



Youth Council Meeting
Wardrobe Large Conference Room
December 8, 2000
Meeting Minutes

- Members Present:** Nellie McGarry, Mayra Ramirez, Ismael Montoya, Troy Fox, Evelyn Eagleton, Lorena Briano, Bob Bittner, Mary Jane Hawkes, Jean Weaver, Jerry Johnson, Jim Newberry, Bob Harmon, Richard Mahacek, Ralph Vigil, Kathy Hassett, Michael Parker, Barbara Ayers, Aaron Medel, Mary Cavazos, Obie O'Brien, Rennise Ferrario
- Members Absent:** Suzanne Nunez, Jack Page, Charlie Lambert, Laverne Brown, Henry Idefonzo, Bill Davidson, Robert Gilbert Jr., Natalie Mendoza, Pedro Mendoza, Pamela Palmer, Carolyn Smith, Daniel Urteaga, Veronica Zamarripa, Rosie Boudreau
- PITD Staff Present:** Rebecca Lincoln, Bernedette Castaneda, Carol Silva, Dick Skarke, Marta Echevarria
- Others Present:** Anne Newins, Dennis Tatum, Cynthia Reponde, Claudia Corchado, Marie Nelson, Stephen Lungren, Vann (Mike) Smith, Pou Lor, Julie Smulson, Bob Fore, Annette Garcia, Judi Zoboli, Paul Lundberg
-

Review Agenda – It was *(M/S/C Ayers/O'Brien)* to approve the 12/08/00 agenda.

Review Minutes – It was *(M/S/C Montoya/Hassett)* to approve the 11/09/00 minutes.

I. Presentations/Reports:

- a. Healthy Start Program** – Julie Smulson, Planning Coordinator from the Healthy Start Program in Winton, briefed the Youth Council about the different services that are offered. Healthy Start links children and their families to various resources that provide a variety of services specifically focusing on children's health. Based on regional surveys, there are over 300 Healthy Start programs located throughout California. Some services provided through Healthy Start include free medical screenings and treatment to children of low-income families, translation services, parenting education and community clean-up projects. There are also many grant programs that have come out of Healthy Start. Healthy Smiles is a grant program that provides a mobile unit to travel to different schools giving dental screening and treatment to low-income youth and/or youth who have Medi-Cal or Healthy Families medical coverage. Julie also shared a Healthy Smiles newsletter with the Youth Council and invited anyone who is interested in getting information out to the community to contact her.

- b. Cisco Academy** – Anne Newins, Dean of the Merced College Off-Campus Center, informed the Youth Council about Cisco’s proposal to establish an academy at Dos Palos High School. Cisco Systems is the world’s largest manufacturer of computer networking equipment and is currently working in a partnership with Merced College and Dos Palos-Oro Loma Joint Unified School District. Cisco’s goals are to provide technical training that will prepare students to fill job vacancies in technological industries and attract and retain new businesses in our area. Students who graduate from the academy will be qualified for a broad range of jobs.

II. Committee and Program Reports:

- a. Resource Directory** – Mayra Ramirez briefed the Youth Council regarding the November 20th committee meeting. Attending youth gave their opinions and comments on the Youth Resource Directory. Many of the youth showed interest in becoming more involved with the Youth Council and some of them signed up as part of a Youth Advisory Committee to the Youth Development Model Committee and will be attending special committee meetings in the future. The committee created a listing of services that would be included in the Youth Resource Directory. They created key words (links) to many of the listed services because youth attendees felt they would look up resource information using various category names. The objective of the next meeting will be to discuss who will make the Youth Resource Directory.
- b. Youth Development Model Committee** – Richard Mahacek updated the Youth Council on the November 27th committee meeting. Richard shared several youth development models with the Youth Council and will be doing a presentation on some of them in the February Youth Council meeting. The Youth Development Model Ad-hoc Committee is currently working on integrating some of these models so that they will include the ten (10) program elements outlines in the Workforce Investment Act (WIA).
- c. Merced Youth Opportunity Program** – Evelyn Eagleton informed the Youth Council on the on-going recruitment for the Youth Opportunity Program. There are 347 applications that are in the process of enrollment and 85 of those have completed the enrollment process.
- d. Arbor Older Youth Program** – Cynthia Reponte spoke to the Youth Council regarding the Arbor Older-Youth Program’s recent activities. Flyers have been sent to many outside agencies. Enrollment for one of the programs will begin on December 26, 2000. In order to save ineligible clients from making an unnecessary trip, it was suggested that program staff be contacted before a client is referred to the Older-Youth Program. Some of the referred clients have had to be turned away because they do not meet the eligibility requirements. It was suggested that ineligible clients be sent back to PITD so that staff can help clients through other available resources.

III. Action Agenda:

- a. **Youth Council Membership** - It was (*M/S/C Vigil/Montoya*) to approve the nomination of each membership application identified to represent the specified areas on the Youth Council and to approve taking applications for Youth Council quarterly. It was asked if Youth Council members would be dropped from the Youth Council for non-participation and/or attendance to the meetings. Council members who have not attended meetings consecutively have been identified and have been notified. If there is no response from them they will be considered exempt from the Youth Council.
- b. **Training Date With Lori Strumpf** – The suggestions that were given in today’s meeting for Goals 3 and 4 of the Youth Council Action Plan will be sent to Lori Strumpf so she can assist the committee by putting them together in a strategic outline of its goals. It was (*M/S/C – O’Brien/Hassett*) to approve a training session with Lori Strumpf on Wednesday, January 3, 2001. The location for this meeting is tentative and Youth Council members will be notified of the location once it is secured.
- c. **Cisco Academy Proposal** – It was (*M/S/C – O’Brien/Bitter, Abstain – Ayers*) to approve funding the Delhi Unified School District and the Dos Palos-Oro Loma Unified School District’s proposal to establish a Cisco Academy for 2001/2002. Funding for this proposal will come out of money carried over from the JTPA reserves. Nellie will check with County Counsel regarding the Youth Council’s decision to approve funding for this proposal.

IV. Action Plan Goals 3 and 4: Youth Council members listed ideas for the Strategic Action Plan Goals 3 and 4. (See Meeting Goals worksheet for specific information.)

V. Other Items for Discussion: There was an unsolicited proposal for Merced Community Action Agency to provide year-round services to older-youth (ages 19-21) in Merced County. Workforce Investment Act (WIA) laws and regulations regarding selection of youth providers state that the awarding of grants or contracts to providers of youth activities must be on a competitive basis and based on the recommendation of the Youth Council. Private Industry Training Department (PITD) staff recommended the Youth Council to not act on this proposal based on the laws and regulations as previously stated.

VI. Agenda setting for next meeting – The next Youth Council meeting will be January 3, 2001, for a training workshop with Lori Strumpf at 1:30 – 4:00 p.m. Youth Council members will be notified of the location for this training as soon as one is secured.

Adjourn

Minutes prepared by Marta Echevarria