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Atlantic County Workforce Development Youth Committee Meeting 9:30am February 19, 2019

**Attendance**

Rhonda Lowery	Cynthia Torres	Jackie Adelman	Anne Dillon	Anne Finley
Latoyra Smith	Claire Millar	Stephanie Koch	Regina Pryor	Diana Strelczyk
Yolanda Allen	Curtis Still	Leesa Seymour	Ren Parikh	Connie Price

**Minutes**

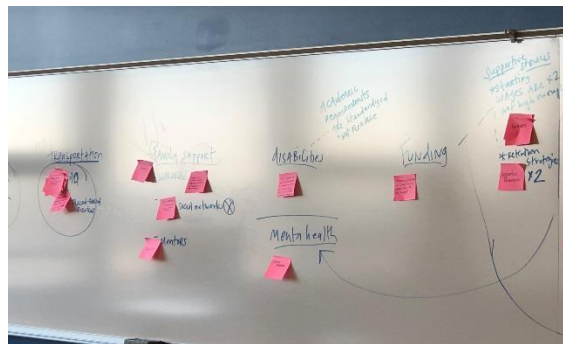
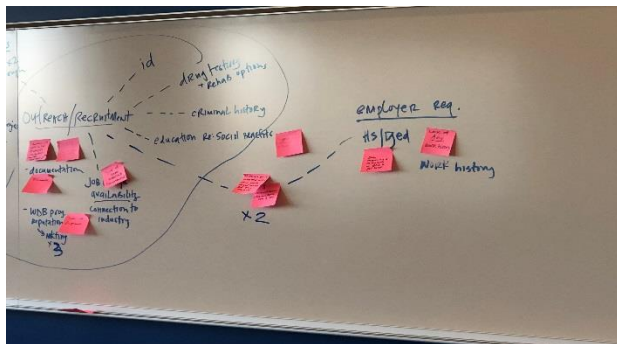
This meeting was called to order at 9:30am by the committee Chair Stephanie Koch. A motion was made by Diana Strelczyk to approve the minutes from a meeting held on November 20, 2018 and was seconded by Anne Dillon will all in favor.

