



SOUTH FLORIDA WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING

**Thursday, June 18, 2009
8:00 A.M.**

Doubletree Miami Mart/Airport Hotel and Exhibition Center
711 NW 72nd Avenue
Salon A
Miami, Florida 33126

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Introductions
2. Approval of Youth Council Meeting Minutes
 - A. February 26, 2009
 - B. April 16, 2009
3. Stimulus Youth Update
4. Presentation – Youth Testimonials
5. Presentation – Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship South Florida
6. Recommendation as to Renewal of Youth Services Contracts for Program Year 2009-2010
7. Transition WIA Youth Program Performance
8. Recommendation as to the Approval of an Allocation of Youth Program Funds for Public Safety Services Academy

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2.

SFWIB - Youth Council

June 18, 2009

**Minutes of SFWIB Youth Council Meeting
February 26, 2009**

South Florida Workforce Investment Board
 Youth Council Meeting
 February 26, 2009 at 8:00 A.M.
 Doubletree Miami Mart/Airport Hotel and Exhibition Center
 711 NW 72nd Avenue, Miami, FL 33126

YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE	OTHER ATTENDEES	SFWIB STAFF
1. Regina Giles, <i>Chairperson</i> 2. Clarence Brown 3. Willie J. Brown 4. Gilda Ferradaz 5. Donna Jennings	Castillo, Alicia – <i>A.M.O.</i> Gainer, Lori Rutland – <i>Miami Dade College</i> Heit, David, - <i>Youth Co-Op, Inc.</i> Hernandez, Ana – <i>A.M.O.</i> Hubbert, Carla - <i>Greater Miami Service Corps</i> Marti, Sergio – <i>Miami-Dade County Public Schools</i> Martin, Marisol - <i>Youth Co-Op, Inc.</i> Milian, Dalia – <i>City of Hialeah</i> Morales, Martin – <i>Transition, Inc.</i> Someillan, Ana – <i>A.M.O.</i> Walker, Summer – <i>Greater Miami Service Corps</i> [Illegible] <i>Youth Co-Op, Inc.</i>	Beasley, Rick Grant, Teresa Morgan, Myria
YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE 6. Fred Frost 7. Pedro Rodriguez 8. Alex Rodriguez-Roig		

Note: Agenda items are listed in the order in which they were discussed.

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Ms. Regina Giles, Youth Council Chair welcomed all and introductions were made.

2. Approval of Youth Council Meeting Minutes of June 13, 2008, August 12, 2008, September 15, 2008, October 14, 2008, and December 9, 2008

Clarence Brown moved approval of the Youth Council meeting minutes of June 13, 2008, August 12, 2008, September 15, 2008, October 14, 2008, and December 9, 2008. The motion was seconded by Gilda Ferradaz, and the motion carried.

4. Recommendation as to Approval of WIA Waiver Requests

Ms. Myria Morgan, Youth Programs Director, presented the item.

The waiver recommendations are intended to promote initiatives including but are not limited to: an expansion of on-the-job- training assistance; provide for limited financial assistance to small business enterprises; allow for public service employment; and expand availability of services for the region's youth.

Ms. Morgan noted that the intention is to keep the stimulus funds separate from the regular funding allocations.

Waiver to allow entrepreneurial training to be provided through state-level grants and local formula dollars with the performance tracked and aggregated at the state level, but not included in local performance calculations.

Dr. Donna Jennings asked why entrepreneurial training would not be included in the local performance calculations. Ms. Morgan responded that when the stimulus funds have been spent, the tracking of the performance of participants would contribute to a reduction in the services given to the regular WIA youth program. It is the intention to keep the funds separate. Ms. Ferradaz asked if the performance would still be tracked separately, and Ms. Morgan replied in the affirmative.

The waiver request is to increase beyond 5% the number of youth who may not meet the low income criteria.

Clarence Brown asked whether it would take away from youth who would be eligible. Ms. Morgan responded that it would not exclude anyone meeting the requirement.

Ms. Ferradaz commented that there might be many more youth who are income eligible, and they therefore would not be excluded.

Waiver to include youth receiving free school lunches under the National School Lunch Program as a substitute for the WIA Title 1 income eligibility criteria.

