Workforce Innovation Board of Ramsey County
Youth Committee Meeting
Thursday, June 20, 2024
3:00-4:00 PM

Members Present	Members Absent	Staff/Guests Present
Breanna Galuska	Tom Aasheim	Ling Becker, Workforce Solutions
Nardos Tesfalidet	Jennifer Germain	Bradley Mahr, Workforce Solutions
Aalayha Traub	Ginny Nayman-Tonn	Longkee Vang, Workforce Solutions
	Sheri Riemers	

Call to Order
Aalayha Traub called the meeting to order at 3:02pm.
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Approval January Minutes
Due to low attendance, the minutes from the previous meeting were not reviewed or approved.
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Recap of Youth Networking Event
The Youth Works! Networking event, held biannually in spring and fall, supports community partners working with youth and young adults. Highlights included:
- Over 50 partners attended for networking and brief learning sessions about the Youth Systems Building Academy, in collaboration with the Department of Labor, Saint Paul Public Schools, Saint Paul College, the city of Saint Paul, and Face to Face.
- The event also featured the presentation of the Youth Workforce Champions awards.

2024 Youth Funding Allocations
- Minnesota's PY24 WIOA Youth Allocation: Declined by 9.95%, mirroring reductions in Iowa, Missouri, and Wisconsin. States with net increases included Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Nebraska, and Ohio. The nationwide total for PY24 WIOA Youth Funding increased by just under $500,000.
- Ramsey County WIOA Allocation: Reduced by 0.9%.
- Ramsey County MYP Allocation: Remained unchanged from the previous year.

VR Career Exploration
- The use of VR Career Exploration tools is being explored. Plans include purchasing 2-3 units for WFS and partners, to facilitate career exploration in various industries at engagement events and in schools.

Department of Labor Youth Systems Building
- Active participation in the Youth Systems Building Academy with key partners, including Saint Paul Public Schools, Saint Paul College, the city of Saint Paul, and Face to Face.
- The initiative, Youth Works!, coordinates resources and programs, supported by partners and funders such as the McKnight Foundation, the Sundance Foundation, ECMC Group, and others.
- Recent presentation of work at the Jobs for the Future Pathways to Prosperity national conference.
- Developing a Collective Impact Model focusing on a common agenda, shared measurement systems, mutually reinforcing activities, continuous communications, and backbone support organization.

Tech Squads
- Funded by a state direct appropriation.
- Cohort 1:
  - 3 team members at Saint Paul College IT department
  - 4 team members at Vivacity
  - 1 team member at District 916 IT department
  - 6 team members on the community help desk
  - A schedule for drop-in support will be published soon.
- Cohort 2: Enrollment starts this week for a July 8th start date.

This document is available in alternate formats upon request.

Right Track Expansion
- Partnership with the City of Saint Paul to expand the Right Track program to suburban Ramsey County.
- 37 internships offered in various fields, including education, recreation, county departments, conservation, and culinary experiences.
- Employers hosting interns include Churchill Street Restaurant, Roseville Area Schools, Cypher Side, Rabata, Accenture, Ramsey County (multiple departments), Urban Roots, and the Sanneh Foundation.

County Right Track
- 26 interns welcomed into the county on Monday, working across 23 different departments. Opportunities include processing subpoenas, accounting practices, public relations, data collection, property management, community corrections, and public safety events.

Semiconductor Accelerator
- Aligning federal investments with local needs.
- Planning for an accelerator for 18-24-year-olds during the week of August 12th at Saint Paul College.
- Activities will include panel discussions, exposure to semiconductor careers, training with Semi Foundation kits, employer site visits, and connections to HIRED Drive for Five training opportunities.
- Future of Work series event scheduled for July 22.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:21 PM.

Next Meeting: September 19, 2024, 3:00-4:00pm via Zoom