YOUTH SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, April 26, 2022
1:00 p.m. – 2:00p.m.

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

MINUTES

ATTENDEES:
Ian Kitajima, Committee Chair, Oceanit
Winona Whitman, Committee Vice Chair, Director Employment & Training, Alu Like, Inc.
Cary Miyashiro, Quad D Solutions
David Miyashiro, HawaiiKidsCAN
Deborah Spencer-Chun, Adult Friends for Youth
Erin Yagi, Hawaii P-20 Partnerships for Education
Iva Cain, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Dept. of Human Services
Josiah Akau, Kinai ‘Eha
Linda Puppolo, Maui County Workforce Development Board
Sandra Goodale, Hawaii County Workforce Development Board
Shauna Tanner, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation: Maui, Dept. of Human Services
Sheri Komatsu, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation: Oahu, Dept. of Human Services
Stacy Ferreira, State Senate, Ways & Means Committee
Steve Sue, Bizgenics Foundation
Troy Sueoka, HI Dept. of Education, Career and Technical Education
Warren Kawano, Hawaii P-20 Partnerships for Education

STAFF:
Allicyn Tasaka, Workforce Development Division (WDD)
Maricar Pilotin-Freitas, WDD
Jarret Yip, WDD
Harrison Kuranishi, WDD
Jaimee Tabangay, WDD
I. Call to Order:
The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. by Committee Chair Ian Kitajima

II. Approval of Minutes from October 19, 2021 & November 16, 2021, Meetings:
Committee Chair Kitajima requested a motion to approve the meeting minutes from October 19, 2021, and November 16, 2021. A motion was made by Steve Sue and seconded by Cary Miyashiro. There were no amendments, questions, objections, or abstentions. The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes from the January 25, 2022, Meeting:
Committee Chair Kitajima requested a motion to approve the meeting minutes from January 25, 2022, A motion was made by Cary Miyashiro and seconded by Stacy Ferreira. There were no amendments, questions, objections, or abstentions. The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

III. Legislative Subcommittee Update by David Miyashiro, HawaiiKidsCAN & Stacy Ferreira, Hawaii State Senate
David Miyashiro reported the status of the following bills that this committee supported during the legislative session which ends on May 5, 2022: Senate Bills 2826, 2816, and 2824 will be in conference for further consideration on April 27; and Senate Bill 2177 did not progress and is dead for this session. Mr. Miyashiro expressed the importance of in-person support for the bills at the Capitol, which is now re-opened to the public.

SB2826: Provides incentive funds to schools when students complete quality industry recognized credentials.
SB2816: Provides grant funds to families to support with key educational supplies and needs.
SB2824: Diversifies the Hawaii Board of Education by updating membership requirements.
SB 2177: Did not pass: Enabled more students to participate in career readiness opportunities by removing barriers.

Stacy Ferreira provided an update on Senate Bill 2482 which establishes a temporary Office of Wellness and Resilience within the Office of the Governor to ensure that trauma informed care is coordinated across all 20 state departments; programs and services are offered to the public; and service providers are cared for. This bill is now in conference and will be heard today (April 26, 2022) at 4:10 p.m.

Ms. Ferreira further explained that there are two (2) amendments to the bill that are being considered: (1) budget for six (6) positions and $894,000 in funds for operating expenses; and (2) transition date from the Governor’s office to the Department of Health on June 30, 2024.
Ms. Ferreira also shared that Josiah Akau spoke at a national conference on trauma informed care and other related topics in March at the Hawaii Convention Center.

IV. **Workforce Development Division by Maricar Pilotin-Freitas, Administrator & Jarret Yip, Program Officer**
WDD update report provided by Maricar Pilotin-Freitas and Jarret Yip can be found at the following link: [https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/files/2022/04/WDD-Update-Report-for-Youth-Services-on-4.26.22-1.pdf](https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/files/2022/04/WDD-Update-Report-for-Youth-Services-on-4.26.22-1.pdf)

Linda Puppolo, Executive Director of Maui Workforce Development Board commented she was grateful for neighbor islands being considered in the Aloha Apprenticeship Accelerator Grant Proposal. Ms. Puppolo shared her concerns with the University of Hawaii’s lack of communication regarding enrollment, which has delayed co-enrolment for eligible students at the American Job Center.

V. **Discussion on Committee’s Short & Long -Term Goals:**
Some topics, ideas and concerns mentioned were high school drop out rate due to COVID-19; retaining special education students; redirecting students to stay/return to school to avoid youth violence and work with them to become employable; and address low graduation rate in Chuukese population.

Committee Chair Kitajima decided to schedule another meeting to continue discussion on the committee’s short- and long-term goals.

VI. **Next Meetings:**
Next meeting is scheduled for May 10, 2022, to continue discussion and complete short- and long- term goals. The report for this committee’s activities will be reported to the Executive Committee on May 6, 2022, and to the full board meeting on May 12, 2022.

VII. **Announcements and Public Testimonies:**
A. Ms. Pilotin-Freitas shared that the State Apprenticeship Council will meet soon and is open to the public. New programs are vetted by the Council and then recommended to the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations for approval.

B. No public testimonies.

VIII. **Adjournment:**
Committee Chair Kitajima adjourned the meeting at 2:06 p.m.
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