



NEMO WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

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**NEMO Workforce Development Board
YOUTH COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
September 2, 2021**

PRESENT

Youth Council Members

Mark Chambers, Moberly Area Community College
Kristin Mosley, MACC Access & ADA Services
Stephanie Cooper, Douglas Community Services
Melissa Layman, Vocational Rehabilitation
Shannon Hinson, Adult Education & Literacy
Polly Matteson Truman University
Commissioner Chris Gamm, CLEO Chair

GUESTS

Sheree Prebe, Gamm, Inc.
Jim Kolve, WDB Member

NEMO Workforce Development Board Staff

Diane Simbro, NEMO WDB
Sharon Hillard, NEMO WDB
Wonda Hart, NEMO WDB

NOT PRESENT

Youth Council Members

Whitney Kertz, Westran School District
Polly Matteson, Truman University
Will Hays, LOQW
Michael Purol, NEMO WDB Chair
Kristin Plunkett, Probation and Parole Officer II
State of Missouri
Chuck Hartman, Employer

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairperson Mark Chambers called the September 2, 2021 Northeast Missouri Workforce Development Board (NEMO WDB) Youth Council (YC) meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m. The meeting was conducted through Zoom.

ROLL CALL AND SIGNATURE SHEET

Roll call was taken. Seven members participated and a quorum was established. A total of 12 individuals participated in the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

Stephanie Cooper moved to approve the agenda and minutes, and the motion was unanimously approved.

PERFORMANCE REPORTS

Diane said the Youth performance measures were the same as last year. The goals for those measures are negotiated for two years so they also remained the same. Program Year 21 Quarter 1 would not end until October 31 so the Quarter 1 Performance Reports were not yet available. The information should be available for review by the next Youth Council meeting.

MONITORING REPORT

Sharon Hillard said the PY21 Programmatic Monitoring was continuing and overall, the monitoring has shown significant improvement. Through September 1, 2021, 32 Youth files had been monitored. Six of those files were from Boonslick Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) and 26 were from Gamm. Forty comments were noted. The top issues are missing, incomplete or incorrect information in case notes, errors regarding the posting of activities, and individual skills gaps not clearly defined. In addition, the region is required to monitor for Data Element Validation (DEV). Seven Youth files were randomly selected for the PY20 Quarter 4 Data Element Validation and no fails were found. Sharon said learning the State Case Management System has been a long process for the case managers. However, they show a sincere desire to improve and their files reflect their efforts.

Diane said the State Compliance Monitors monitor the Regions every quarter as well. They do two desktop monitorings and two on-site monitorings. She thought the State planned to do their first on-site monitoring of the NE Region for PY21 sometime in October.

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

Diane shared the current YC Committee Structure. She noted that Mark Chambers is Chair and Melissa Layman is the Vice Chair of the YC. She said Alonna Kiser was our representative for Juvenile Justice and she retired. Chuck Hartman the YC employer representative was unable to participate and the Council decided to remove him from the Committee. Whitney Kertz a Guidance Counselor at Westran High School was also not able to participate. Ryan Poston was also listed as a member of the Committee representing the CLEOs. Ryan is no longer on the CLEO Executive Committee so she invited the CLEO Chair Chris Gamm to join today's meeting to see if he would like to fill that position or appoint another CLEO. Anyone with a suggestion of an individual(s) to fill these vacancies should contact Diane.

YOUTH FUNDING UPDATE FOR PY21 ISY & OST SPLIT

Diane said the region has a 10% cut in its youth funding. In addition, we also lost the statewide waiver for the ISY/OSY split. The last couple of years the waiver allowed us to use a 50/50 split. This year we are only able to use 25/75% split. The State is hoping to get that waiver back but they have to do some additional paperwork. They understand that we need to focus on youth that are still in school to get them on a career pathway. In the meantime, our numbers reflect the 25/75 split. For the ISY allocation, the total

is \$50,714.00 for PY21. For the OSY, we have \$152,143.00. Diane said this is not a lot of money and thank goodness we have our Job League and SkillUp funds to help supplement the Youth funding. Also, after an individual is 18 years of age, we can enroll them into our Adult Program.