If the youth is in a TANF household, the youth must be on the grant, although if the youth receives free lunch and provides proof from the school, the youth would be automatically eligible.

Waiver of the requirement that local programs provide each of the ten youth program elements at WIA Section 129(c) (2) as options available to youth participants.

By not providing each of the ten elements, more funds would be available for local programs like work related activities.

Waiver of the requirements of summer youth employment element as a stand-alone program and 12 month follow-up services element.

The waiver requests that SFWIB must not be required to perform the 12-month follow-ups even though the youth is no longer in the program.

Ms. Giles noted that the intention is to get youth to work.

Mr. Willie Brown moved approval of the youth waivers on pages seven through nine of the attachment. Dr. Donna Jennings seconded the motion and the motion carried.

5. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act – Summer 2009

Ms. Giles presented the item and asked for discussion.

Mr. Clarence Brown asked whether there was a model to look at newer than 10 years ago. Ms. Morgan noted that 1998 was the last time this organization offered an exclusive summer program. She added that the parameters are to get the youth to a worksite, get them work readiness skills training, work maturity training and an evaluation at the worksite.

Ms. Giles asked Mr. Beasley to add his views.

Mr. Beasley noted that he is most concerned about accountability. He has had discussions with the management team concerning accountability to ensure there are no problems with the Office of Inspector General (OIG).

He added that he does not believe SFWIB has the capacity, but he does not want to get into the service delivery business. Our board driven system should remain. He favors keeping the funds separate to reduce any confusion in tracking the funds.

Ms. Ferradaz notes that the summer only program would be funded by the stimulus funding.

Mr. Beasley commented that he would like get in touch with the Children's Trust see if they could match us dollar for dollar. The Children's Trust could focus on youth ages 13-17. SFWIB could focus on youth ages 18-24.

He also noted that there has been concern whether the funds can be spent by the end of June 30, 2010.

Ms. Morgan noted that an RFP could be completed by the next week.

Clarence Brown asked what a typical summer program schedule would be. Ms. Morgan responded that the number of hours per week determines the total length of the program. Child labor laws must be adhered to. Additional hours would incur fringe benefits.

Mr. Brown noted that youth who came to their agency were not working.

Ms. Giles commented that most youth have a positive experience in the summer program, and the employer must find valuable work for the youth.

Ms. Ferradaz reiterated that there must be included measures to evaluate skills learned. In addition, could the RFP be presented to the members prior to release?

Dr. Jennings offered a concern that the age limits will also include adults, which would increase responsibility.

Ms. Giles suggested that an RFP could be developed with criteria by age group, and to include meaningful placements.

Dr. Donna Jennings moved approval to authorize staff to draft and release an RFP for a 2009 summer youth employment program based on the parameters established by the Youth Council to include criteria by age group, and also to include meaningful placements. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gilda Ferradaz, and the motion carried.

6. Youth Performance Measures/Balanced Scorecard Update

Ms. Morgan presented the item and noted that the item was not approved earlier as there had not been a quorum achieved. Staff requests a motion to approve the Youth performance measures. The balanced scorecard would then be developed.

Mr. Willie Brown moved approval of the Region's Youth performance measures. The motion was seconded by Dr. Donna Jennings and the motion carried.

7. Recommendation to Approve Out-of School Youth Programs Caseloads

Ms. Giles noted that the information is in the item, and questions may be directed to staff.

8. State Monitoring (Audit) Review

Ms. Giles presented the item for information.

3. SFWIB Strategic Planning Discussion

Ms. Giles presented the item.

She suggested that members of the public be invited to assist in the definition of success.

Success is defined by having no findings.

Ms. Ferradaz brought up Mr. Brown's comments regarding soft skills, which are not always as evident as placement numbers, and how to measure and capture those skills.

Ms. Morgan said that soft skills could be captured during pre and post evaluations.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 A.M.



2.

