

**Merced County Workforce Investment Board  
Youth Council**



**Dept of Workforce Investment (Large Conf. Room)  
1880 Wardrobe Avenue, Merced, CA  
November 18, 2009 – 3:30 to 5:00 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 (September 16 and October 21, 2009) .....
  4. Public Opportunity to Speak .....
  5. Announcements (Roundtable) .....
  6. Discussion Agenda.....
    - a. Review and Discussion of Youth Council Goals..... Debbie Glass
  7. Action Agenda .....
  - a. Recommendations to the WIB for Youth Funds..... Alfredo Mendoza
  - b. California Workforce Association Youth Conference Attendees..... Alfredo Mendoza
  8. Presentations .....
  - a. 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Youth Program Expenditures ..... Jackie Walther-Parnell
  9. Information .....
  - a. Disposition of 09/10 Youth Resource Directories ..... Alfredo Mendoza
  - b. Empower 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Report (July – Sept)..... Holly Newlon
  - c. YOP 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Report (July – Sept) ..... Holly Newlon
  10. Chair Comments/Future Agenda Items .....
  11. Date/Time and Location of Next Meeting – December 16, 2009, 3:30 p.m., MCOE, Bldg M  
632 W 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Merced .....
  12. Adjourn .....

# Workforce Investment Board of Merced County Youth Council

MC Office of Education, Newbold Room  
632 W. 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Merced, CA

Wednesday, September 16, 2009 – 3:30-4:00 p.m.

## Meeting Minutes



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

---

**Members Present:** Bob Bittner, Martha Dueñas, John Fowler, Debbie Glass (Chair), Mary Jane Hawkes, Richard Mahacek, Nellie McGarry, Holly Newlon, Nancy A. Silva, Vann (Mike) Smith

**Members Absent:** Stephanie Busbea, Claudia Corchado (Vice Chair), Patricia Evans, Alexander Hall, Taide Hernandez, Henry Ildefonso, Rick Osorio, Edgar Perez, Atenas Vallejo

**Others Present:** Bernedette Castaneda, Patricia Hinson, Alfredo Mendoza, Maria Negrete, Joanne Presnell, Jacqueline Walther-Parnell, Linda Xiong

---

1. Call to Order/Roll Call: The Chair, Ms. Debbie Glass, noted at 3:38 p.m. there was no quorum so the Youth Council will listen to the announcements. After the announcements, the chair called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m. Roll call was taken.

2. Approve Agenda: It was *M/S/C Fowler/Newlon* to approve the agenda as published.

3. Approve Minutes: It was *M/S/C Newlon/Smith* to approve the July 15, 2009 minutes as published.

4. Public Opportunity to Speak—Ms. Linda Xiong, Central California Alliance Program, attended because she is considering membership on the Youth Council.

Ms. Maria Negrete, Employment Development Department-Youth Employment Opportunity Program, attended because she is considering membership on the Youth Council.

Staff introduced Ms. Eve Snelling, who is now part of the Workforce Investment Board staff team. She will be attending Youth Council meetings.

5. Announcements: Mr. Edgar Perez noted Central Valley Opportunity Center, CVOC is in the process of hiring a coordinator to start a new High School Equivalency Program in collaboration with the CVOC Modesto office. This program will focus on youth ages 16-21.

Ms. Holly Newlon noted 9 youth are in Camp Green Meadows Outdoor School attending the Green Corps Job training funded through the Governor's 15% American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds. Some of the youth will be co-enrolled in the Empower Program.

Ms. Nellie McGarry noted the Boys and Girls Club summer program was a success. Thanks to the Summer Youth Program participants and the Summer Youth counselors, there was an increase in enrollment this year. Approximately 60 youth are visiting the Boys and Girls Club daily.

Ms. Nancy Silva noted a young man enrolled in and finished the Summer Youth Program is now working at Rancho San Miguel. The Probation Department is very proud of this young man.

