

Youth Committee Meeting Minutes

**Randy Guttenberg, Co-Chair—Youth
Elizabeth Roddy, Co-Chair—Youth
Francis Langer, Board Chair
Laura Cataldo, Past-Chair
Michelle Eilbes, Fred Hebert, Chuck Klein,
Jennifer Klein, Pam Korth,
Melissa Montey, Charles Poches,
Lisa Pollard, Calvin White Eagle, Hugh Wing**

**Thursday, September 14, 2023
9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.**

**Madison Area Technical College
Foundations Centre – Room 113
3591 Anderson Street
Madison, WI 53704**

Members Present: Randy Guttenberg, Co-Chair; Elizabeth Roddy, Co-Chair; Thomas Cox, Chuck Klein, Francis Langer, Charles Poches, Lisa Pollard, Hugh Wing, Calvin White Eagle

Staff Present: Seth Lentz, Lameece Tyne, Jackie Hall, Chris Ziegel, Becca Collins, Jeff Westra

Guests Present: Del Underbakke; Mari Kay-Nabozny, Executive Director of the Northwest Workforce Development Board

Agenda Item 1 – Welcome and Introductions

Roddy called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. and welcomed everyone. Everyone introduced themselves.

Agenda Item 2 – Review and Approval of the February 2, 2023 Youth Committee Minutes

Roddy asked for a motion to approve the February 2, 2023 Youth Committee minutes as presented. Langer moved to approve the motion as presented. Poches offered the second. No discussion followed on this motion. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Agenda Item 3 – Grants and Program Updates

Lentz directed Members to the Grants Summary handout and provided updates on 2023-2024 Youth Apprenticeship grant, the 2020-2023 State Apprenticeship Expansion (SAE2020), and the 2023-2024



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QUEST National Dislocated Worker Grant. The QUEST grant is targeted at workforce development initiatives for the childcare industry. Thus far we have been working in partnership with Madison Metropolitan School District (MMSD) and Madison College on developing work-based learning and enhancement trainings that could be delivered within the region.

Lentz covered updates to the 2020-2025 Independent Living grant and the 2021-2024 Worker Advancement Initiative grant.

Hall began with a comprehensive summary on the 2022-2023 Youth Apprenticeship grant. \$768,000 was awarded by the Department of Workforce Development (DWD). Programming occurs in Dane and Jefferson Counties. 699 students were served in fiscal year 2022-2023. 58 youth apprenticeships have moved into registered apprenticeship roles. The grant award for fiscal year 2023-2024 amounts to \$706,152 to serve 642 students. The region is experiencing higher enrollments within the Health Science (16.5%) and Architecture & Construction (15.3%) fields.

Cox asked about youth apprenticeship in Sauk County.

Hall responded that Cooperative Education Service Agency (CESA) 5 administers the Youth Apprenticeship grant in Sauk County.

Lentz added that collaborations have been made with CESA 5 in prior years.

Roddy shared that she is also involved with the CESA 5 YA Steering Committee and they are also doing great work in their region.

Lentz highlighted collaborations with DWD to sponsor youth apprenticeship within the state's IT department. The state has since offered to hire the apprentice. Other IT industry employers are engaging in the use of youth and registered apprenticeships.

Pollard acknowledged CESA 6 administers youth apprenticeship in Dodge County.

C. Klein inquired about strategies or suggestions for convincing employers to increase engagement of youth apprenticeship.

Langer emphasized that Nestlé Purina Pet Car Co in Jefferson County has adding a youth apprentice and explained the benefits associated with the employment.

Wing commented the city has an interest in summer internships within IT.

Roddy explained the differences between internships, apprenticeships, and job shadows, noting that the IT field rarely utilizes apprenticeships.

Hall provided detailed information on the 2020-2025 Independent Living grant. The grant amount of \$370,000 was awarded to the Board by the Department of Children and Families (DCF). 144 youth have been engaged this program year. Services provided include housing, postsecondary education, and employment.

Cox inquired on age restrictions pertaining to the grant.

Hall confirmed 18 years of age is the cutoff and cited partners collaborating throughout the region.

Wing emphasized that the city of Madison has received an employment grant to partner with the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) on their offering of the YWeb Career Academy. The grant provides the city with offering up to \$75,000 in wages for participants who are homeless or abused.