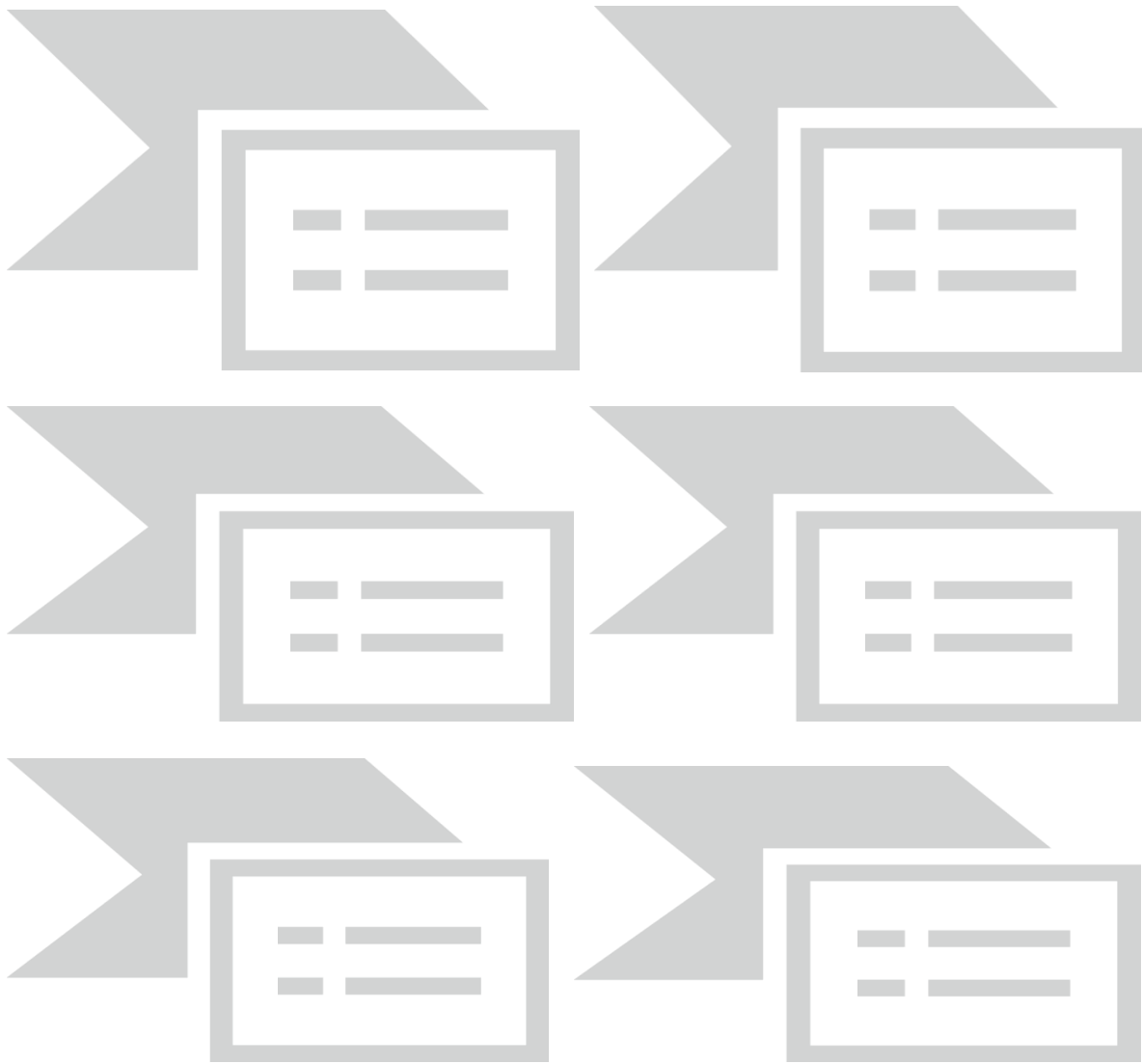
**Presentation**

This presentation was given by Latoyra Smith of JEVS Human Services. JEVS along with Stockton are collaboration to obtain jobs for the youth population. This collaborative endeavors to offer: Free Training/Certifications in the Hospitality Field, Job Placement, Cash Incentives, Transportation Assistance, Paid Trainings, Work Experience and Career Coaching. In partnering with Stockton Dining, Steve & Cookie’s, Bally’s, Harrah’s, and AtlantiCare this program can be successful in servicing youth 18-24 years of age. Enrollment is currently available please visit: [www.jevshumanservices.org/oyc-form/](http://www.jevshumanservices.org/oyc-form/). Diana Strelczyk further presented that the On Campus Hospitality Training is a nine-week program from January to June which provides bus tickets with a level of service of 14 and is currently working on the next cohort however the challenge is that most residents does not want housekeeping as a job which deters them from registering for this program. Smith added that each participant is taken through steps to achievement to which 50% has and will receive their diploma, we will also assist with Non-License ID; upon obtaining gainful employment the participant is followed for one year.

**Group Exercise**

This exercise focused on some of the barriers regarding out of school youth.





***Rhonda Lowery Executive Director***

Hire AC is funding a program that will hire ex-offenders to which the Hard Rock Casino is in favor of and will greatly support this endeavor.

Lowery states that there are youth that do not want to obtain their driver's license in lieu of the continuous transportation issues therefore they will seek employment locally. A driving school should be taken in consideration; Youth Corp offers a Driver's Ed class in their program. Regina Pryor added that Uber Headquarters is located in Vineland NJ and should be contacted. Lowery further added that there is a transportation shuttle in Egg Harbor Township NJ which services to the Blackhorse Pike. A representative from this committee should attend township meetings to convey out concerns and input; the bigger issue is outreach and recruitment to engage the youth in Atlantic County. The committee Chair has volunteered to represent.

**Summer Youth-** funding for this 8-week program is \$300,000 servicing youth 16-24 years of age beginning June 2019 ending in August 2019 with a level of service of 100 participants @\$10.50 per hour stipend. Eligibility, Drug and Background screenings will be completed on all youth chosen to participate. We are anticipating the employer response for this program and will be in contact with the Chamber as well as Stockton for employer and recruitment updates.

**Funding Freeze-** 60% funding will be frozen as of the end of February 2019. It was suggested that the performance measures should be looked at closely as well as technical support for providers.

In/Out of school Report- Cynthia Torres reports:

**Vendors:**

In School Youth- LOS 65    Enrolled 59    91% Fulfillment

Out of School Youth- LOS 175    Enrolled 60    Pending 14    34% Fulfillment

**Youth Program Totals:** LOS 240    Enrolled 119    Pending 14    50% Fulfillment

Youth Corp Report:

25 Enrolled

6 Completed

13 Diplomas

2 College

7 Employed

1 Adult Learning

1 Military

No Old Business

No New Business

Update

Yolanda Allen reports that the Learn & Earn RFP will come out for review in the coming months. A Youth Technical Support Assistant was recently hired to assist all Workforce Development Boards and Providers and is looking forward to expanding the Summer Youth Programs in 2020.

Adjourn 11:22am