30, 2015. A limited funding arrangement may be available from July 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 for youths currently enrolled. Mindy spoke of the importance of the mentoring services being provided by Big Brothers and Big Sisters who has secured a \$10,000 grant from AT&T that should allow them to continue to provide mentoring services into the next program year. Mindy indicated an intent to jointly procure services for Independent Living Youth with WIA/WIOA Youth Programming but at a smaller slot count than in the past.

**Current Program Status and New Business**

Bob Dawson reviewed a handout that summarized the current status of our Workforce Investment Act (WIA) youth programs by provider. Also reviewed was a report of the WIA Youth Common Measures performance results for the 1<sup>st</sup> half of the current program year (July 1, 2014 – December 31, 2014). Our WIA performance is exemplary in all areas except Literacy and Numeracy for Out-of-School (OOS) Youth that are assessed deficient. Bob explained however, that we are now one (1) youth closer to (and only one youth away) from Exceeding the Literacy and Numeracy performance standard. As recently as January (2015) we sent several staff and representatives from each of our youth providers to training. The state promoted the training session because Literacy/Numeracy performance is not good statewide. Literacy and Numeracy is not a performance standard under the new Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Bob also shared a recent report generated by Ohio’s Department of Performance Reporting that projected the current year’s quarterly performance measured as if the new WIOA performance standards were in-place. The report showed Lake County exceeding all of the WIOA measurements and Lake County was ahead of the overall State performance in each category by a significant margin,

Bob reviewed a funding analysis that compared our current spending levels against those of the past two years. He explained that the most significant change affecting youth under WIOA will be the requirement to spend a minimum of 75% of the Youth Allocation on Out-of-School (OOS) Youth. We have been expending (just) at a 30% level over the past few years as required by WIA. Using a projection for the year-end carryover of WIA funds and the anticipated funding for PY15 from WIOA, we should have \$450,000 +/- available for youth programs next year. The actual WIOA allocation will not be known until early May. A proposed PY 15 Area #5 Spending Plan was reviewed and discussed particularly as it related to the 75% OOS spending requirement. Other stipulations spelled out clearly in WIOA define the eligibility criteria of a youth, set the age for eligible youths as 16-24, increases the number of required program elements to 15 (from 10) and mandates that a minimum 25% of all youth funds be spent on work experience. **Michael Stanic moved and Carol Darr seconded a motion to approve the Preliminary PY 15 Youth Spending Plan as submitted, subject to final appropriations. All were in favor; motion carried.**

The committee reviewed the recently published overview from the Office of Human Services Innovation for the Comprehensive Case Management and Employment Program that Governor Kasich has proposed for Ohio. The initiative is part of the Governor's Biennium Budget request with funding to come jointly from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and WIOA, It was the consensus of the group that we not include considerations for this initiative in the current youth procurement and that we wait until more guidance is published and the initiative makes it into the new budget.

It was agreed that the best route forward would be to ask for proposals that offered programing for both In-School and Out-of School Youths (combined) and that each program provider be responsible for their own outreach including participant recruitment, the 75% OOS spending minimum and a 30% expenditure rate for work experience. The committee finalized RFP specifications and the related cost stipulations. **Mark Rosborough moved and Lisa Sturgil seconded a motion to adopt the RFP specifications and to authorize staff to proceed with the PY 15 Youth program procurement process. All were in favor; motion carried.**

Council then reviewed the various elements of an Independent Cost Estimate for the PY 15 procurement. **Mindy Hughes made a motion to adopt the PY 15 Independent Cost Estimate as discussed; Michael Stanic seconded the motion. All were in favor; motion carried.**

A recommended procurement timeline was reviewed that included a Bidders Conference in the middle of a one month procurement period and an on-line Q & A procedure. The procurement schedule calls for the Youth Council to meet on May 5<sup>th</sup> to review program proposals and to make a recommendation on PY 15 youth programs and providers for the WIB's consideration at their meeting scheduled for June 10<sup>th</sup>. **Carol Darr made a motion to adopt the PY 15 Procurement Timeline. Mark Rosborough seconded the motion. All were in favor; motion carried.**

#### **Adjournment**

**There being no further business, Ms. Leonard-Stawieri adjourned the meeting at 4:10 PM.**

The next meeting of the Youth Council is scheduled for Tuesday May 5, 2015 at 2:00 PM