



Humboldt County Workforce Investment Board

YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, October 14, 2008

3:00-5:00 pm

Prosperity! Center Conference Room • 520 E Street • Eureka

MINUTES

Members Present: Terry Coltra, Joe Davey, Dennis Mullins, Doug Rasines (Vice-Chair), and Mark Schaffner

Members Absent: Maura Eastman, Karen L. Jarboe, Peter LaVallee, Kelly Remington and Jon Sapper

Others Attending: Jo Ann Sapper, Chad Zanecco, Jacqueline Debets, Jose Quezada and Sandy Alcaraz

1. OPENING

1.1 **Call to Order:** Meeting came to order at 3:13

1.2 **Self-introductions:** None

1.3 **Adjustments to the Agenda:** None

2. PUBLIC COMMENT-None

3. DISCUSSION and ACTION ITEMS

3.1 **Approve minutes from September 9, 2008 meeting:** No quorum at this time, will review minutes. Reached quorum 20 minutes into meeting, approved previous minutes.

3.2 **Individual Development Account opportunity:** AEDC is trying to start a program that would involve high school students who invest x number of dollars per month to take parenting classes. Eventually they would get a 2-1 match. Twenty percent poverty guidelines apply. Researching on how to get participants. The 2-1 match would be specific to education; a certificate program. Age groups are undefined but somewhere between 16 and 21 years of age. Joint bank account would be set up, not certain if parents would have to co-sign. Thirty-five thousand dollars per household would be the maximum income. WIZ youth would be able to apply. There is a cap of \$1,200.00 that the participant can invest. The monies can then be applied for after high school education in Humboldt County, post secondary education, certificate programs junior college or tuition. *Are there limitations on what the matched money can be used for?* No personal items. *How many IDA's do you have to have?* AEDC already has some set up; the grant is \$136,000.00. Approximately \$36,000.00 is directly available for this proposed program. There is enough money now for about 12 youth (full time) or possibly 24 (part-time). AEDC is anticipating 15 students to apply; they will that many thinking that a few will not complete the program. However, if all 15 finish the program there is enough money to do the match. There is a requirement for 25 hours of education over the year and a half or the length of the program. Once they are accepted, if the household income goes up the student will still be eligible. *Is this limited to out of school youth or can they already be in higher education?* No parameters are set that limit whether they are in high school or in college but AEDC is primarily looking at high school students. Things aren't quite ready yet; details need to be worked out. Possibly at the beginning of next year everything will fall into place. They are thinking of targeting the Eel River Valley only at this point in time. Looks like this is the best area to match with this program right now. AEDC decided to start this program for small business lending and it evolved into an education idea. As things progress the Board would like to get updates.

- 3.3 StepUp and Digital Pathways update:** We have some pretty good numbers this year; reached out to 181 youth this summer. Of those, 46 youth started regular jobs, spent no StepUp monies on them, they went directly into jobs. Ninety-six youth benefited from paid work experience opportunities. Currently ramping up for the school year StepUp program. Won't be as big as summer, but should be have good numbers. A final decision has not yet been made about the StepUp Coordinator. Digital Pathways – currently have a class beginning October 27th for 25 hours. Are trying to get one of the classes for Probation and ILS youth only. Full WIB will have a 6-7 minute documentary working with 3 StepUp youth helping them with editing and filming. Jo Ann Sapper has had 8 youth that got jobs on their own. Once the numbers are crunched the media will be notified for a story. **Digital Pathways in the Eel River Valley:** Jo Ann and Jose Quezada have met with Gordon Dexter to see who they can partner with, how they can begin to set this up and see when they might get things going. The soft target is for next summer. Gordon jumped on board with this; wants to set up an Apple lab on site.
- 3.4 Targets of Opportunity – Eel River Valley employers:** Jo Ann Sapper organized Job Readiness classes. She had 10 people sign up but believes that students are thinking more towards summer employment. Had the first Advisory Committee meeting. Great meeting; Jacqueline did a presentation on Targets of Opportunity. What came out of the meeting was the fact that we need to educate the educators. Don't see enough people trained in our area for construction and all the vocational jobs out there. Approached Gordon Dexter to see if a presentation might be given to their Board. Jacqueline is on the agenda for tonight and will also present at the following meeting. Jon Sapper will be presenting tonight as well. In doing some follow-ups, Jo Ann found that a few of her youth are filling the jobs at Sun Valley.
- 3.5 YPO's:** Wanted to have an ongoing discussion about youth Program Operators. Challenges – complicated system, don't have time to do it all, having to get liability paperwork, balancing StepUp funds and the priority of WIA monies and then transportation. Solution – do like that they can prioritize their funds, use StepUp monies for meeting performance and having a master list of employers who have already filled out the paperwork. Employer information in a spreadsheet would be a handy tool. Have started an Access database for StepUp. Want to start moving to TTP, youth counselors. Hopefully by the end of the year this spreadsheet will be available to everyone. Cal Jobs is what we use for level 3 referrals.

4. CLOSING

- 4.1 Next meeting date:** Tuesday, November 11, 2008. This is a holiday, possibly move meeting to another date. There will be no meeting in November unless there are pressing issues. Jose will be talking to Kelly Remington about not coming to meetings. We're losing Gwen LaPena and possibly Karen Lofts Jarboe. Gave an application to Karen Albee. We need more employer involvement so we can work with all kids. We are limited right now. We do have a few funding sources that target youth; we need 4 to 5 thousand dollars to do this (youth that are not WIA, Probation or youth in transition). Categorical attachments only happen with WIA funds. WIA is the one with all the rules; everyone has to be funneled through that. It's an issue as far as we don't have enough money to completely open it up. We need to strengthen private sector involvement. Umpqua bank is up to making a donation; hopefully \$5,000.00 for each of the next 3 years. Want to have members of the YC who are engaged and will come to the meetings. Final decision; will meet on November 18th. How will this program sustain itself after year 3, need some strategies. If we wait much longer it will be too late. Identify some

strategies for sustainability and also how to target employers as part of this council. Perhaps get local employers to come to one of these meetings so we can find out what kind of youth they are looking for. Southern Humboldt has developed a relationship with St. Joe's hospital. This may be the next hotbed.

- 4.2 **Announcements:** Mark Schaffner did go to the Targets workshop and enjoyed it. *Any results known from the Job Fair that was held on the 20th?* Minimum award is \$750,000.00; perhaps approach it from a regional basis. Need to begin working on this now. Inter-tribal gathering, November 15th.
- 4.3 **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 4:42 pm.