

Merced County Workforce Investment Board Youth Council

Merced County Office of Education, J-2

632 W. 13th Street, Merced, CA

February 11, 2009 – 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.

Meeting Agenda



<http://www.co.merced.ca.us/wi/youth/youth.html>

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Approve Agenda
3. Approve Minutes (October 8, 2008)
4. Public Opportunity to Speak
5. Announcements.....
6. Action Agenda
- a. Ad-hoc Committee to Update Youth Resource Directory Alfredo Mendoza
- b. Youth Council Member Termination – Ms. Deloris Sharp..... Alfredo Mendoza
7. Presentation
- a. CalGRIP Video (15 minutes)..... Alfredo Mendoza
8. Reports
- a. CA Workforce Association Youth ConferenceNancy Silva and Alfredo Mendoza
9. Information Agenda
- a. Empower Quarterly Report Rebecca Lincoln
- b. YOP Quarterly Report..... Rebecca Lincoln
10. Chair Comments/Roundtable/Future Agenda Items
11. Date/Time/Location of Next Meeting – March 11, 2009, 4:00 p.m., MCOE-J-2, 632 W 13th Street, Merced,
12. Adjourn

Workforce Investment Board of Merced County Youth Council

MC Office of Education, Newbold Room

632 W. 13th Street, Merced, CA

Wednesday, October 8, 2008 – 4-5:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

<http://web.co.merced.ca.us/wi/youth/meetingpkts/meetingpkts.html>



MERCED COUNTY YOUTH COUNCIL

Members Present: Stephanie Busbea, Claudia Corchado (Vice Chair), Martha Dueñas, Alexander Hall, Kathy Hassett, Taide Hernandez, Holly Newlon, Rick Osorio, Rebecca Rodriguez-Lincoln, Nancy A. Silva, Vann (Mike) Smith

Members Absent: Bob Bittner, Rennise Ferrario (Chair), Mary Jane Hawkes, Richard Mahacek, Stefani Martinez, Edgar Perez, Deloris Sharp, Nancy Vega-Mendoza

Others Present: Lee Andersen, Patricia Evans, Dee Knight, Alfredo Mendoza

- 1. Call to Order/Roll Call:** The Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. Roll call was taken.
- 2. Approved Agenda:** It was *M/S/C Hassett/Silva* to approve the agenda.
- 3. Approve Minutes:** It was *M/S/C Hall/Smith* to approve the August 19, 2008 minutes.
- 4. Public Opportunity to Speak:** None.
- 5. Announcements:** Ms. Taide Hernandez noted the Annual Teen Summit (ages 14-19) would be held on Oct 25, 2008, at the Boys & Girls Club. There will be several workshops. Anyone interested in setting up a booth, please call her at 357-8224. Also, donations are being accepted to put together “goody bags” for the kids.

Ms. Kathy Hassett noted there would be a “Pedal Merced” on Sunday, Oct 12, 2008, at 10 a.m., beginning and ending at Merced High School (using the bike path). All youth must be 18 years or younger and accompanied by an adult. Lunch will be provided, and the cost is \$25 per family or \$10 per person. They also need volunteers to help with the registration at Merced High School.

The Chair distributed flyers on the Binational Festival of Health and Life, which will be Saturday, Oct 11, 2008, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., at the Merced Flea & Farmers Market. Free health assessments will be given to everyone who attends.

Mr. Lee Andersen noted “Lights On After School” would be Thursday, Oct 16, 2008, 6-8:30 p.m., on Main Street and Bob Hart Square. This is a free event for families, and many activities and entertainment will be provided. Also, at the same time the Merced Arts Council is having the “Art Hop” in the same location, which is also free. The Multicultural Arts Center will be open, and several businesses on Main Street will be open with art on display.

6. Action Agenda:

a. Youth Program Funding Levels: It was *M/S/C Smith/Osorio (abstain Newlon/Rodriguez-Lincoln)* to recommend to the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) that the funding levels for PY 2009/10 be 50% for younger youth and 50% for older youth.

b. Amendment to In-School Youth Contract: It was *M/S/C Osorio/Hall (abstain Newlon/-Rodriguez-Lincoln)* to recommend to the WIB that the In-School Youth carryover funds be split 50/50 to younger youth and older youth programs, and then forward to the Board of Supervisor (BOS) for approval.