Ms. Mary Jane Hawkes noted there are two upcoming programs at Castle Challenger Learning Center: 1) September 19, 2009, Challenger Chapel Building, a UC Merced professor will facilitate a workshop on Science and Psychology. This workshop is targeted for Jr. High School students. There will be two other workshops, one in October and another one in November. 2) On Friday, October 16, 2009, the Castle Science & Technology Center will host an open house to the public. Additionally there will be 7 new exhibits, with staff from Merced College and NASA talking about the lunar launch. Ms. Hawkes noted that last year's event was a success.

Mr. Bob Bittner noted he enjoyed having Summer Youth participants working at the Employment Development Department. Mr. Bittner noted they worked very hard and enjoyed what they were doing.

Staff noted the Green Jobs Corps Program is in full gear. The outdoor training was divided in two different sessions to accommodate youth living in either north or south counties. The program will give outdoor training to 131 youths throughout the San Joaquin Valle, and will fulfill one of the program requirements entitled 'environmental stewardship. Staff will give a full report after the trainings are completed.

Mr. Richard Mahacek noted the UCCE 4-H Program will be facilitating workshops and sessions. The sessions are geared to develop skills in presenting science topics in nonformal settings such as, youth groups, afterschool, park and recreational programs and others. Most sessions are scheduled every 4th Wednesday of each month from 6:00-8:00 p.m. The sessions are targeted for teens and adults. Two weekend workshops will be held on September 25-26, 2009 and February 5-6, 2010. For more information on current dates and topics for the sessions, contact the UCCE office or visit the website, <http://merced4h.ucdavis.edu>.

6. Action Agenda:

a. Disposition of Unspent Year-Round Youth Funding – It was *M/S/C Smith/McGarry* (Abstain: Newlon) to accept option (h) as the recommendation for disposition of unspent year-round funding.

Staff voiced concerns that in previous years, Merced County Office of Education has not spent all the funding allocated to the Youth Opportunity Program (YOP). Following are the recommendations of option (h):

- 1.) Modify Contract No. 2009149 by replacing \$175,000 of ARRA funds in (Out-of-School Youth) with up to \$267,783 unspent WIA formula funds, and
- 2.) Modify Contract No. 2009148 by replacing \$175, 000 of ARRA funds in (In-School Youth) with up to \$225,000 unspent WIA formula funds; and
- 3.) Authorize the Department of Workforce Investment to utilize up to \$350,000 of ARRA funds to continue the Work Experience Program to serve approximately 140, 18-24 year-old youth in Merced County, and forward to the Board of Supervisors for approval.
- 4.) Members recommended using up to \$47, 217.00 of remaining funds for travel, training and other Youth Council activities.

7. Chair Comments/Roundtable/Future Agenda Item: Future presentations for next meeting agenda: Mr. Richard Mahacek will present at the next Youth Council meeting.

Members would like to know how much money is available to spend and would like a list of restrictions regarding how the money could be spent and what travel is allowed through available funds.

8. Date, Time and Location of Next Youth Council Meeting: October 21, 2009, Location, Merced County Office of Education, Newbold Room.

9. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

# Workforce Investment Board of Merced County Youth Council

UC Cooperative Extension (Ag Building)

2145 Wardrobe Ave, Merced, CA

Wednesday, October 21, 2009 – 3:30-4:00 p.m.

## Meeting Minutes



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

---

**Members Present:** Melissa Abby, Bob Bittner, Robert Bender, Claudia Corchado (Vice Chair), Martha Dueñas, John Fowler, Debbie Glass (Chair), Alexander Hall, Mary Jane Hawkes, Richard Mahacek, Holly Newlon, Rick Osorio, Edgar Perez, Nancy A. Silva, Vann (Mike) Smith