SFWIB - Youth Council

June 18, 2009

**Minutes of SFWIB Youth Council Meeting
April 16, 2009**

South Florida Workforce Investment Board
 Youth Council Meeting
 April 16, 2009 at 8:00 A.M.
 Doubletree Miami Mart/Airport Hotel and Exhibition Center
 711 NW 72nd Avenue, Miami, FL 33126

YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE	OTHER ATTENDEES	SFWIB STAFF
9. Giles, Regina, <i>Chairperson</i> 10. Brown, Clarence 11. Ferradaz, Gilda 12. Jennings, Donna 13. Rodriguez-Roig, Alex YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE 14. Brown, Willie J. 15. Frost, Fred 16. Rodriguez, Pedro	Baroso, Lupe – <i>CANC</i> Etter, Stephanie – <i>Miami Dade College</i> Heit, David, - <i>Youth Co-Op, Inc.</i> Marcelles, Martin – <i>Transition, Inc.</i> Marti, Sergio – <i>Miami-Dade County Public Schools</i> Velez, Paulina - <i>Youth Co-Op, Inc.</i>	Beasley, Rick Gomez, Maria Morgan, Myria

Note: Agenda items are listed in the order in which they were discussed.

1. Call to Order and Introductions

As the Chair, Ms. Regina Giles was not present, Council Member Ms. Gilda Ferradaz chaired the meeting and introductions were made.

2. Approval of Youth Council Meeting Minutes of February 26, 2009

Clarence Brown moved approval of the Youth Council meeting minutes of February 26, 2009. The motion was seconded by Gilda Ferradaz, and the motion carried.

3. SFWIB Strategic Planning Discussion

Ms, Giles introduced Ms. Myria Morgan, Youth Programs Director, who presented the item.

Mr. Clarence Brown noted that much discussion in the past was to try to define the steps to success, case management and including soft skills training. If the youth is functioning below grade level provide tutoring to increase grade level. If the youth is interested in or needing employment, will provide the soft skills of work readiness and work maturity in order for the youth to be successful in the new job.

Ms. Giles agreed that soft skills must be included, aside from job placement and length of time in the job. Ms, Morgan noted that the results would be tracked via the Balanced Score Card. Ms. Giles commented that those skills must be honed and perfected in order to be successful. This must be crystallized, and staff will draft language and forward to the Members for comment.

Mr. Morales, from Transition, Inc. commented that benchmarks are normally 30, 90, 180 days, and case managers are responsible for two years. An assessment of basic needs for support services is done initially.

Ms. Morgan noted that the youth is tracked for one year after separation from the program. Ms. Giles asked whether comments are also received along with the employment status.

Ms. Paulina Velez, of Youth Co-op, Inc. commented that they report whether the youth is at work or in other activities. Ms. Morgan noted that additional case notes do not appear on the report. Ms. Giles stressed the importance of the case notes for each participant.

During employment, retention is not as expected. Normally 6months to a year, then return and work.

Ms. Ferradaz noted that it important for the youth to progress over the two years, not just maintain the current job level.

Ms. Giles commented that what would demonstrate real success is what is done with what is in the case notes. After focusing on the numbers and the youth is not succeeding and not budgeting their resources, planning, etc. we are not being successful preparing a successful citizen.

Ms. Velez commented that a positive incentive such as support services must be given to the youth while they are attending school in order to continue to be employed.

Mr. Brown commented that he was trying to understand the incentive part considering he has seen that over the years in training programs, but if they are employed, they are being paid. The reinforcement must be what it means holistically, learn, work, continue to learn, and continue to work. Next level is beyond the summer program. Information that would be helpful are how to open a savings account, and the pitfalls of credit.

Ms. Ferradaz noted that when education benchmarks are achieved by foster children, we give them a gift. An opportunity to recognize and support could be built in.

Once the youth is exited from the program, it is permitted to provide incentives during the 12 month follow-up. If exited for a job, they are getting paid, it's not appropriate to give an incentive, because that may prevent other youth to enter the program. If possible, limit to bus passes for 1 to 3 months, but they need to understand that they are in the real world of work.

Ms. Giles asked whether the youth are assessed to see if they are exited from the program and are the ready for the world of work. Are most of them doing well without further assistance, or do they need further referrals. Mr. Morales noted that support services may be necessary.

We need to hear from the providers.

