

**Workforce Development Board of Oswego County  
Youth Council Meeting  
Wednesday, November 9, 2022  
Oswego County Workforce New York**

*“The Youth Council shall assist in developing the local workforce plan pertaining to youth and youth services, approving eligible providers of youth services, coordinate youth workforce development activities, and oversee public relations about youth programs.”*

**Minutes**

**Present:** Garrett Weiss, Brian Chetney, Ellen Lazarek, Sarah Yaw, Kathy Joyce, Kelly Burkett, Brian Heffron, Angela Ferlito, Tiffany Rush, Alissa Viscome, Elizabeth Barone-Kapuscinski, Rachel Pierce, Kim Sizemore, Alexis Cummins

**Brian Chetney called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.** Roundtable introductions were done as there were many new faces.

**1. Approval of Meeting Minutes from April 13, 2022**

Brian Chetney asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Ellen Lazarek made a motion to approve the minutes. Sarah Yaw 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor. The motion was carried.

**2. Youth Council Report - Elizabeth Barone-Kapuscinski**

The Youth Council report reflects services during PY '22 based off of August Financial Reports. Paid Work Experience is 27% obligated. Supportive Services are 5% obligated. OJT's are not currently obligated- but we did have a participant start in September so this number will go up by the next meeting. Occupational Skills/ITA's are 78% obligated (consists of classroom training for LPN's, welding, CDL, etc.) OCO Mentoring is 4% obligated. Currently we are at 30% overall obligation. We are seeing more youth coming in looking for training's than for paid work experience, but the hope is that we will see more Paid Work Experience participants by the 1st of the year. To qualify for youth services you must be ages 16-24 and have a barrier to employment (if you are in-school you must also be considered low-income). The TANF SYEP report was also discussed- overall the program this year was successful. We saw an increase in applicants and was able to initially place 140 youth (we did lose a lot in the beginning due to attendance & behavioral issues) Overall funding was 91% obligated.

**3. Youth Training by Occupational Cluster – Elizabeth Barone-Kapuscinski**

The report is based on PY 22 Q1. For Occupational Skills Training we completed 11 services (CiTi-8, Helio Health-1, National Tractor Trailer School-2). For Paid Work Experience we were able to place 15 young adults on paid work sites such as Fulton City School District, Par-K, Victory Transformation, Humane Society, etc. We also had 2 participants in Other Training consisting of Alternative Secondary Education and Entrepreneurial Training. We had 28 Training Services by Occupation Cluster- 1 in Construction, 6 in Healthcare, 2 in Other (Alternative Secondary Education), 15 Training Services to Businesses (Work Experience) & 4 in Transportation (CDL-A, CDL-B, Heavy Equipment). Discussion regarding funding for Occupational Skills training was had where it was stated that if the individual applying for the programs is eligible for ACCES-VR services they could assist with funding.

#### 4. Directors Report-Rachel Pierce

Over the next PY we will be trying to tap into In-School youth more than we have in the past as the State has recently approved a waiver to allow districts to spend their Youth Funding 50/50 between In-School and Out-Of-School youth. This will allow us to spend more money where we previously could not and serve more youth. We have recently transitioned one of our Employment Specialists to focus on the Summer Program when in session, and on marketing and outreach the remainder of the year- Adele Cronk. We also just received PY 21 Performance Measures from the State- overall performance was good and there was only 1 measure that we did not meet-Youth Credential Attainment (we will be double checking to see if there was a data entry error). Complete measures will be presented at the Full Board Meeting.

#### 5. Roundtable Discussion

**Sarah Yaw-** Would like to see a streamlined process of referring potential customers to partner agencies. Committee agrees it's a great idea but would likely run into issues with gathering release of information forms. Discussion was had about how CiTi Boces, and Angela at Fulton School District will complete a basic screening of candidates, assist them with the Workforce NY application and with completing CareerZone (which is a requirement for the youth works program), and then once those steps are complete they get referred to Workforce for services. Currently the Workforce Staff is completing quick screening sheets with potential youth to see if they would qualify for services while out in the public. If we see that these youth are potentially eligible for other services in the area we could refer to them (or have releases signed to share the information).

**Kathy Joyce-** Discussed general services that ACCES-VR can offer- tuition assistance, paid work experience, job coaching, etc. We believe that a lot of youth who have those barriers to employment that qualify for ACCES-VR services would greatly benefit. Discussed how to refer customers to apply- Kathy will forward the application and when one is completed in our office we can scan them and email the application directly to Kathy to get the process started. Also discussed including ACCES-VR information with the Summer Program applications next year as some of those participants have expressed interest in the past about job coaching.

**Ellen Lazarek-** Might be able to assist the participant who is currently in CASAC training with obtaining supervised hours at Arbor House.

**Tiffany Rush-** On point had been looking for a College Advisor and a Career Services Advisor- so far they have hired a College Advisor who is currently in training.

**Garrette Weiss-** Have seen an uptick of CTE students (950+). Hosted Union day where they invited 15 unions to present and had roughly 600-700 students attended. Also have asked the AMI to host more informational sessions as there was so much interest they could not fit everybody in one day. Seeing a lot of interest in the Agricultural studies program, currently raising chickens and working with bees. It is currently a ½ day class, but they are hoping to expand it to a full day program next year.

**Brian Heffron-** Manufacturing Day was hosted back in October- was a very successful event with very interested and attentive students. Hoping for an upcoming announcement that will allow PTEch to expand through the county. They are trying to focus some of the outreach on parents to try and gain more interest from the youth

**Rachel Pierce-** Will be meeting with Centerstate to discuss their Pathways to Apprenticeship program to try and gain some information to potentially replicate the program in Oswego County. Would consist of an 11 week Paid Training (minimum wage) where they would receive hands on presentations on the surrounding Unions, and then at the end of the program they would be able to apply for an apprenticeship.

**Alissa Viscome-** The Early College High School program recently allowed students to come into Oswego Health for some job shadowing. Overall feedback was good. They have also started doing New Visions rotations. Many of the members of the committee commented on the opportunities that Oswego County provides its youth before entering the workforce or committing to college.

**All-** Discussed how in order to develop programs and assist the youth in knowing what is available to them we have to start talking to the right people. Need to start inviting people to the table who are focused on positive youth development. If you have anyone in mind who you believe would benefit this committee please feel free to invite them to attend.

There were no further updates at this time. Brian Chetney called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kim Sizemore motioned to adjourn, Garrette Weiss 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:43a.m.

The next meeting will be held on February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @ 9:00 a.m. at the One Stop Center located at 200 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Fulton, NY 13069.