**Members Absent:** Stephanie Busbea, Patricia Evans, Nellie McGarry, Atenas Vallejo

**Others Present:** Jose Esquivel, Patricia Hinson, Alfredo Mendoza, Joanne Presnell, Eve Snelling

---

1. Call to Order/Roll Call: The Chair, Ms. Debbie Glass, called the meeting to order at 3:38 p.m. Roll call was taken.
2. Approve Agenda: It was *M/S/C Hall/Fowler* to approve the agenda as published.
3. Approve Minutes (Sept 16, 2009): The minutes were not approved due to the following changes: 1) Members Present, add Mr. Edgar Perez; and 2) Action item 6, members' comments to read as follow: Members would like to have ample time to review and discuss items, and make sure they have papers in advance for proper review.
4. Public Opportunity to Speak—None
5. Announcements: Sgt. Robert Bender noted effective December 31, 2009; he will retire from the California National Guard and introduced Sgt Jose Esquivel as his replacement. Following are some recruitment changes the CA National Guard has made: 1) The person representing the National Guard at the One-Stop will be an employee from the National Guard instead of a civilian; 2) The recruitment age limit has changed to 42 years old and 3) The assessment test scores have dropped from a score of 50 to 31 in order to be considered for recruitment.

Ms. Mary Jane Hawkes noted the open house on October 16<sup>th</sup> was a success with over 700 families attending. Ms. Hawkes added another open house is scheduled for January 27, 2010.

Mr. John Fowler noted the Business-Education Alliance of Merced County (B.E.A.M.) is funded by David & Lucile Packard Foundation and administered by the Merced County Office of Education. This program is a partnership of business, education, government and community leaders who support education and economic growth. The focus has been on preschool quality education in Merced County. This program has been a success with plans to expand to other counties in addition to targeting students from K-12.

Ms. Claudia Corchado noted there are two initiatives scheduled through the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. 1) Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, there will be a food fair 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at the Merced County Food Bank. The community will have the opportunity to talk to organic farmers, learn more

about what we're eating, organic produce, know more of what the food bank is all about, and how individuals can become volunteers. 2) Another community initiative is a partnership with other counties, community members, and local County Parks and Recreation to start a project entitled 'Take Back the Parks'. Some activities include painting over graffiti on walls, checking the water system, and other environmental issues. This initiative is planned to start in December, and the goal is to get the community involved in taking back the parks.

Mr. Mike Smith noted Pedal Merced was a success with over 350 families attending the event, and the Lions Club prepared lunch for everybody.

Mr. Richard Mahacek noted on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 5:30 p.m., there will be an event at Bob Hart Square entitled "Lights off After School". Some activities include information on afterschool programs. Children can wear their Halloween costumes. Mr. Mahacek invited members to attend the Dinner/Auction fundraiser at the Hilmar Grange on October 24<sup>th</sup>. The auction will start at 5:30 p.m., the dinner at 7:00 p.m., and the cost is \$12.50 per person. A Science, Engineering and Technology workshop is scheduled next Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m., at the UC Cooperative Extension (Ag Building). The workshop is targeted for high school teens, afterschool volunteers, and staff. There is another workshop scheduled for the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of next month.

6. Discussion Agenda:

a. CWA Youth Conference – Staff noted the California Work Association 2010 Youth Conference will be held January 19, 2010, Long Beach, CA. The Youth Council has funding to send several members to the conference. The theme will be 'A Billion Beats'. Merced County Office of Education will be presenting on "The Real Game", and the Dept of WI will submit a presentation regarding the San Joaquin Valley Green Jobs Corps regional project. If you're interested in attending the conference, please call Mr. Alfredo Mendoza (724-2044).

7. Presentations: Longitudinal Study:

a) Mr. Richard Mahacek provided PowerPoint presentation about the Longitudinal Study of Merced County youth.

b) Job Corps for Females: Ms. Melissa Abby provided a presentation on the Job Corps Program.

8. Information Agenda:

a. Youth Council Resignation: Effective September 29, 2009, Ms. Taide Hernandez resigned from the Youth Council.

b. Empower 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Report (April-June): A copy of the report was provided with the Youth Council package.

c. Youth Opportunity 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Report (April-June): A copy of the report was provided with the Youth Council package.