Define SFWIB success:

- o Employment
- o Retention
- o Entering post-secondary education

Mr. Brown notes that there is an assessment for each youth; we must look at the achievement of the case plan. Determine why the plan did not work at conclusion.

Ms. Morgan Ultimate goal is employment Mr. Brown suggested that that may not be true.

Ms. Lupe Barrosso noted that in the real world, youth are exited if the youth graduates and attains a diploma, it is a positive exit. If no diploma, just received a certificate, they are not exited. We must work with the youth we have. Many are house arrested, may be pregnant, etc.

Ms. Ferradaz asked if information is given independent living such as what does it mean when you get a credit card, when you sign a lease, etc. Ms. Barrosso noted that that is beyond the workshop. She added that the parents many times do not cooperate.

Ms. Giles commented that the parents many times do not know how to help. We are having substantive dialog on the subject.

4.

**4A. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act – Summer 2009
In-School Youth**

Ms. Giles presented items 4A.

Ms. Ferradaz asked whether the schools would be interested in providing this service, and Ms. Morgan responded in the positive.

Mr. Rodriguez-Roig asked what jobs. We are doing surveys with employers

Ms. Morgan noted that there are secretarial/clerical slots, medical slots for technicians in hospitals at JMH. The youth will work in the schools as well.

Ms. Ferradaz commented that mass email messages have been distributed, and DCF has responded.

Ms. Morgan reported that over 2,000 youth have registered on line, and the goal is 4,000.

Ms. Giles noted that it was the consensus of the members present to move this item to the full Board.

**4B. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act – Summer 2009
Out-of-School Youth**

Dr. Donna Jennings reported that Miami Dade College wants to focus on it's purpose as a training provider and to provide work readiness training for the county, but not to contract with SFWIB for out-of-school youth placement.

Ms. Morgan reported that Miami-Dade County Public Schools has agreed that they would place the out of school youth.

Dr. Stephanie Etter, of Miami Dade College, informed the Council that they have a program called the "Future Bankers Camp". The participants are enrolled in a course vocational rehabilitation certificate in finance and banking. The students can sit for certificate, and receive paid internships in which they may earn \$9 an hour. At this time there are 20 participants, and they are not all just bank tellers. Some are in security, IT and marketing.

Dr. Jennings noted that the College was honored to be asked to contract with the SFWIB, and there was much deliberation. It was not taken lightly. We did not want to do a compromised job.

Ms. Ferradaz asked whether Florida Keys College could do both in-school and out-of-school. Ms. Morgan responded in the positive.

Mr. Brown commented that success stories have been presented, but would like to see success stories of those who have gone through post-secondary education and are successful.

Ms. Giles thanked the Council members.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 A.M.



3.

SFWIB – Youth Council

June 18, 2009

Stimulus Youth Update

BACKGROUND

SFWIB staff will provide an update on the stimulus youth program.



4.

SFWIB – Youth Council

June 18, 2009

Youth Testimonials

INFORMATIONAL

BACKGROUND

At the April 16, 2009 Youth Council Meeting, the council members requested to have youth participants speak at the next Youth Council Meeting.



5.

SFWIB – Youth Council

June 18, 2009

**Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship
South Florida**

INFORMATIONAL

BACKGROUND

The Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE) through entrepreneurship education helps young people from low-income communities build skills and unlock their entrepreneurial creativity. Since 1987, NFTE has reached more than 230,000 young people, and currently has programs in 22 states and 12 countries. NFTE has more than 1,300 active Certified Entrepreneurship Teachers, and is continually improving its innovative entrepreneurship curriculum.

NFTE South Florida opened its door in 2006 and has reached over 4,600 students from low-income communities with entrepreneurship education programs.



6.

SFWIB – Youth Council

June 18, 2009

Recommendation as to Renewal of Youth Services Contracts for Program Year 2009-2010

RECOMMENDATION

SFWIB staff recommends the renewal of current Youth Service Provider contracts for Program Year 2009-2010, as set forth below.

BACKGROUND

The current Youth Services Providers were competitively procured under RFP #: YS2008-09-2 issued August 13, 2008 to provide youth services for the period July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009.

