

## What Do Youth Committees Do?

“Recipes for Success: A Youth Committee Guide under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act,” Spring 2017, Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor.

- *(T)he main function of a Youth Committee is to inform and assist the Local WDBs in developing and overseeing a comprehensive youth program... (p. 3).*
- Propose the design of a comprehensive community workforce development system to ensure a full range of services and opportunities for all youth, including disconnected youth;
- Suggest ways to leverage resources and coordinate services among schools, public programs, and community-based organizations (CBOs) serving youth;
- Offer ways to coordinate youth services and put forward eligible youth service providers;
- Provide ongoing leadership and support for continuous quality improvement for local youth programs; and
- Assist with planning, operational, and other issues relating to the provision of services to youth
- The challenge is “*building a system of effective connections for youth to the mainstream of productive employment, satisfying family life, and fulfilling citizenship*” (p. 37).
- *Sustain and grow your youth workforce development system and expand it to reach greater numbers of Out-of-School Youth. (p. 39).*

“Final Rule: Part 681—Youth Activities Under Title I of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act,” *Federal Register*, Aug. 19, 2016.

From Introduction:

*WIOA calls for customer-focused services based on the needs of the individual participant. This includes the creation of **career pathways** for youth in all title I youth programs, including a connection to career pathways as part of a youth's individual service strategy (ISS) in the youth formula-funded program.*

“WIOA State Plan for the State of Hawaii FY- 2018”

*2. Describe the strategies the State will use to achieve improved outcomes for out-of-school youth.... (p. 214)*

*Hawaii supports the federal vision focusing efforts on out-of-school-youth and those with the most difficult barriers to their becoming contributing members of society. The State's strategy for providing comprehensive, integrated services to eligible youth is to ask that LWDB's, as part of their local planning process, prepare a comprehensive youth plan that (a) identifies the percentage of youth funds allocated for older youth, (b) **concentrates on the neediest youth described at the end of this section, and (c) formalizes coordination of local agencies.***

Identifies “neediest youth” (p. 215): *youth with disabilities, youth in and aging out of foster care, youth offenders, children of incarcerated parents, homeless youth, pregnant and parenting teens.*

*Local areas should identify the extent to which the 14 program service elements are available or already being provided in the local area through a combination of resource mapping, competitive selection of providers, or through community partnerships...*

## YOUTH SERVICES COMMITTEE

### Role

WIOA promotes a broader vision of high quality comprehensive services for at-risk youth and young adults beginning with individual assessments of youth's academic and work readiness, and personal strengths and challenges. The Youth Program provides opportunities for overcoming challenges with career readiness activities, career exploration and guidance, support for educational attainment, creation of in-demand industry-and occupational skills training opportunities, culminating with a good job along a career pathway or enrollment in post-secondary education. Under WIOA, 75% of youth formula funds must be spent on eligible out-of-school youth, and 20% must be spent on work-based learning experiences. In addition, State vocational rehabilitation agencies must set aside at least 15% of their funding to provide extensive pre-employment transition services so youth with disabilities can successfully obtain competitive integrated employment.

### Responsibilities

To support 2018 — 2020 Unified State Plan recommendations and continuing improvement in WIOA, this Committee leads the effort with implementing the following recommendations:

- Recommend strategies for improved services to youth, including youth with disabilities, foster care youth, and youth offenders.
- Monitor youth programs in counties (review performance measure outcomes, availability of program elements)
- Assist youth with disabilities, foster care youth, and youth offenders gain competitive integrated employment through skills development.
- Monitor and provide guidance for three (3) WIOA youth program elements (there are a total of 14 elements):
  1. Adult mentoring
  2. Financial literacy
  3. Entrepreneurial skills training
- Commit to system-building to align youth services, avoid duplication, and increase education and workforce development opportunities to at-risk out-of-school youth
  1. Mapping out community resources available to at-risk youth and creating linkages to develop a unified, integrated system of comprehensive services.