

Niagara WDB Youth Committee Meeting

Meeting Held: 7/18/2024 at 10:30am via Zoom

Attendees: Lindsay Collins of Collins Accounting, Bonnie Rice of Niagara County WDB, Dennis Martinez of ACCES-VR, Dawn Cody of Niagara County Development & Training, Michele Taylor of NYS Department of Labor, Dawn Wylke, Principal of Lockport High School.

We had an update from Bonnie and Dawn Cody on grants that allow youth opportunities to advance in the workforce.

Career Exploration Fair: Youth Committee will be assisting Inclusion Committee with this event. Career Exploration Fair to be held Wed., October 23rd, from 9am to 2pm at NCCC/SUNY Niagara. Please attend if you're able to help out. We'll need people for school check-ins, business check-ins, and general walking around to help where needed. Bonnie will share flyer with the group. Please let Bonnie know if you think of any businesses with hands-on activities or demonstrations that would be interested in attending.

NYPA Clean Energy Grant: We are awaiting the funds from NYSDOL. Can pay for classroom training with wrap-around services including child care, transportation, laptops and wifi hot spots. Can pay to upskill existing employees with 90% wage reimbursement. Please let Bonnie know of any businesses that might need clean energy training, or any training being provided in the clean energy category locally.

Opioid National Dislocated Worker Grant: Please let Bonnie know if your agency has customers who would be interested in participating. Customer just needs to know someone (family/friend) who has been impacted by opioid usage. Grant will cover job training, on-the-job training, and wrap-around services.

DIDIWNY: Coming soon to Niagara County! Engages high school students in activities to connect them to future manufacturing jobs here in Niagara County.

WIOA Youth Program Update: 75 Planned Enrollments for PY23. 41 New Youth Enrollments from 7/1/23 to 5/23/24 with 48 Carry-in Youth. Total Youth Enrollments to Date: 89 as of 6/6/24.

NYS GVP Youth Program Update: Grant ended 3/31/24. 24 youth hired full time directly by employers, using 90% wage reimbursement on-the-job training. 33 youth hired in subsidized work experiences. 4 additional youth receiving services other than work related (includes 2 classroom training, 1 transportation, and 1 tools). Total: 61 youth served to date. Goal was 50 youth hired; 57 hired.

YEP Youth Program Update: New grant started 1/1/24. 92 youth in subsidized work experiences as of 6/6/24. 18 worksites are being utilized currently.

Career Exploration Fair: Dennis went over the WDB Inclusion Committee's Career Exploration Fair that is coming up October 23rd, He is currently looking for compatible businesses that would like to participate.

Community Connections: Dawn Wilke would like to make connections between the schools and the youth community. Three new Lockport High School team members have been added to our emails so that they can be in the loop with any formation that can be of use to them.

Next Meeting:

Please mark your calendar for our next meeting which will be the **23rd of October @ 10:30am via Zoom.**