

## **Youth Services Committee Report**

### **Executive Committee Meeting, July 23, 2020**

Since the last Executive Committee meeting the Youth Committee met once, February 18. Meetings scheduled on April 21 and June 16 were cancelled due to COVID-19.

**Meeting, February 18.** Chair, Ian Kitajima announced that the Finance committee approved the Youth committee's \$75,000 proposed budget plan to support and implement the following WIOA youth program elements.

**1) Entrepreneurial skills training**

Committee member, Steve Sue, is leading a hui of committee members to develop an entrepreneurial skills training concept. Bizgenics Foundation, a non-profit organization, is the service provider of choice being considered to launch this initiative, customized for the WIOA Youth Program. The Foundation has collaborated with 50 schools statewide to educate and train youth on entrepreneurial skills. The goal is to teach the "entrepreneurial mindset" of creativity, collaboration, critical thinking, and innovation. This initiative is earmarked for \$15,000.

**2) Comprehensive guidance and counseling; trauma-informed assessment**

Committee members, Stacy Ferreira and Josiah Akau will lead a hui of committee members to develop this initiative aimed at WIOA youth participants, many who exhibit at-risk behavior. The aim is to create an assessment approach to identify program youth exhibiting emerging at-risk behavior in need of appropriate intervention resources applied as a "triage" system of support. The hui will focus their planning efforts in collaborating with community stakeholders engaged in the Hawaii Department of Education (HIDOE) Trauma-Informed Assessment for Early Intervention program.

HIDOE, under H.R.S. Act 271 (Senate Bill No. 388, 30th Legislature, passed on July 12, 2019), has established a task force to *create a system for evaluating and assessing all children and those who are exhibiting emergent or persistent behaviors, academic challenges, or chronic absenteeism and are in need of appropriate supports and interventions accessible within the continuum of a multi-tiered system of supports.*

Budget expenditure will facilitate the training of Youth Program staff to perform and use trauma informed assessments to enhance workforce services to the program youth. This initiative is earmarked for \$30,000.

**3) Paid and unpaid work experience and activities to prepare youth for and transitioning to post-secondary education and training**

Committee member, Nisa Tokunaga will lead a hui of committee members to develop work-based learning experiences that expands upon the current program which currently has partnerships with community colleges and private sector entities. The aim is to develop alternate learning sites and environments that accommodate a wide array of skill, interest and motivation levels of the youth participants. Entrepreneurial settings will have a priority in the development of these alternate learning sites. This initiative is earmarked for \$30,000.

COVID-19 has altered the implementation timeline of the three initiatives. It may also affect the budget for each of the initiatives. The committee is prepared to consider adjustments to the overall budget plan and prioritize the planning and development for all three initiatives, as needed.

**The next committee meeting, a Zoom virtual meeting, is scheduled on Tuesday August 18, 2020 (1:30 – 2:30).**

## Youth Services Committee PY 19 Budget Plan

### I. Third and Fourth Quarter (January 1 to June 30, 2020)

**Requested Amount: \$30,000**

**Purpose of Funds:** Support WIOA Youth Program Element 10 Guidance and Counseling, specifically trauma-informed care

**Justification:** One of the responsibilities of this committee is to develop strategies to improve services to youth (see “Roles and Responsibilities”). This committee has identified trauma-informed care for at-risk youth as one of these strategies and its most important priority (see “Ranked Priorities/Goals”). As such, the committee will identify an activity to fund that moves the State in the direction of supporting statewide trauma-informed care for at-risk youth.

There are three focus areas that will encompass part one of this pilot initiative.

- 1.) Training. Trauma informed care training for staff – Toxic stress, Brain development, Identification and support of students in trauma.
- 2.) Early intervention trauma screening. Follow up comprehensive assessments and reporting with appropriate aftercare and accommodations for (5) students.
- 3.) Aftercare Process Development. Student aftercare process development for pilot participant workforce development agency(ies) and vocational training program(s).

### II. Third Quarter (January 1 to March 30, 2020)

**Requested Amount: \$15,000**

**Purpose of Funds:** Support WIOA Youth Program Element 12 Entrepreneurial Skills Training

**Justification:** One of the responsibilities of this committee is to identify methods to provide entrepreneurial skills training in local areas for Title I Youth Programs (see “Roles and Responsibilities”). This committee has identified the provision of entrepreneurial skills training as one of its most important priorities (see “Ranked Priorities/Goals”). As such, the committee will determine which local areas are currently in need of entrepreneurial skills training activities and then use budgeted funds to support the Youth Programs in developing this training for its participants. Currently the Oahu Youth Program has expressed an interest in developing an entrepreneurial skills training activity for its participants.

### III. Fourth Quarter (April 1 to June 30, 2020)

**Requested Amount: \$30,000**

**Purpose of Funds:** Support WIOA Youth Program Element 3 Work-based learning experiences and/or Element 14 Activities to Prepare Youth for Postsecondary Education and Training

**Justification:** The responsibilities of this committee include identifying methods to provide activities that prepare youth for transition to postsecondary education and training (see “Roles and Responsibilities”). Specifically, the committee has prioritized the development of professional skills (also referred to as “soft skills) and work-based learning experiences--such as internships and pre-apprenticeships (see “Ranked Priorities/Goals”). As such, the committee will use budgeted money to support the development of activities that fulfill these responsibilities.

**Total budget requested for PY19: \$75,000**