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Youth Committee Meeting 9:30am February 21, 2018 Located America Works 8025 Black Horse Pike Suite 470-480 West Atlantic City NJ 08232

Rev. Odinga Maddox
Maryann McGhee
Marian Woodson

Anne Dillon
Cindy Herdman Ivins
Fran Kuhn

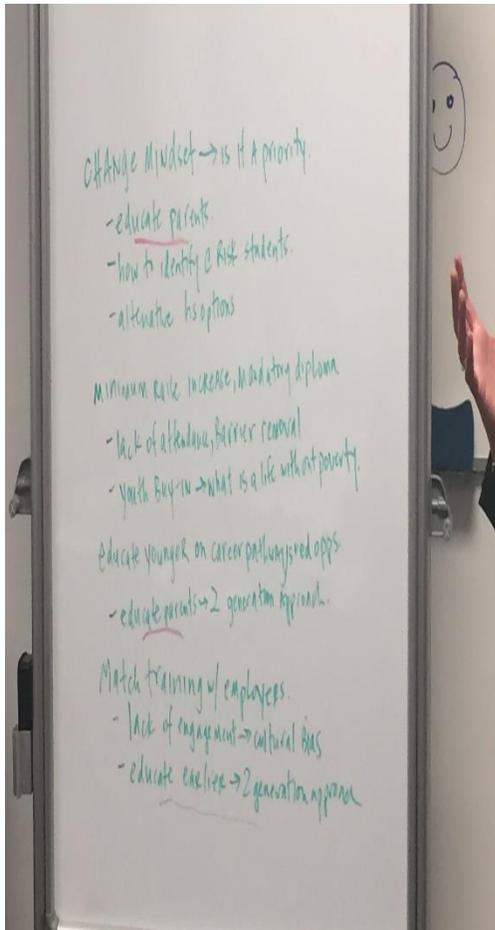
Jackie Adelman
Claire Millar
Stephanie Koch

Michael Margraf
Lauren Haynes

Maria Hadley
Dina DeMaio

Minutes

This meeting was called to order @9:34am by Stephanie K. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved by Maryanne M. and seconded by Cindy I. Maryann M. gave an overview of the services that America Works provide to the youth. Stephanie K. asked if there were a differences in Out of School vs. Summer Youth; Maryann M. stated that there is 16 Out Of School Youth and the remainder were summer youth. The greatest concern is the lack of attendance in the programs. The youth in each program hs some barriers i.e.: lateness, transportation, and failing drug test. Stephanie K. asked if there are ways that America Works plans to improve their program. Maryann M. response was that extensive paperwork should be eliminated, a liaison would be optimal and outreach is key.



(Discussion Outline)

Breaking the cycle of poverty exercise: the committee was divided into groups discussing solutions for the following:

1. Creating a challenge statement
2. Proposed solution (think of an unconventional way to address the challenge)
3. Why the solution will fail (this is the chance to become the armchair critic)
4. Final concept (generate an idea that resolves the issues raised)

Stephanie K. asked the committee for solutions on bridging the gap i.e. alternative schools. Fran K. cited that youth can quit school at the age of 16 in NJ and in PA this is not acceptable; a policy must be put into place, and there should be accountability factors. NJ youth are allowed 10 unexcused absences before any actions are taken. Stephanie K. also suggested that this concept be sent to Trenton as drop outs begin in the 8th grade. Alicia O. offered that while all of this is great we must also review the homelessness of the youth. All youth has the potential to succeed however if they do not have a stable home this will be impossible. As a committee if we are going to address Trenton with our concerns we should incorporate asking for additional funds for youth housing. Rev. Maddox added that due to WIOA funds are restricted therefor outside funding is key.

Rev. Maddox Summer youth presentation

The Employment Specialist will address the needs of the youth to the best of their abilities. The youth will have a Pre/Post TABE test. A youth focus group was formed in which youth participated in citing the things that is needed to make a more effective youth program:

- A. Not enough time in the program
- B. Youth expectations of the program are not being met
- C. The misconception of employment (jobs were promised but it never happened)

There are youth that need the program but they have aged out this is why other alternatives are necessary.

Youth Symposium

May 21, 2018 located at Stockton University

Fran K. Contract Explanation

(This information was excluded from the minutes due to confidentiality)

Adjourned 11:03am

