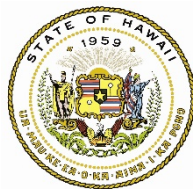


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

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YOUTH SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, April 20, 2021

1:30 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Online via Zoom

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, protecting the health and welfare of the community is a priority. The meeting was held remotely, with Committee members and staff participating via an online meeting venue.

MINUTES

ATTENDEES:

Ian Kitajima, Committee Chair, Director of Corporate Development, Oceanit
Winona Whitman, Committee Vice Chair, Director Employment & Training, Alu Like, Inc.
Josiah Akau, Kinai ‘Eha
Stacy Ferreira, State of Hawaii Senate
Lois Hamaguchi, UH CTE
David Miyashiro, HawaiiKidsCan
Bruce Oliveira, HI State Department of Defense, Community Programs
Steve Sue, Bizgenics Foundation
Troy Sueoka, DOE – CTE
Katie Taladay, STEMworks
Nisa Tokunaga, American Job Center Hawaii
Danny Wyatt, LCC Waianae-Moku

STAFF:

Allicyn Tasaka, Executive Director
Jeanne Ohta, Special Projects Specialist
Harrison Kuranishi, Employment Service Specialist

I. Call to Order.....Committee Chair Ian Kitajima
Committee Chair Ian Kitajima called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes
A. January 19, 2021

A motion was made by Steve Sue to approve the minutes of the meeting held on January 19, 2021. The motion was seconded by Stacy Ferreira. There were no questions or objections. The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

III. Public Comments on Items on Agenda

No members from the public made comments.

IV. Chair's Prerogative

The following report was taken out of order on the agenda to accommodate the presenter's schedule.

- A. Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling; trauma-informed assessment with Oahu American Job Center by Stacy Ferreira & Nisa Tokunaga
Stacy Ferreira reported that they have a vendor, Danny Goya of Ke Ala Ho'aka, to provide trauma-informed care training and four entities – Kupu, Adult Friends for Youth, Kinai 'Eha, and Executive Office on Aging – ready to participate in the pilot program. However, the contract with the City & County has not yet been executed. She is asking the committee for any assistance they can provide in moving the process along. Nisa Tokunaga reported the contracts are with the Fiscal Office and hopes it will be returned by early next week.

Stacy Ferreira gave an overview of the pilot program to the committee members. This pilot program will provide trauma-informed care training for the staff of workforce development entities and organizations that work with vulnerable youth. It will also provide ways to implement care into their programs and for their own staff. There will be a human resources component that will establish protocols and processes on how to better hire individuals who can provide care for youth. House Bill 1322 has made it through legislation and relates to statewide trauma-informed care. The Department of Health will be the lead to assemble a working group of state agencies to incorporate trauma-informed care across all state agencies. HB1322 states that if an organization or entity requests or applies for Federal or City & County funds, they will have to demonstrate that they are a trauma-informed care organization.

V. Workforce Development Council Update

Jeanne Ohta provided the committee with an update on the expenditures for the Youth Program as of February 28, 2021. There is an available balance of 43% for PY19 and only a small fraction of PY20 funds were expended. PY19 funds will lapse on June 30, 2021 and PY20 will lapse on June 30, 2022. The state is currently exceeding the 20% requirement of funds to be expended on Work Experience. The state is also meeting the 75% requirement to service Out of School Youth.

Chair Kitajima asked what the process is for a youth joining the Youth Program. Jeanne Ohta and Nisa Tokunaga explained that the Youth Program will assess the youth and find

employers who will hire a youth to provide paid or unpaid work experience for career exploration. The youth may also be offered education opportunities if necessary.

VI. Status on Committee Budget Plan

A. Entrepreneurial Skills Training with Oahu American Job Center by Steve Sue
Steve Sue reported that the Entrepreneurial Skills Training program is also experiencing a few contracting issues with the City & County. However, Nisa Tokunaga has been assisting through the process. One of the curriculum tracks is Lemonade Alley, where the youth work in teams to run a business. Nisa Tokunaga added that the youth are engaged and really enjoying the program. Chair Kitajima asked how this program can be spread across the island and the rest of the state. Steve Sue said that Kamehameha Schools will implement this curriculum this summer and will be readily available for wider distribution. The remaining three curriculum tracks include t-shirt design, sticker design, and friendship jewelry. Troy Sueoka added that the DOE will be pursuing commercial enterprises in schools and will connect with Steve Sue about entrepreneurship. Katie Taladay added that the STEMworks Solutions program is open to Youth and free for participants.

VII. For Discussion

A. Revisiting the Mission of the Committee
Youth Services Committee purpose and role: The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act promotes a broad vision of high- quality comprehensive career services for America’s youths. In support of the Hawaii Unified State Plan recommendations for continuous improvement in youth services, the committee supports the work of state and local boards and American Job Centers in developing their Youth Programs. It recommends strategies for improved access to opportunities on career pathways for Hawaii’s at-risk youths, thus preparing them for the 21st century workforce.

The Committee agreed that one of the purposes of the committee’s work is to keep the Youth in Hawaii by providing more opportunities for them. The committee should also look at taking the successes from pilot projects and spreading them statewide.

B. Proposals for Statewide Youth Projects for FY 2022 (7/1/21 to 6/30/22)
WDC Executive Director Allcyn Tasaka reported that WDC anticipates some of the counties will be returning funds due to less activity over the past year at the American Job Centers due to COVID-19. This could mean possible funds for this committee to expend on statewide activities. Executive Director Tasaka asked the committee to reach out to their partners on the neighbor islands to see if programs can be implemented in other counties.

VIII. Announcements

Winona Whitman announced that information on Alu Like’s statewide online interactive incentive program was distributed by email.

Stacy Ferreira announced that if there are any policy or advocacy issues that the committee would like to push on behalf of the Youth Services Committee during the next legislative session, the committee should consider a brainstorming session.

David Miyashiro announced that he has been working with Burt Lum on Digital Equity in the Broadband Hui. Digital literacy is a large part of workforce development and would be helpful if we continued to keep aligned with it.

Katie Taladay announced that the Hawaii STEM Conference is coming up. All committee members are welcomed to sign up for free at www.hawaiiitemconference.org.

Executive Director Tasaka suggested creating a subcommittee if this committee would like to pursue issues legislatively.

IX. Meeting Schedule for 2021

The 2021 WDC Board meetings are scheduled for May 13, August 12, and November 18. The next Youth Services Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, June 22 at 1:30 p.m.

Chair Kitajima asked committee members to think of proposals for statewide Youth Projects for fiscal year 2022.

X. Adjournment

Committee Chair Kitajima adjourned the meeting at 2:38 p.m.