Diane shared a graph that showed the progressive decrease in Youth funding since PY15. In PY15 we had \$499,288.00 in Youth funds. Currently for PY21, we have \$244,996.00. She said out of the \$244,996.00 we have a program operating budget of \$121,714.01 which goes to the subrecipients to pay their staff for case management. The amount remaining for participant cost is \$43,028.41. The Board gets \$42,139.31 for operational expense. When you review our Adult and DW funding you see the same decreases in funding. PY15 they had \$1,078,715.00 and now they have \$567,445.00. In Adult and DW, we have had a 57% decrease in funding since PY15. She said we did have some carryover dollars from last year that will help and the region will serve as many people as possible with the limited funds. After Quarter 1 or 2 we may have to make some adjustments on how much we pay per person for supportive services, etc. Currently, we pay up to \$7,500 per year for training and \$8,500 if the training is in our targeted sectors but we may have to decrease that as well.

Diane said she had applied to the State for additional funds for the BEST program because we have some other schools that are interested in beginning that program. The State told us that they love the program but their budgets have been decreased as well. They did say when we start getting low on our youth funds and it is going to endanger that program, we should resubmit the proposal. However, we wanted to expand the program into some of the other school systems that are interested and with our current budget, we are not able to do that. She is still searching for grants that might be help to make that possible. The directors across the state have been talking about some of the regions submitting for some of these grants jointly. We are looking at a lot of different things to increase our youth funds.

JOB LEAGUE PROGRAM AND YOUTH UPDATE

Diane said the Region received the Job League funding and it was about the same as last years. She felt like more funds might be available for the program if needed. No funds were obligated to BRPC this year as they had been unable to enroll anyone into the program for the last three years. She said when Gamm sees that it is totally obligated in the Job League Program, she would make a request to DFS for additional funds.

YOUTH DIRECTION

Diane sent the Youth Workforce GPS Newsletter to everyone for information only. She said one of the things she read in the newsletter was about youth homelessness and she wondered what everyone was seeing and or hearing about homelessness in their areas. Mark said he currently has several students that are searching for housing and resources. Melissa said they probably have one or two youth every year that are homeless. The cost of securing housing was discussed. Shannon said Adult Education sees this issue as well. She said a lot of the youth are just bouncing from family members or friends and they don't even realize that they are homeless. She said they see it in the Moberly area but it is much more prevalent in the Columbia area. Shannon said they try to partner with other agencies to see what they can do to assist. Diane said she was asking to see what the needs are and where the Committee needs to focus to help our youth move forward.

Stephanie Cooper said Douglas Community Services is seeing more requests for food. Youth are coming to their food pantry more and more often. She said 10 to 15% of the people they serve food to are under the age of 18 and are living independently. They are really seeing this shift of homelessness in youth that are transiting out of foster care. She said the communities don't have the resources set up to help these youth take that next step to become independent. They also have youth that may have had an encounter with juvenile justice as well. They are focusing on those youth that are transitioning. She said there is a push on a nation-wide level to help with this group as well. Stephanie said National Casa is pushing this issue because they are seeing this nationwide.

Diane said it was brought to her attention that some of the foster care youth suffer also from PTSD due to their circumstances. She felt the Council needed to work closer with Foster Care to see where it might assist.

The Youth Council was also provided information regarding the Missouri Association of Workforce Development (MAWD) and the National Association of Workforce Development Professional (NAWDP) regarding their upcoming conferences. Diane encouraged everyone to attend if possible.

YOUTH SERVICE PROVIDER UPDATES/REPORTS

- **Gamm, Inc.**

Sheree Prebe reviewed the report for Gamm, Inc. Total Out-of-School Youth (OSY) served was 38 and total In-School Youth (ISY) served was 14. Currently, any youth Gamm has in classroom training activities are being supported by other funds. They have two OSY and one ISY enrolled in work experiences. The types of work experience the youth are participating in include childcare worker, office assistant and food service worker. Sheree said Gamm has 15 youth enrolled into the Scholars at Work program and has expended \$3,750.00. Two participants have attained their HSE. Total incentives provided were two at a cost of \$100.00. Total expenditures for Supportive Services to date is \$814.30. Gamm has a total cost per participant of \$375.23 for ISY and \$541.87 for OSY.

