



SOUTH FLORIDA WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, October 21, 2010

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. August 19, 2010
3. Information – MDCPS: Career and Technical Education (CTE)
4. Information – 2010 ARRA Summer Youth Employment Program Report
5. Information – WIA Youth Program Performance Report
6. Information – Waiver Request for Summer Employment Program Update
7. Recommendation as to Approval to Authorize Staff to Release a RFP to Provide Youth Services to the Juvenile Justice System Population
8. Recommendation as to Approval of a City of Miami Gardens Honors Internship Pilot Project



2.A

SFWIB - Youth Council

October 21, 2010

Minutes of SFWIB Youth Council Meeting, August 19, 2010

South Florida Workforce Investment Board
 Youth Council Meeting
 August 19, 2010 at 8:00 A.M.
 Doubletree Miami Mart/Airport Hotel & Exhibition Center
 711 NW 72nd Avenue, Salon A
 Miami, FL 33126

YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE	OTHER ATTENDEES	
1. Brown, Clarence 2. Jennings, Donna 3. Scott, Kenneth 4. Walker, Wanda 5. West, Alvin <i>Youth Council Members Not in Attendance</i> 6. Brown, Willie J. 7. Ferradaz, Gilda (Vice-Chair) 8. Rodriguez-Roig, Alex 9. Talbert, Gregg SFWIB STAFF Kavehersi, Cheri Morgan, Myria	Barroso, Lupe, CNC Castillo, Alicia - AMO Clark, Robert - <i>Greater Miami Service Corps (GMSC)</i> Dorsette, Deborah - <i>Greater Miami Service Corps (GMSC)</i> Farinas, Irene - AMO Heit, David - <i>Youth Co-Op</i> Jorda, Sharon – <i>Transition, Inc.</i> Marti, Sergio – <i>Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS)</i> Pichardo, Jorge – <i>Youth Co-Op</i> Sheffield, Chianta - AMO Someillan, Ana – AMO St. Ford, Shirrey - <i>Greater Miami Service Corps (GMSC)</i>	Tharpe, Towanda – <i>Greater Miami Service Corps (GMSC)</i> Townsend, Alice – <i>Transition, Inc.</i> Velez, Paulina – <i>Youth Co-Op, Inc</i>

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

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Mr. Alvin West called the meeting to order, asked the members present to introduce themselves and noted that a quorum has been achieved. He introduced Wanda Walker who is a new member of the Council, replacing former board member Regina Giles.

2. Approval of Youth Council Meeting Minutes for June 17, 2010

Dr. Jennings moved the approval of the minutes and motion was seconded by Mr. Scott; **Motion Passed.**

3. Information – 2009 M-DCPS ARRA Summer Youth Employment Program Update

Ms. Myria Morgan, SFWIB Youth Programs Manager, presented the item and mentioned that M-DCPS has been informed that the \$567,000 for staff costs will be paid.

Mr. West inquired about the additional \$116,847.60 and Ms. Morgan responded that the additional amount will not be paid. Mr. West advised staff to be extremely cautious next year (PY) with the unexpected overages as additional funds will not be available. He further asked for the status of this year's program (he extended his question to the audience) and based on audience responses, everything is running smoothly thus far.

4. Information – 2010 ARRA Summer Youth Employment Program Status Report

Ms. Morgan presented the item and went over the 2010 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Summer Youth Employment Program chart and mentioned the following:

- As of August 10th SFWIB served 1208 out of the target amount of 1363 youths
- 286 youths were background screened; 57 failed background screening and 30 with criminal records

Mr. West inquired about the repercussions for youths that failed the background screening. Ms. Morgan responded that they would still be qualified; however, they will not be selected to work at sensitive work sites.

Mr. Brown requested additional data that shows how many youths were placed with criminal backgrounds.

Dr. Jennings inquired about the status of the youths that are enrolled and Ms. Morgan replied that the enrolled youths are those that are currently in the system and have participated in the work readiness activities and/or the work activities. Dr. Jennings went on to suggest adding a category in the chart that says, "Employed."

Ms. Walker asked if the 30 youths with criminal records were placed and the response was yes.

Mr. West also wants information regarding the success rate included in the chart.

5. Recommendation as to the Approval of a WIA Waiver Request

Ms. Morgan presented the item.

Dr. Jennings inquired about the disadvantages and program funding. Ms. Morgan responded that it will be funded with WIA dollars.