Staff was asked to change the percentages in the last paragraph.

c. Amendment to Out-of-School Youth Contract: It was *M/S/C Hall/Hassett (abstain Newlon/-Rodriguez-Lincoln)* to recommend to the WIB that the Out-of-School Youth carryover funds be split 50/50 to younger youth and older youth programs, and forward to the BOS for approval.

d. Youth Council Membership – Patricia Evans: It was *M/S/C Hall/Smith* to approve Ms. Evans' application for membership, and forward to the WIB for approval.

7. Discussion:

a. and b. YOP and Empower Quarterly Reports (Apr-Jun): Ms. Becky Rodriguez-Lincoln gave an overview of the YOP and Empower quarterly reports. She noted the Summer Youth Program was a success, and the focus of the curriculum was on Employability Portfolio and Financial Literacy. She asked everyone to take note of the Success Stories. The Empower Workshop is held every other month, and the next one will start Nov 7, 2008, 9 a.m. A schedule will be distributed at the next meeting.

8. Presentations:

a. Video: A Vision of Students Today: The students in this video grew up in a digital environment. After watching the video, Mr. Lee Andersen facilitated a discussion on the use of electronics. He noted our educational system is way behind in the use of electronics. Our students today are “digital natives”, and the majority of adults are “digital immigrants”. The following topics were discussed: 1) Laptop Programs, 2) Smart Boards (electronic blackboards), 3) Generational Groups, and 4) Wireless Access System.

Another video, “Shake It Up”, was presented that dealt with the new world of educational training. Mr. Anderson suggested that the Youth Council have a presentation from an educator who is well informed on the use of modern technology, and a few students who have opinions on the use of technology.

9. Information Agenda:

a. CWA Youth Conference: Staff noted the Youth Conference would be Jan 20-22, 2009, in Long Beach, CA. The Youth Council can send two people. Anyone interested in attending, please call Mr. Mendoza at 724-2044. This will be an agenda item at the next meeting.

10. Chair Comments/Roundtable/Future Agenda Item: The Vice Chair asked staff to call those inactive members to find out if they are still interested in being a part of the Youth Council.

The Vice Chair noted a focus group would be formed to contact youth to find out what kinds of things they would like on the website, and what would be helpful to them.

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Future agenda item is to have students come and express their opinions on the use of technology.

11. Date, Time and Location of Next Youth Council Meeting: November 12, 2008, 4:00 p.m., Merced County Office of Education, Newbold Room, 632 W 13th Street, Merced.

12. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Dee Knight

TO: Youth Council

DATE: 2/11/2009

FROM: Youth Council Staff

For Action

For Information

For Discussion

SUBJECT: Ad-hoc Committee to Update Youth Resource Directory

PROPOSED MOTION(S): That the Youth Council create an Ad-hoc Committee to update the online Youth Resource Directory.

DISCUSSION: The Youth Resource Directory needs updating (to include new organizations). The Youth Council's goal is to update the online directory every year, and the printed directory every two years. A plan to update the directory may include the following:

- 1. Dividing number of pages into the group.**
- 2. Place database on desktops of all members.**
- 3. Each member will update pages assigned.**
- 4. Each member will copy entire database onto disk and bring to meeting or staff may copy database by other means available.**
- 5. Information will be updated in main database and uploaded to the website.**

ATTACHMENT(S): N/A

TO: Youth Council

DATE: 2/11/09

FROM: Youth Council Staff

For Action

For Information

For Discussion

SUBJECT: Youth Council Membership Termination – Ms. Deloris Sharp

PROPOSED MOTION(S): That the Youth Council remove the membership of Ms. Deloris Sharp for nonactivity.

DISCUSSION: On December 10, 2008, Youth Council staff shared that numerous attempts to contact Ms. Deloris Sharp have failed, and recommended removing Ms. Sharp from the Youth Council at its next regularly scheduled meeting. The effective membership termination date will be February 11, 2009.