- **Boonslick Regional Planning Commission (BRPC)**

Janet Hickey reviewed the report for BRPC. Total OSY served was 17 and total ISY served was 9. BRPC has two youth in classroom training activities. The youth are participating in welding and nursing. A total of \$2,276.00 has been spent. BRPC has zero OSY and one ISY enrolled into work experiences. This youth is participating in a janitorial work experience. BRPC had no youth enrolled into the Scholars at Work program. No supportive services and been expended. BRPC has a total cost per participant of \$2,508.57 for ISY and \$4,088.51 for OSY.

OTHER BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE – AGENCIES

Mark said they got school started off alright at MACC. They are doing an increased number of in-seat classes this year. All of their nursing classes are in-seat. Mark said he is also seeing an increase in the number of students HiSet testing and several of those want to go on to college.

Shannon Hinson said they were seeing an increase in enrollments as well. She said they had their HiSet recognition ceremony last Wednesday. They had 114 graduates and 38 attended. Due to COVID, their program was virtual the entire year. This year they are providing a mixture of options at each of their locations. They started off really well this year and their enrollments are very strong. She said she is also seeing an increasing in literacy level students over the last couple of years.

Stephanie Cooper said she has been working with Corey Mehaffy and the Workforce Summit Planning Committee to host the Workforce Summit that they held in Hannibal for the past couple of years. However, due to the pandemic, that did not take place. The focus of the Workforce Summit was going to be small business and youth and workforce. A group of us decided that there were still pieces of the Workforce Summit that were very important and needed to be presented in some fashion. So, we met and decided the activities and projects we planned (youth job fairs, youth workforce summit, STEM camp and leadership development) were important enough for us to start something on a more regional basis. The group is meeting again in-person on September 21 to flush out some of the activities. Stephanie said the group is just getting started and she encouraged anyone that may have an interest in being a part of this group to reach out to her.

Kristin Mosley said she works in the MACC Access and ADA Services Office. They work with students who have disabilities and limitations. They are very busy with new students and those

returning from last year helping them to get accommodations in place. She asked those who were in contact with college students who had limitations to please forward them to her.

Melissa Layman said her agency helps individuals with disabilities of all ages who are needing assistance getting employment. She said they completed their summer youth employment program. School was starting back again and they have been working with high school seniors and will be recruiting juniors for next year's summer employment program. They were busy assisting the high school seniors and adults with their employment goals. This is a busy time for them as everyone is headed back to college and all the paper work has to be completed. She said their case loads in Columbia are pretty high.

Diane said the Access Committee is holding a Reverse Job Fair on October 21 at Hannibal LaGrange University in Hannibal. The job fair is for individuals with disabilities, justice involved individuals and older workers. Kara Berlin-Bates is the head of that committee and she will be reaching out to individuals for any job ready participants that would like to participate. Diane said the job fairs that have been held throughout this summer have reported that a lot more youth are attending. Diane also talked about the Town Hall meeting that was held in Hannibal, MO. She said Dr. Leathers was very pleased with the participation. She said they would be meeting again, after all the town hall meetings were held, to discuss where they might have an impact.

Diane introduced Pike County Presiding Commissioner Chris Gamm who is serving as the CLEO Chairperson. She welcomed him to the meeting. Chris said it was great to be working with everyone in the development of the region's youth. He noted that he was concerned in the decreasing MAP scores in the area. He said he looks forward to working with everyone through the next year.

Jim Kolve talked about his conversation with Paul Smith from ADC Construction. He said Paul likes to partner with community colleges and he likes to work with youth prior to their senior year to try to get them interested in the construction field. Jim said he would be working with Paul regarding a layoff in Mexico, MO.

Polly Matteson said she was working to try to get into the schools and she is setting up meetings with counselors. She has several technology items that she is taking into the schools. She is trying to get the students started thinking earlier about careers. She said it is a busy time for everyone. She talked about the Perkins money she has available. She said the main thing she hears is job seekers need employability skills.

NEXT MEETING DATE/LOCATION

The tentative date for the next Youth Council meeting was scheduled for December 2nd or 9th. Diane will send a poll to the committee members to decide the date.

ADJOURNMENT

Polly Matteson moved that the meeting be adjourned. Kristin Mosley seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:40 am.