Donna Jennings needed clarification on the difference between year round and summer program. Ms. Morgan explained the difference. She mentioned that SFWIB is simply requesting additional WIA dollars only to sponsor the summer program. She further explained that the demand for summer youth program is greater than the year round program.

Mr. Clarence Brown moved the approval of a WIA Waiver Request. It was seconded by Mr. Kenneth Scott; **Further Discussions:**

Dr. Jennings noted that she wants to ensure it doesn't take away from the year round program.

Mr. West asked for clarification on the word "waiver." Ms. Morgan explained it's to clarify that there will be a supplemental program.

Motion Passed; all in favor with no opposition

Mr. West asked if there were any questions or concerns and adjourned the meeting.



3.

SFWIB - Youth Council

October 21, 2010

Presentation: M-DCPS Career and Technical Education

Information Item

BACKGROUND

Miami-Dade County Public Schools' (M-DCPS) Career and Technical Education programs are designed to prepare youth and adults to enter the career of their choice through occupational training. M-DCPS offers over 60 different technical education programs at 21 main campuses conveniently located throughout Miami-Dade County. The program schedules are flexible, meeting the needs of working youth and adults. A presentation on Career and Technical Education programs will be delivered by representatives of M-DCPS.



4.

SFWIB - Youth Council

October 21, 2010

**2010 ARRA Summer Youth Employment
Program Report**

Information Item

BACKGROUND

SFWIB staff will provide information on the status of the 2010 ARRA Summer Youth Employment Program.



5.

SFWIB - Youth Council

October 21, 2010

WIA Youth Program Performance Report

Information Item

BACKGROUND

The attached table shows First Quarter, July 1, 2010 to September 30, 2010, Youth Partners' performance.

Attachment

WIA YOUTH SERVICE PROVIDERS PERFORMANCE - JULY 1, 2010 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2010

Youth Service Providers	Youth Skill Attainment Performance Measure (80%)			Younger Youth Outcome Performance Measure (90%)			In School Youth Outcome Performance Measure (90%)			Out of School Youth Outcome Performance Measure (90%)		
	# to be Met	# Met	% of Standard Met	# to be Met	# Met	% of Standard Met	# to be Met	# Met	% of Standard Met	# to be Met	# Met	% of Standard Met

IN SCHOOL YOUTH PROGRAM

Adult Mankind Organization	44	43	98%	12	12	100%	11	11	100%	1	1	100%
City of Hialeah	27	26	96%	21	21	100%	21	21	100%			
Cuban American National Council	22	22	100%	9	9	100%	8	8	100%			
Youth Coop Florida Keys	2	2	100%									
Transition	34	31	91%	5	5	100%	3	3	100%	2	2	100%
UNIDAD of Miami Beach	18	16	89%	16	16	100%	16	16	100%			
Youth Coop Miami-Dade	48	47	98%	10	10	100%	10	10	100%			

OUT OF SCHOOL YOUTH

Adult Mankind Organization	32	28	88%	2	2	100%	1	1	100%	1	1	100%
Youth Coop Florida Keys	6	6	100%	1	1	100%				1	1	100%
Greater Miami Service Corps	14	13	93%	2	2	100%				2	2	100%
Hialeah	33	30	91%	7	7	100%	5	5	100%	4	4	100%
Youth Coop Homestead	40	38	95%	2	2	100%	1	1	100%	1	1	100%
Youth Coop Little Havana	79	74	94%	6	6	100%	2	2	100%	8	8	100%
Transition	15	13	87%									
Arbor Carol City WIA Adult										1	1	100%

FILES TRANSFERRED FROM PAST PROGRAMS

Adult Mankind Organization	36	1	3%	13	13	100%	6	6	100%	12	12	100%
Cuban American national Council	7	6	86%	2	2	100%	2	2	100%			
City of Hialeah												
Greater Miami Service Corps	4	1	25%	1	1	100%				1	1	100%
UNIDAD of Miami Beach	4	1	25%	3	3	100%	3	3	100%			
Youth Coop	18	1	6%	3	3	100%				3	3	100%

REGIONAL PERFORMANCE	483	399	83%	115	115	100%	89	89	100%	37	37	100%
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6.