ATTACHMENT(S): N/A

To: **Alfredo Mendoza:** Department of Workforce Investment
From: **Rebecca Lincoln:** Merced County Office of Education
Re: **Merced County Youth Council Quarterly Report:** Empower Program
Date: **Program Year 08/09 first quarter report:** July, August, and September 2008

A. Overall status of the program:

There are presently 117 active participants in EMPOWER at the end of the first quarter; this past quarter the program had eight new enrollments and forty-five exits. The Empower advisors continue to track the number of participants enrolled in structured program activities to ensure that the majority of youth are receiving intensive services, as opposed to case management services. The status on WIA-Client action reports for goals, activities, exits and follow-ups (phase II) remain up to date.

B. Past Quarter Highlights:

- 1) **EMPOWER Workshops:** Staff updated and restructured the EMPOWER Workshops over the summer. The EMPOWER Workshops were provided to youth only in the month of September this quarter. The following is an accounting of workshops offered and number attended:
 - a) **EMPOWER Orientation:** Conducted on Friday September 12th had an attendance of forty-three youth;
 - b) **EMPOWER Workshop I:** ‘*Gettin’ Ready for the Job*’ conducted on Friday, September 19 had sixteen youth in attendance;
 - c) **EMPOWER Workshop II:** ‘*The Real Game California*’ was conducted on September 22, 24 & 26 had an average attendance of fifteen participants per session;
 - d) **EMPOWER Workshop III:** ‘*Gettin’ a Job*’ was conducted on September 24, 26 and 28 with an average attendance of twelve participants per session.

- 2) **Bldg K-Computer Lab:** EMPOWER participants use the computer lab daily to work on résumés, portfolios, and conduct job search. *PLATO* is educational software designed to increase math and reading skills, it is also available to the participants in the computer lab. Sign-in sheets are used to track the number of participants using the computer lab daily.

- 3) **Cell Phones for Soldiers-** The YOP and EMPOWER programs are proud to support our U.S. Troops by being a drop-off site for unused cell phones at the Merced County Office of Education, Bldg K. More than 150,000 troops are serving overseas and away from their families. *Cell Phones for Soldiers* and Merced County Office of Education are calling on Merced communities to support our brave men and women by donating unused cell phones. It is a goal to collect over 50,000 cell phones to keep our troops connected with their families.

Cell Phones for Soldiers was created by Brittany and Bobbie Bergquist of Norwell, MA. After reading a story about a soldier who ran up a huge phone bill calling home from Iraq, these two teenagers decided to help and came up with the idea of collecting old cell phones. The cell phones are recycled for cash and the proceeds are used to buy prepaid calling cards for our soldiers serving in the Middle East. For more information, please visit www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com

- 4) **Common Measure Training:** YOP and EMPOWER staff along with DWI staff participated in a six hour training at Merced County Office of Education, Newbold Room on August 20,2008. The implementation of the Common Measure Policy from the Employment and Training Administration (ETA), where one set of measures will be used for common measure reporting purposes and WIA Section 136 performance accountability purposes for all youth programs. The training included an overview of the Ten WIA elements for youth services; definitions of the youth common measures; and how the measures can be successfully obtained. The new Common Youth Measures as are follows:

Placement in Employment or Education: the number of in-school and out-of-school youth who are in employment (including military) or enrolled in post-secondary education and / or advanced training / occupational training in the first quarter after exit.

Attainment of a Degree or Certificate: the number of in-school and out-of-school youth who attained a diploma, GED or Certificate by the end of the third quarter after the exit quarter.

Literacy and Numeracy Gains: number of out –of-school youth, basic skills deficient who increase one or more educational functioning levels with in a year.

- 5) **EMPOWER Success Story:** (*no picture available*)

Jaime Berlanga entered the Empower Program on June 3, 2005; an out of school youth, high school graduate with employment difficulties. He completed the ROP Marketing Working Professional Workshop, where he learned budgeting skills, group interaction, time management, career exploration, and completed an employment portfolio. After the workshops, Jaime was placed on a work experience site to gain experience with hopes of getting a job. After completing the work experience hours, Jamie decided to enroll in Merced College at the Los Banos Campus where the Empower program assisted him with purchasing his school books. Jaime was doing very well and was an excellent student.