Collins spoke on the 2021-2024 Worker Advancement Initiative (WAI) grant. \$2 million has been sub awarded via The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. The grant helps to support individuals whose employment and/or economic status was negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic by offering subsidized employment and skills-training opportunities with local employers. 99 individuals between the ages of 16 and 24 have been served under WAI. 70% of these individuals have self-identified themselves as being a racial/ethnic minority. Many of these participants are co-enrolled with other programs administered by the Board, such as WIOA In-School Youth, WIOA Out-of-School Youth, and DCF's Independent Living.

Collins stated increased flexibility provides increased support and innovations. Remunerations include participation incentives, completion bonuses, training-related employment incentives, and employment retention bonuses. The grant provides increased access to available training programs as WIOA regulation prevents funding of training to providers who are not on DWD's Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL). Trainings offered for the region include Biotechnology Youth Apprenticeship classes, Certified Nursing Assistant classes, and Basic Gas Tungsten Arc Welding classes.

Lentz added that the grant also improves the Board's relationships with community-based organizations in providing continuous enhancements in their existing offerings.

Wing requested confirmation the monies is limited ARPA funding.

Collins confirmed.

Lentz commented that Board staff are considering the offering of needs-related payments, their requirements, and updates to current policies.

Agenda Item 4 – Program Data Review



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Hall presented regional system volume data and celebrated that WDA10 is serving the second-highest volume in the state.

Hall described the system design for program year 2022 (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023). 59 participants engaged within In-School Youth programs. 133 participants engaged in Out-of-School Youth programs. These efforts include work experience or post-secondary preparation support.

Cox inquired on concerns of increasing participant volume.

Lentz clarified the increase of volume is in part due to a larger reach out within the region.

Roddy highlighted the increased carryover and requested detail on capacity limits.

Hall responded that there are no issues with spending out allocated funding.

Hall went on to convey that the WIOA Youth Participant Profile, which consists of 192 participants served, 90 exiting to employment with an average of \$9.25 an hour for In-School Youth, and \$17.73 an hour for Out-of-School Youth. The design provides strategic investment to support postsecondary education and/or employment.

Cox asked why the current program year has such a large increase in participants who self-attest to being disabled.

Hall explained that youth in secondary school are required to have an academic and career plan, and if they have a documented disability they may also have an individual education plan (IEP). The WIOA program services can be a resource to support the student's IEP and is also used as part of the program eligibility and documentation process.

Hall provided an overview of the Federal Performance Scorecard. All metrics have been met or exceeded.

Agenda Item 5 – Pipeline Initiatives

Westra acknowledged pipeline initiatives undertaken by Board staff throughout the program year.

Mini Manufacturing World is a week-long camp for fifteen eligible K-12 students to experience manufacturing via a simulated manufacturing facility. Partnerships for the initiative include Kruger Family Industries, Teel, Flambeau, Seats, McFarlanes' Manufacturing, and Madison College. Over 500 hours were invested to develop, refine the framework, and facilitate the student engagements.

Nuts, Bolts & Thingamajigs incorporates summer camps taking place in technical high schools and community colleges across the country and provides students with a simulated manufacturing



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environment, building Beaver Dam Tip-Ups. Students gain exposure to hands-on learning, manufacturing facilities, and the skills needed for high-tech manufacturing careers.

Future Quest provides career exploration services for 7th and 8th graders with participating Dane County school districts. The 2022 event was attended by over 5,000 students. The event provides a hands-on opportunity to meet with employers in 16 different career clusters. The next Future Quest event is set for November 29, 2023 at the Alliant Energy Center.

Hall shared her experiences from the event and suggested Board Member businesses to participate at the next event offering.

Cox questioned about other career exploration opportunities for freshmen and sophomores.

Hall summarized that the Future Quest events engage youth initially with strong ties and referrals into Youth Apprenticeship.

Wing added that the City of Madison also invests into youth apprenticeship for summer employment.

Roddy noted Academic and Career planning which is a requirement for the school districts.

Lentz thanked Westra for his presentation.

Agenda Item 6 – Road Trip Nation

Lentz introduced Mari Kay-Nabozny, Executive Director of the Northwest Workforce Development Board.

Kay-Nabozny provided Board Members with a presentation on the state of Wisconsin’s Road Trip Nation proposal.

Lentz thanked Kay-Nabozny for the time and information provided.

Agenda Item 7 – Adjournment

With no additional business for the Committee, Guttenberg motioned to adjourn at 11:26 a.m. Poches motioned. C Klein seconded.

Adjourned: 11:26 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Pam Christenson
Board Secretary
Workforce Development Board of South Central Wisconsin, Inc.

Attachments for Board Records:

- Minutes from September 8, 2022
- Youth Presentation PowerPoint
- Grants Summary Handout



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