

Workforce Innovation Board of Ramsey County

Youth Committee Meeting

Thursday, November 21, 2024

3:00-4:00 PM

Members Present

Tom Aasheim
Tami Cybulski
Bryan Kuzel
Nardos Tesfalidet

Members Absent

Breana Galuska
Jennifer Germain
Ginny Nayman-Tonn
Sheri Rimers
Aalayha Traub-EA

Staff/Guests Present

Kristi Cobbs, Workforce Solutions
Charie Gill, Workforce Solutions
Mariann Macalus, Workforce Solutions
Bradley Mahr, Workforce Solutions
Becky Milbrandt, Workforce Solutions
Rachael Molenaar, Workforce Solutions
Matt Saari, Workforce Solutions

Call to Order & Land Acknowledgement

Mahr called the meeting to order at 3:03pm. Molenaar read the Land Acknowledgement aloud.

Approve September Minutes

Motion (Aasheim/Tesfalidet) to approve the September 19, 2024, minutes as presented. Motion carried by chat vote.

Youth Team Updates

Youth Team provided updates on the following:

- Learn & Earn Graduations: This fall's Learn & Earn graduations including Merrick Food Entrepreneurship, Merrick Human Services, CEE HVAC Program; AEDA Entrepreneurship Program. Contracts run until 2026, with many of the partnerships recruiting for their last cohorts which will wrap up in 2025.
- YACA Graduation: Ten young adults completed the first portion of the Young Adult Career Academy on November 15, 2024. Nine of those young adults are moving into extended internships and one intern was hired at FAS.
- 3DE: On November 13, Ramsey County partnered with Junior Achievement and Como Park Senior High School to provide the 3DE experience for over 200 students. This was an opportunity for young people to experience with educational and skills development through hands-on, real-world learning. Through this experience, students can envision new possibilities for their futures and exposing them to career paths they may not have considered.
- Tech Squads Final Cohort and Staff Updates: YouthWorks is currently recruiting for the final cohort. Funding for this program ends June 2025 and additional funding is being requested through the County's Legislative platform. Saari is in the new position as IS supervisor but will continue to support the Tech Squad on a part-time basis. Six participants from the first cohort have now been hired into IT positions.

Committee Workplan

Molenaar shared:

- Youth Systems Building Workplan Update
Youth Works! Academy: Ramsey County Workforce Solutions will host the Youth Works! Academy, a three-day leadership orientation, starting December 3rd, for young people passionate about shaping their communities. The Academy will introduce attendees ages 16-26 to the role of advisory boards in workforce development and empower them to step into leadership positions. The Advisory Board is a platform for guiding programs that address youth employment needs and workforce opportunities in a more collective impact model. Flyer will be included in the follow-up email.

Committee Member Updates/Other Business

- Next year's proposed Committee meeting schedule and the WIOA Youth/MYP programs dashboard and performance measures will be provided in the follow-up email.
- Application process opens this week through January 3rd for the Right Track Scholars Program which supports young adults as they enter the workforce while building a public sector workforce that reflects

the diversity of our community. The 10-week program is a paid internship. More information and the application link will be provided in the follow-up email.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:41 PM.

Next Meeting: January 16, 2025, 3:00-4:00pm via Zoom