9. Chair Comments/Roundtable/Future Agenda Item: The Chair provided a copy of the goals and mission statement for the Youth Council members to review. She also encouraged members to view the Youth Council website. The Chair would like to discuss the goals and functions of the Youth Council at the next Youth Council meeting.

Future presentation: Ms. Jacqueline Walther-Parnell, will provide information at the next meeting regarding program expenditures.

There was a request for staff to provide information, via email, on available expenditures relating to the Youth Council, and a copy of the Federal Register.

10. Date, Time and Location of Next Youth Council Meeting: November 18, 2009, Dept of Workforce Investment, Large Conference Room, 1880 Wardrobe Avenue, Merced.

11. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

**TO: Youth Council**

**DATE: 11/18/09**

**FROM: Youth Council Staff**

For Action

For Information

For Discussion

**SUBJECT: Review and Discussion of Youth Council Goals**

**PROPOSED MOTION(S): None. For Information Only.**

**DISCUSSION: The following are the Youth Council's Goals and Functions:**

**GOALS**

- 1. Lead the efforts to connect all youth strategies within the community.**
- 2. Advocate and communicate the use of youth development.**
- 3. Develop and implement an outreach program for youth to increase their knowledge of programs available to youth.**
- 4. Oversee and foster all WIA youth programs to assure goals, objectives, and timelines are being met.**

**FUNCTIONS**

- 1. Develop and deliver the marketing message of the Youth Council. Create linkages with youth programs, business, education and local communities to foster awareness of the Youth Council and its programs. Promotes the development of youth leadership within the community and Youth Council. Encourages the professional growth of youth on the Youth Council. Promotes awareness in all youth programs of the value of a youth development approach in the education and upbringing of youth. Identifies youth programs within the County to promote and support.**
- 2. Provides oversight to all Workforce Investment Act functions that the Youth Council is responsible for. This includes Requests for Proposals; creating the mechanisms, policies and procedures to keep service providers accountable; developing competitive grant funding; investigating how money is spent in relationship to results produced. Will oversee all operational issues as the Council embraces "All Youth One System".**
- 3. Review customer satisfaction input and use it for continuous improvement of youth programs and services. Research and evaluate the best practices and current indicators for success.**

**ATTACHMENT(S): N/A**

**TO: Youth Council**

**DATE: 11/18/09**

**FROM: Youth Council Staff**

**For Action**

**For Information**

**For Discussion**

**SUBJECT: Recommendations to the Workforce Investment Board for the use of Youth Funds**

**PROPOSED MOTION(S):** That the Youth Council provide recommendations to the WIB for Youth Council Activities, by creating an Ad-hoc committee to focus on how to best utilize the remaining funds (approximately \$44,400).

**DISCUSSION:** In the past, the Youth Council has focused on spending most available funding on the Youth Opportunity Program (YOP) and Out-of-School youth (EMPOWER) programs in order to increase the number of youth served. In the past, the Youth Council has supported the following activities:

- **Printing of the Youth Resource Directory;**
- **Consultant from New Ways to Work;**
- **Conference Attendance;**
- **Youth Council Retreat;**
- **ROP Career Industry Days (transportation).**

Another suggestion may include inviting Mr. Paul Clayton to provide information about psychology of today’s youth, how youth fit with other generations, what motivates youth, comparing youth culture to business culture, what employers are looking for in the workforce to include best practices (priorities) and learning to be a champion for youth. Mr. Clayton’s training may cover establishing a primary focus and consensus building activities as well as project information. On 11/9/09, staff sent an email with the following table to all Youth Council members regarding allowable and disallowed activities.

