

WDC Board Meeting, November 12, 2020

Youth Committee Update

Highlights

Since the last Workforce Development Board meeting on August 13, the Youth Committee has convened 1 meeting held on August 18, 2020

The scheduled meeting on October 20 was postponed to November 17, to allow time for the three subcommittees to develop a detail implementation plan for the following youth program elements and to report out in the next scheduled meeting November 17.

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 goal is to teach the “entrepreneurial mindset” of creativity, collaboration, critical thinking, and innovation. The budget is \$50,000.

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. 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 budget is \$40,000.

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. The budget is \$30,000.

Questions can be addressed to Mark Olds, WDC staff, mark.n.olds@hawaii.gov or 808.586.9167.