SFWIB - Youth Council

October 21, 2010

Update: Waiver Request for Summer Stand-Alone Program

Information Item

BACKGROUND

At its August 19, 2010, meeting, the Youth Council approved and recommended to the Board the approval for Region 23 to submit a WIA Waiver Request to the State for a stand-alone summer youth employment program. Subsequently, the Board approved the Council's recommendation.

SFWIB staff drafted the attached waiver request and submitted it to Workforce Florida, Inc. for review, approval and submission to the United States Department of Labor.

Attachment



September 30, 2010

Mr. Chris Hart, IV
President
Workforce Florida, Inc.
1580 Waldo Palmer Lane
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Dear Mr. Hart:

On behalf of the South Florida Workforce Investment Board (SFWIB), the administrative entity for the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA) in Region 23 (Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties), respectfully request consideration of the enclosed WIA waiver for a Summer Stand-Alone Youth Employment Program. This waiver request was developed in accordance with WIA Section 129(c)(1)(2), (29 U.S.C. 2854), 20 C.F.R. 664.600 (a)(b)(c)(d), Subpart F- Summer Employment Opportunities, 664.410 and 664.610 and approved by the SFWIB at its August 19, 2010, meeting. WIA permits the Secretary to waive statutory or regulatory requirements of this Title that are inconsistent with the specific needs of the local areas.

SFWIB believes that granting the waiver would result in maximizing youth service delivery activities in Region 23 during the summer months.

Please note that there is no explicit language in WIA that precludes Local Boards from implementing a summer stand-alone program. SFWIB's proposed waiver request is not intended to replace the year-round program; the request is for a summer stand-alone component to the year-round services requirement, enabling more youth to be served during the critical out-of-school summer months.

Thank you for your consideration of this waiver request. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Myria Morgan, Youth Programs Manager, at (305) 594-7615 Ext 292.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Beasley".

Rick Beasley
Executive Director
South Florida Workforce Investment Board

Enclosure

Pc: Gustavo Alonso, Assistant Director of Finance
Myria Morgan, Youth Programs Manager
Phillip Edwards, Policy Coordinator

7300 Corporate Center Drive, Suite 500, Miami, FL 33126-1234

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South Florida Workforce Investment Board – Region 23
Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties
Workforce Investment Act (WIA)

Waiver Request for a Summer Stand-Alone Youth Employment Program

The South Florida Workforce Investment Board as the administrative entity of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) in Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties submits this request for a waiver for a Summer Stand-Alone Youth Employment Program under the Workforce Investment Act. This waiver request is being written in the format identified in WIA Section 189(i)(4)(B) and 20 CFR 661.420 and meets the standard set for waiver approval at 20 CFR 661.420(c)(e).

Every region is unique in its needs, structure, service delivery, design and demographics. In order to make workforce services meet the needs of each region, it is imperative that the WIA allow as much flexibility as possible to local regions to adjust services to meet the region's needs.

Currently, the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) requires Local Boards to offer summer employment opportunities to youth as one of the ten required program elements listed in WIA Section 129(c)(2) and Section 664.420 of the Federal Register, the Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration, and WIA Final Rules. The summer program is a part of the menu of services offered to youth year-round. Under WIA's predecessor, The Job Training Partnership Act, a stand-alone summer youth employment and training program was a separately funded activity.

SFWIB does not believe that contracted year-round youth programs are the best and only preparation pathway for at-risk youth populations. SFWIB's proposed waiver request is not intended to replace the year-round program; the request is for a summer stand-alone component to the year-round services requirement, maximizing the reach of employment services to youth during the critical out-of-school summer months.

A. Statutory or Regulatory Requirements to be Waived

Workforce Investment Act Section 664.600(d) which stipulates that "The summer youth employment opportunities element is not intended to be a stand-alone program. Local programs should integrate a youth's participation in that element into a comprehensive strategy for addressing the youth's employment and training needs. Youths who participate in summer employment opportunities must be provided with a minimum of twelve months of follow-up services, as required in 664.450 (WIA sec. 129(c)(2)(C)". This waiver will only apply to the summer employment program element as being a stand-alone activity occurring in the summer months (June-August).

B. Goals of the Waiver and Expected Programmatic Outcomes if Waiver is Granted

The main goal that will be achieved through the granting of this waiver is the enhancement of the summer youth program service delivery by permitting summer employment activities in WIA to become a stand-alone summer activity. A stand-alone summer program is more beneficial to the needs of the youth in Region 23 because it would allow Region 23 to maximize the application of youth dollars to a greater number of participants, reducing idleness and recidivism during the summer months when the majority of youth are out of school. Moreover, a summer stand-alone program reduces staff costs, placing the emphasis on participant costs.

