



## Mississippi Valley Workforce Development Board

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### **Youth Committee Meeting Minutes**

Monday, December 11, at 4:00 p.m., via Zoom

**Members Present:** Jacob Nye, Rebecca Ruberg, Carol Reynolds, Heather Halbrook, Charlene Fitzgerald, and Martha Bell

**Members Absent:** Regina Matheson (unexcused), Andy Sokolovich (joined late after meeting had adjourned)

**Staff Present:** Miranda Swafford, Executive Director, Mandy Tripp, Compliance Officer, and Tyler Lanz, Communications Assistant

**CEO Present:** None

**Equus Staff:** Cherisa Price-Wells, Regional Director, Taylor Longstreth, Title I Operations Manager, and Shannon Weaver, Title I Operations Manager

**One-Stop Operator:** Nick Clayton

### **CALLED TO ORDER**

Nye called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

### **QUORUM**

There was a quorum to conduct business.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

The consent agenda included approval of the agenda and approval of previous meeting minutes. Ruberg made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Halbrook, and motion carried.

### **EQUUS NOVEMBER YOUTH REPORT**

Longstreth reviewed current outreach strategies and highlighted some recent events that they attended, including a new partnership with Rosecrance, an outpatient treatment center in Davenport. Longstreth reported 0 out-of-school youth enrollments, 1 in-school youth enrollment, 0 entered Occupational Skills Training, and 2 entered into Work-Based Learning. 12 stipends and 19 incentives were paid out in November. Longstreth also reported outcomes: 2 CNA, 1 HiSED, 9 unsubsidized employments, 1 ISY WEX started, and 1 OSY OJT started. The customer satisfaction rate was 97.92% with 16 surveys completed.

### **VIRTUAL REALITY METRICS REPORT**

Longstreth presented the VR metrics report. She reported that 2 people participated in Career Exploration, completing 8 simulations. 2 Youth students used the Virtual Training Facility prior to starting their work-based learning placements, however only one of them was captured in the report. The Virtual Training Facility student that was captured completed 9 simulations and mastered 88.89% of the skills.

### **Q1 PERFORMANCE**

Tripp presented the Q1 performance. Tripp advised that the performance data for Credential Attainment, listed at 67.6%, is incorrect and the state is working to resolve the issue. The actual Credential Attainment rate is estimated to be about 39.1%. Tripp reports that the Youth program fell short of their Employment goals in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, but exceeded their goal for Median Earnings and Measurable Skills Gain. Weaver advised that increases in Measurable Skills Gains often lead to increases in Credential Attainment, since they are an indicator of academic progress. Nye inquired when the Youth Incentives and Stipends Policy was last updated and Tripp answered that it was last amended August 15, 2022. There was a discussion of whether the Employment goals are falling short because participants are not working or because they are not reporting it and Weaver provided an overview of some of the measures taken to obtain that data.

### **ENGAGE BY CELL TEXTING SERVICE**

Lanz discussed text message campaigns and promotions, which was identified as a key outreach strategy by a youth focus group. Lanz presented a proposal from Engage by Cell and discussed some of the key features of the platform. Lanz advised there is a demo scheduled with a local text messaging platform Tap On It in early January. Nye, Halbrog, and Price-Wells advised they may have other suggestions for platforms and were encouraged to share that information with board staff.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Swafford advised the Youth RFP Committee will be launching this week and advised committee members to send her any suggestions that they have.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

### **ADJOURN**

Fitzgerald made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ruberg, and motion carried. Nye adjourned the meeting at 4:27 p.m.