Current contracts for youth providers end as of June 30, 2009. The current Youth Services contracts allow for renewal based on performance and availability of funds.

The current youth providers delivering youth services are:

Youth Services Providers	In-School	Out-of-School
Adult Mankind Organization, Inc.	X	X
City of Hialeah	X	X
Cuban American National Council, Inc.	X	
Greater Miami Service Corps		X
UNIDAD of Miami Beach, Inc.	X	
Transition, Inc.	X	X
Youth Co-Op, Inc.	X	X

SFWIB staff recommends the renewal of the current Youth Services Provider contracts for the period July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010.



7.

SFWIB – Youth Council

June 18, 2009

**Transition Inc. WIA Youth Program
Performance**

RECOMMENDATION

SFWIB staff recommends approval to place Transition, Inc. on a performance watch list for the first quarter of the new program year starting July 1, 2009 through September 30, 2009 (three months) for failing to achieve state and local required performance standards.

BACKGROUND

There has been considerable discussion of systemic issues related to data entry, confusion over appropriate procedures for goal setting, goal attainment and program exits. Staff has continuously provided technical assistance in program compliance and system updates.

SFWIB staff has provided numerous training sessions to Transition detailing WIA youth program eligibility requirements, data entry for performance, program outcomes, reports to be tracked for performance in order to see how their program is progressing and meeting performance standards and program guidelines.

To assist with ensuring that Transition is successful in improving their program performance, SFWIB staff will continue to provide technical assistance and will maintain an open door policy for communicating with all Transition's in-school and out-of-school staff, including case managers, program manager and the executive director.

After the first quarter performance standards are publicized from the State and Transition has not improved their performance, the Youth Council will need to decide the next steps to be taken as a result on non-performance.

SFWIB staff recommends approval to place Transition, Inc. on a performance watch list for the first quarter of the new program year starting July 1, 2009 through September 30, 2009 (three months) for failing to achieve state and local required performance standards.

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8.

SFWIB – Youth Council

June 18, 2009

Recommendation as to the Approval of an Allocation of Youth Program Funds for Public Safety Services Academy

RECOMMENDATION

SFWIB staff recommends that the Youth Council recommends to the Board the approval to allocate Youth Program funding in the amount not to exceed \$168,000 for the period of July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010, to sponsor a Public Safety Academy as a youth pilot program.

BACKGROUND

Miami-Dade County Public Schools (MDCPS) has developed a Public Safety Services Academy to provide instructional and mentoring services in the public schools with the goal of facilitating a ready entry level workforce for the position of Public Service Aides, Firefighter Cadets and Corrections Service Aides.

The Public Safety Services Academy is scheduled to begin in the fall of the 2009/2010 school year. The pilot program will target a total of seventy ninth graders at Miami Southridge High School (in the south) and William H. Turner Technical Arts High School (in the north)

Miami-Dade County will partner with SFWIB to support the pilot program by contributing an estimated \$262,000.00

The Public Safety Services Academy will align with the Miami-Dade Police Department, the Miami-Dade County Department of Corrections and the Miami-Dade County Fire Rescue Department to provide an enhanced curriculum (over four years) that will include: creating a school-to-work program that is a combination of education and training; implementing a curriculum that meets departmental academy requirements; providing a learning environment to meet the needs of the workplace to include an internship; and establishing a community-based employment feeder program from school-to-work (entry level) to career (law enforcement/corrections).

SFWIB staff recommends that SFWIB directly contract with Miami-Dade County Public Schools (MDCPS) to provide eligible in-school youth enrolled in the Public Service Academy with year round activities under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) and recommends an allocation of Youth Program funds in an amount not to exceed \$168,000 for the period of July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010, for Miami-Dade County Public Schools Public Safety Academy.

In following the procurement process of Miami-Dade County, Administrative Order No.: 3-38, it is recommended that SFWIB waive the competitive procurement as it is recommended by the Executive Director that this is in the best interest of SFWIB. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the quorum present is required to waive the competitive procurement process and award to Miami-Dade County Public Schools an allocation not to exceed \$168,000 in Youth Program funds to sponsor a Public Safety Academy as a youth pilot program.