Conversely, there are several disadvantages to offering a summer program as one of the elements of youth year-round services. The most noticeable disadvantages are: less youth served because resources are expended year-round and increased staff costs due to year-round follow-up services. Should the waiver be granted, Region 23 would be able to apply additional resources on increased summer employment opportunities to local youth.

This waiver request is consistent with Region 23's goal of connecting youth to employers by providing them summer job training and employment opportunities. That goal is also within the spirit of the WIA, i.e. equipping youth with long term job skills. If granted, the waiver request would enhance the region's ability to assess the effectiveness and impact of workforce development efforts for youth, serve more youth, increase service access to more youth, and additional service options would be available for education and employment.

Furthermore, granting this waiver would assist SFWIB's goal to achieve local, State and Federal WIA strategic planning objectives with the need to demonstrate compliance with the statutory and regulatory requirements for serving youth in the Strategic Plan.

SFWIB recognizes the accomplishments made since the implementation of WIA, but the statute would best achieve youth-related goals by being responsive to local needs, particularly during an economic malaise. Implementation of this waiver would permit SFWIB to serve those youth interested in participating only in summer opportunities by streamlining the process and allowing SFWIB to focus on the needs of the individual youth.

C. State or Local Statutory or Regulatory Barriers

There are no state or local statutory or regulatory barriers to implementing SFWIB's request or any federal waiver necessary to implement the waiver request. The waiver request is in accordance with the intent of State or local statutory or regulatory barriers to implementing the proposed waiver enacted to implement WIA.

As written, WIA legislation allows for summer youth programs, however, it is in the context of a year-round youth program. Current (and projected) funding levels for the WIA Youth Program are insufficient to allow many youth to receive summer employment services under the year round program. This is particularly troublesome in today's economy where youth have few summer opportunities for job training and employment. Under the current WIA Youth Programs, local areas can include a summer youth component as part of a year round youth program. However, funding prohibits much use of the summer youth program component. Under WIA, the focus of youth programs has changed from the provision of short-term, stand-alone programs to providing year-round, long-term services designed to assist both in-school and out-of-school youth to make the transition to post-secondary training and careers.

The program design framework component is an essential ingredient in helping local areas develop comprehensive service strategies for youth based upon their individual needs. It consists of intake, an objective assessment, individual service strategy development, and information and referrals for youth participants (WIA section 129(c)(1)) (29 U.S.C. 2854). It is not SFWIB's intent to request this waiver to circumvent the requirements of WIA, but to bring service delivery for youth closer to the intent of the Act, to serve youth efficiently according to the youth's individual need.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Summer Youth Program proved to be highly successful in providing a large number of low-income at-risk youth the opportunity to gain work skills and income when they would otherwise lack the opportunity. A separate summer youth program should be continued because the year-round program lacks the investment for a sizeable summer youth program.

D. Description of Individuals Impacted by the Waiver

The waiver request will positively affect Region 23's WIA youth age 14 - 21 participating in the summer program. In addition, the local areas, local TANF agencies and business partners that employ the eligible youth will be positively impacted. Region 23's youth are experiencing a unique set of circumstances, as it relates to employment/unemployment, the local economy, social needs, criminal activities and the physical environment.

Region 23 is unique in its needs, structure, program design and demographics to serve youth. In order to make workforce services meet the distinct needs of this region, it is imperative the WIA legislation allow as much flexibility as possible to adjust services to meet this region's needs to better serve the youth in this community. The summer stand-alone program design framework component will be an essential ingredient in helping Region 23 develop comprehensive service strategies for youth based upon their individual needs. Although there is dispute regarding the interpretation of the WIA language regarding the requirement for providing services to youth, the disputes only draw attention to the need to address the issues in WIA legislation.

