

Workforce Innovation Board of Ramsey County

Youth Committee Meeting

January 27, 2022, 3:00-4:30 PM

Members Present

Shaina Abraham
Breanna Galuska
Karen Gerdin
Jennifer Germain
Hyon Kim
Paul Nikstad
Sheri Riemers

Members Absent

Tom Aasheim
Gaye Adams Massey-EA
Mary Sue Hansen

Staff/Guests Present

Ling Becker, Workforce Solutions
Michelle Belitz, Workforce Solutions
Mariann Macalus, Workforce Solutions
Rebecca Milbrandt, Workforce Solutions
Rachael Molenaar, Workforce Solutions
De'Vonna Pittman, Center for Economic Inclusion

Call to Order & Land Acknowledgement

Chair Nikstad called the meeting to order at 3:01 pm and read the land acknowledgement aloud.

Introductions

Chair Nikstad asked that everyone introduce themselves.

Approve November Minutes

Motion (Gerdin/Riemers) to approve the November 18, 2021, Youth Committee minutes as presented.

Motion carried unanimously by chat vote.

Conflict of Interest Statement

Chair Nikstad read the statement and asked that everyone e-sign the form and return it to Milbrandt.

Action Planning

Becker gave a summary of the October action planning session and the work done up to this point. She then introduced Pittman who shared the main points obtained during the small group discussions at the planning session. The committee then brainstormed action items they want to work on over the next two years, which resulted in the following:

Youth Committee		
Action	Timing	Strategic Areas
Support Ramsey County Youth Works! Initiative <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ARPA Funding• EDA Good Jobs Challenge	On-going	Systems Alignment, Support and Leadership Employer Engagement and Support System Innovation Culturally Responsive Leadership
Gather nominations, evaluate, and present Vern Vick Award	Q3 2022	Systems Alignment, Support and Leadership
Employer support strategies in partnership with City of Saint Paul: On-boarding, supervisor training, youth-employer advisory	2022	System Innovation Employer Engagement and Support
Assess and grow committee membership <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Add youth member to the Youth Committee• Recruit more employers to the Youth Committee• Vern Vick Award winner join for the following year	2022	Systems Alignment, Support and Leadership Employer Engagement and Support
Monthly evaluation of Youth Dashboard and quarterly evaluation of performance outcomes	On-going	Systems Alignment, Support and Leadership

Updates:

ARPA Update: Becker provided the framework for Workforce ARPA investments and the average annual occupation gaps over the next ten years. She also shared the Earn and Learn Base Funding model as an example. *Federal Trial – East Building Relocation Plans:* Milbrandt shared the East Building plans of relocating resident services to Metro Square and staff to Plato for the next 6-8 weeks.

EDA Good Jobs Challenge: Milbrandt shared information regarding the grant which Ramsey County is partnering on with the cities of Saint Paul and Minneapolis and Hennepin County. She also provided an overview of the structure of the proposal. The application is due February 10 with awards announced this summer.

Youth Employment Services Vendor Selection

Molenaar provided an update on the vendor selection process and the timeline. Due to the county's contracting policy, she was unable to disclose the names of the selected vendors at this time. Final vendor selection approval will be brought back to the WIB in March.

2022 Vern Vick Memorial Award

Nikstad reviewed the award criteria and application process. There was agreement on continuing the award for 2022, which has always received a very positive response. The nomination form will again have a COVID lens.

Committee Member Updates

Abraham reported that the Right Track summer internship program application opens on February 1. They are still looking for employers to host interns.

Other

Milbrandt shared the 2022 Black History Month events, with this year's theme being Black History for the Black Future.

Adjourn

Upon completion of the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 4:18pm.

Next Meeting: March 17, 2022, 3:00-4:00pm via Zoom