ALLOWABLE	UNALLOWABLE
Training Related to Specific Grant	Advertising (except for personnel or costs specifically required by the grant)
Transportation for Training or Meetings	Contributions & Donations
Speakers for Grant Related Events	Entertainment Costs
Professional & Consultant Services, with conditions	Lobbying
Meetings & Conferences related to the grant program, including meals and transportation	Interest
Memberships in business, technical & professional organizations for the department	Individual memberships

<p><b>Subscriptions to business, professional &amp; technical periodicals</b></p> <p><b>Materials &amp; Supplies necessary to carry out Federal award program</b></p> <p><b>Publications &amp; Printing</b></p> <p><b>Materials &amp; Supplies necessary to carry out Federal award program</b></p> <p><b>Staff Salaries &amp; Fringe Benefits</b></p> <p><b>Space rents when necessary for the grant program</b></p>	<p><b>Memberships in lobbying organizations</b></p> <p><b>Capital Expenditures (over \$5,000) without approval by DOL (through EDD)</b></p> <p><b>Capital Expenditures (over \$2,500) without approval by Board of Supervisors</b></p> <p><b>Fund Raising</b></p> <p><b>Purchases of Buildings or Land</b></p> <p><b>Improvements to land, buildings, or equipment which materially increase their value or useful life without approval by DOL (through EDD)</b></p>
---	---

**ATTACHMENT(S): N/A**

**TO: Youth Council**

**DATE: 11/18/09**

**FROM: Youth Council Staff**

**For Action**

**For Information**

**For Discussion**

**SUBJECT: California Workforce Association (CWA) Youth Conference Attendee Selection**

**PROPOSED MOTION(S): That the Youth Council make final selections for attendance to the CWA Youth Conference in January 2010.**

**DISCUSSION: The California Workforce Association Annual Youth Conference will be held January 19 – 21, 2010. The conference will be held in Long Beach, CA. The Youth Council has funding to send six individuals to the conference. These individuals will be expected to present back to the Youth Council concerning their experiences while at the conference, and share the information from the workshops they attend. An announcement was made in October for interested members to contact Youth Council staff via an online survey. Originally there were four (4) slots for attendance to the conference, this number has been increased to six (6). It costs approximately \$1,300 to send one individual to the CWA Conference.**

**It is recommended that the following individuals be selected to attend the conference in January:**

- **John Fowler;**
- **Nellie McGarry;**
- **Nancy Vega-Mendoza;**
- **Melissa Abby;**
- **Eve Snelling;**
- **Alfredo Mendoza.**

**ATTACHMENT(S): N/A**

**TO: Youth Council**

**DATE: 11/18/09**

**FROM: Youth Council Staff**

**For Action**

**For Information**

**For Discussion**

**SUBJECT: Disposition of Youth Resource Directories**

**PROPOSED MOTION(S): None. For Information Only.**

**DISCUSSION: Approximately 600 2009/10 Youth Resource Directories are available through the Department of Workforce Investment. It is recommended that these directories be distributed throughout the community. The surplus directories will be available at the meeting for distribution. Please inform staff of community organizations that may benefit from these directories.**

**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 0910 first quarter report:** July, August, and September 2009

**A. Overall status of the program:**

There are presently 171 active participants in EMPOWER at the end of the first quarter; this past quarter the program had six new enrollments and 10 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:** 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 Thursday, September 10 had seventy (70) youth in attendance;
  - b) **EMPOWER Workshop I: ‘Gettin’ Ready for the Job’** conducted on Friday, September 11 had forty-four (44) youth in attendance;
  - c) **EMPOWER Workshop II: ‘The Real Game California’** was conducted on September 14, 16 & 18 had an average attendance of twenty-nine participants per session;
  - d) **EMPOWER Workshop III: ‘Gettin’ a Job’** was conducted on September 21, 23, and 25 with an average attendance of thirty-one participants per session.
  
- 2) **Bldg D-3-Computer Lab:** EMPOWER participants use the computer lab daily to work on résumés, portfolios, and to 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) EMPOWER Success Story: David Hedden



On May 8<sup>th</sup>, 09, David Hedden attended the May Empower Orientation and subsequently enrolled into the Empower Program. David is a very focused and serious young man. His interests lie in outdoor physically challenging jobs. His occupation of choice is to become a firefighter in which he has completed career research in the Firefighter field. His ultimate plan is to join a branch of the military force that can offer him firefighting opportunities.