E. Opportunity for Public Comment and the Process for Monitoring Implementation of the Waiver

This waiver request was developed as a result of concerns expressed by local community leaders. The initial element of the waiver request was developed and discussed at a local community meeting on August 5th, 2010. The waiver request was presented and discussed at the Youth Council and Executive Board meetings on August 19, 2010. Minutes from the meetings demonstrate that the council and board reviewed the waiver request and provided input and guidance. As with all major policy and procedural decisions made by SFWIB, the agency relies heavily upon input from our service partners and the public. The issue of summer stand-alone employment was discussed with youth service partners and the general public to gain input on issues and on the benefits of being granted this waiver. The partners enthusiastically supported the waiver, readily seeing its benefits to at-risk youth with no other viable job training and employment opportunities during the summer out-of-school months. Partners commented that without the waiver youth unable to be served due to limited year-round resources would turn to criminal behavior.

SFWIB monitors its local youth service providers through Financial Oversight and the Office of Continuous Improvement (OCI) -Technical Assistance Departments, also with the assistance of Youth Program Staff performing oversight, technical assistance and monitoring procedures. Financial oversight reviews are conducted and consists of reviews in areas such as financial management, procurement, property, cost allocations and program year closeouts. OCI Staff uses a programmatic review guide/tool that mirrors the State's Monitoring Review Tools. The summer program procedures require that summer worksites are monitored for safety, compliance, child labor laws, time sheets and etc. SFWIB utilizes the reporting mechanisms in the Employ Florida

Marketplace to identify youth served in the summer and year round programs. In addition, SFWIB has in-house systems in place that can distinguish between those youth who receive employment only in the summer months and those youth participating in the summer year round activities.

Information contained in the state's management information system and financial management tracking system will be reviewed and reported to the local areas and Workforce Florida on a regular basis. Review of the implementation and application of the policy will regularly be placed on the agenda of public meetings of State Board and regular scheduled meetings of the Board members and staff, with partner agencies, representatives of regional workforce boards, one-stop operators and other partners.

If the waiver request is granted, youth service partners will be informed of the waiver via meetings, policy and guidance through an agency issuance directive that will be disseminated and technical assistance. Technical assistance during the implementation phase of the waiver may cover areas such as procurement, contracting and program design. SFWIB, as the administrative entity of WIA in Region 23 will monitor the implementation and results of this waiver. SFWIB will publicly announce the summer employment program to the community via publishing's in the local newspaper, website, radio and community meetings.



7.

SFWIB – Youth Council

October 21, 2010

Approval to Authorize Staff to Release a RFP to Provide Youth Services to the Juvenile Justice System Population

RECOMMENDATION

SFWIB staff is recommending that the Youth Council recommend to the Board the approval to authorize staff to release a RFP to provide youth services to the juvenile justice system population.

BACKGROUND

The majority of criminal youth studies recognize that youth involved in the juvenile justice system represent one of the most vulnerable populations in the United States, prone to recidivism and semiliteracy. Accordingly, assisting youth offenders transition to law-abiding, productive civic participants is a major challenge for the social workers charged with their care.

The employability of youth offenders, particularly in the current economic climate, is an obstacle for social service and career center workers. The local workforce system is disconnected from the juvenile justice system, making it difficult to tailor employment and training services to the needs of youth offenders. Thus, staff recommends that the Youth Council recommend to the Board the approval for staff to issue a RFP to provide youth services to the juvenile justice system population.



8.

SFWIB – Youth Council

October 21, 2010

Approval of a City of Miami Gardens Honors Internship Pilot Project

RECOMMENDATION

SFWIB staff recommends that the Youth Council recommend to the Board the approval to allocate ARRA WIA youth dollars in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 for the period of January 1, 2011, to December 31, 2011, to the City of Miami Gardens to support the Honors Internship Pilot Project.

BACKGROUND

SFWIB has partnered with the City of Miami Gardens to develop an Honors Internship Project to create employment opportunities for young adults residing in the City of Miami Gardens. The project will provide professional work experience for young adults in the field of public administration. During the internship, project participants will work alongside administrators in various Miami Gardens departments.

The Honors Internship Project is scheduled to begin in January 2011 and will target 10 young adults – five high school and five college students. To participate in the project, the young adult must be between the ages of 16 to 21, eligible to work in the United States, comply with all Miami Gardens employment requirements, and meet family and income requirements. Qualified applicants will earn \$10.00 to \$12.00 per hour and work up to 20 hours per week for approximately 32 weeks.

In contracting with the City of Miami Gardens to deliver youth services through the Honors Internship Project, the SFWIB Executive Director is recommending, consistent with Administrative Order No.: 3-38, that the competitive procurement process be waived as that is in the best interests of the SFWIB.