In his second semester at Merced College, Jaime became involved in gang activities and ended up serving time in jail. This caused Jaime to lose his financial aid for college, and without a job and no income, he was unable to go back to college when he was released. He started to do some job search, but with little work experience, he was unable to obtain employment. Unfortunately, Jaime continued to be involved with gangs in the year 2007 - 2008, and ended up serving time again.

In April 2008, Jaime was released and contacted his EMPOWER advisor to work on setting achievable goals that would help him get back on track. Jamie decided he was done with the gang life and was ready to begin a new productive life. He had to enroll in Drug and Alcohol class for Prop 36, which he still attends today and is doing very well. Since his release, he has obtained his driver's license and with the job leads given him; Jaime was able to obtain employment. He is now employed full time with full benefits at Kagome as a certified forklift driver. He has his own apartment, cell phone and a bank account. Jaime now enjoys his life as contributing member of society.

C. Past Quarter Deficiencies: none

D. Past Quarter recruiting and marketing efforts:

Recruiting efforts for EMPOWER is limited. The contract specified that as participants exit, new participants will be enrolled in the following quarter after exits dependent upon availability of funds.

E. Next quarter challenges:

G. Technical assistance needed:

H. Number of clients receiving social services and examples of services received.

Numerous referrals have been made to agencies to assist with food, clothing, housing and transportation.

To: **Alfredo Mendoza:** Department of Workforce Investment
From: **Rebecca Lincoln:** Merced County Office of Education
Re: **Merced County Youth Council Quarterly Report:** Younger Youth Program
Date: **Program Year 08/09 first quarter report:** July, Aug, and September 2008

A. Overall status of the program:

There are presently **107** active participants in Youth Opportunity Program at the end of the first program quarter. There were no new enrollments and forty-seven exits that resulted in **93.2%** attainment of basic skills, work readiness and/or occupational goals and a **90.9%** exited with high school diploma. The status on all WIA- YOP Client action reports for goals, activities, exits and follow-ups (phase II) remain up to date.

B. Past Quarter Highlights:

1) **The YOP summer employment** component began on June 09 2008; approximately one hundred participants worked this summer with local employers and agencies. The Mentors met with site supervisors to develop training plans for the participants who worked up to 32 hours per week. *The YOP Summer 2008 workshop; an 18 hours course* was facilitated to all the participants in three-hour per week segments through-out the six-week summer component. The summer curriculum included individual career assessments, job search, creating an Employability portfolio; to include a résumé and cover letter. The summer workshop included a financial literacy component that included budgeting, opening a checking account and facts about credit

2) **Career Industry Day Events in 2008-2009:** These ROP sponsored events provide youth with detailed information and exploration of specific career pathways. Career Industry Days include tours of local businesses, guest speaker presentations, and hands-on activities related to various careers within a pathway. Career Industry Days are held from 8:30 am to 2:00 pm at the Merced County Fair Grounds in the Pavilion Building, unless otherwise indicated. The YOP Mentors are encouraged to invite those participants whose career goals or technical training aligned with these pathways. The following is the list and dates for the upcoming **Career**

Industry Days:

- Careers in Business, Marketing and Computer Information Systems on October 23, 2008
- Careers in Arts and Communications on Thursday, November 20, 2008
- Careers in Education held on Thursday, January 15, 2009
- Careers in Automotive Services (at the Atwater Training Center) on February 12, 2009
- Careers in Health on Tuesday, March 10, 2009

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Literacy and Numeracy Gains: number of out-of-school youth, basic skills deficient who increase one or more educational functioning levels with in a year.

- C. Past quarter deficiencies: none**
- D. Past quarter recruiting/marketing efforts:** Recruiting efforts for YOP are limited
- E. Next quarter challenges:**
- F. Technical assistance needed:**