David's most immediate need required work experience to give him some financial security. He requested a worksite near his home and something outdoors. He was placed at The Millennium Sports Club and he loved it there. The sports club found him to be a hard worker and loved his dedication to the summer program and children in his care. David enjoyed working at the club, but did not see an opportunity to be hired once school started, so he approached his advisor and asked to be moved to another site where he had a chance to get hired. The advisor suggested Costco, and he was at the work experience jobsite within a few days. When picking up David's first time sheet, the advisor Cyndie Bray spoke to the assistant manager and he told her that Costco had interviewed David for a full time position. David was immediately hired by Costco and the assistant manager has nothing but great things to say about him. David's work ethics and hard work obtained a great job for him!

**C. Past Quarter Deficiencies:** none

**D. Past Quarter recruiting and marketing efforts:**

Program participants continue to be our greatest source of recruiting and marketing. Seventy youth appeared for program orientation in September based on youth-to-youth referrals.

**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:** Staff Services Analyst, Department of Workforce Investment  
From: **Rebecca Lincoln:** Career Educator  
Re: **Merced County Youth Council Quarterly Report-** Younger Youth Program  
Date: **1<sup>st</sup> quarter report** (July, August and September 09)

**A. Overall status of the program:**

There were 215 active participants in the Youth Opportunity Program (YOP) at the end of the first quarter. The WIA-YOP Client action reports for goals, activities, exits and follow-ups (phase II) remain up to date and YOP Mentors 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.

**B. Past quarter highlights:**

- 1) **The YOP summer employment** component began on June 09 2009 and ended on July, 2009; approximately one-hundred and sixty-seven (167) 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 2009 workshop*; an 18 hour course facilitated to all the participants in three-hour per week segments through-out the six-week summer component focused on “Volunteerism”. It emphasized the importance of volunteering in our communities. Participants were asked to volunteer three unpaid hours to the non-profit of their choice. The participants will earn a certificate, as well as logging hours to earn their community service cords at graduation.
  
- 2) **Career Industry Day Events in 2009-2010:** 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 22, 2009
  - Careers in Arts and Communications on November 17, 2009
  - Careers in Education held on January 14, 2010

- Careers in Automotive Services (at the Castle Automotive Training Center) on February 11, 2010
- Careers in Health on Tuesday, March 11, 2010

### 3) **Field Trip to UC Santa Cruz**

The YOP Summer Youth that completed their 192 work experience hours were invited for a field trip to visit The University of California at Santa Cruz on August 12, 2009. Ms Toulou Moua and Cyndie Bray, YOP Advisors accompanied thirty-three (33) students for a tour of the UC Campus. The YOP participants agreed the trip was exciting, beneficial and they received useful information on enrollment, housing and special programs. Participants were able to get a real look at campus life and learned what The University of California at Santa Cruz has to offer.



**4) YOP Success Story**



Ben Vilayphone enrolled into YOP in January 2008. Ben's first summer worksite was "Starbucks" on Olive Avenue. After he completed his YOP summer work hours, Starbucks hired him on as a regular employee. Ben is still employed with Starbucks and is now making more than \$8.50/hr. Ben also graduated from Merced High School in June 2009. He is currently attending Merced College and working part-time at Starbucks.

**5) YOP Success Story**



La Vang enrolled into YOP on March 16, 2005. When La first enrolled, she was basic skill deficient in both reading and math. She was struggling in school but with the help of YOP, La was able to concentrate on school and was able to bring her grades up. She worked at the Sub- Shop in Atwater during the summer of 2006. La was offered a position by the owner and she happily accepted. La continued to work at the Sub-Shop while attending high school, and even with her busy schedule, she was able to maintain a 3.0 GPA. La graduated from Buhach Colony High School in June 2009 and is currently attending San Jose State University.

**C. Past quarter deficiencies:**

**D. Past quarter recruiting/marketing efforts:**

The program's philosophy is to enroll students in the first semester in order to provide services during the school year and make the summer work opportunity an incentive for year round participation by youth.

**E. Next quarter challenges:**

**F. Technical assistance needed:**