

*"The mission of the Youth Council is to lead and bring together community resources to focus on youth becoming capable and satisfied workers."*

## **CAREER SOLUTIONS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD YOUTH COUNCIL AGENDA**

**Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at 3:00pm**

WiFi: skillsleadto careers

Location: Minnesota Workforce Center – St. Cloud  
1542 Northway Drive, St. Cloud, MN 56303 – Door #2  
A **green** parking permit is required for this event. Please park in Lot B.

*Note: Additions highlighted in yellow.*

- 1. Introduction/Roll Call** J. Wagner
- 2. Approve Agenda** ACTION: J. Wagner
- 3. Approve Consent Agenda** ACTION: J. Wagner
  - A. Approve Minutes of 11/09/2017 (Attachment 3.A.)
- 4. United Way Presentation** – Daniel Larson, Vice-President of Community Impact for United Way D. Larson
- 5. Discussion** I. Merten
  - A. AAM / Grede Update (Attachment 5.A.)
  - B. YouthBuild Update
  - C. Upcoming Youth Grant
  - D. CareerONE – Ramping up for Summer 2018
  - E. Youth Council Application: Phil Schroeder (Handout) – ACTION**
- 6. Information/Other** J. Wagner
  - A. Next Youth Council Meeting on 02/13/2018 at 3:00pm
  - B. From the Floor
  - C. Suggestions for Presentations
    - a. Partner for Student Success scheduled to present on 02/13/2018
  - D. Announcements
- 7. Adjourn** J. Wagner

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS: ALL CAREER SOLUTIONS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD/COMMITTEE MEETINGS ARE ACCESSIBLE TO THE HANDICAPPED. ATTEMPTS WILL BE MADE TO ACCOMMODATE ANY OTHER INDIVIDUAL NEED FOR SPECIAL SERVICES. PLEASE CONTACT ADA/AA COORDINATOR TAMMY BIERY AT (320)308-5702 AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE SO NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE. INDIVIDUALS WITH HEARING OR SPEECH DISABILITIES MAY CONTACT US VIA THEIR PREFERRED TELECOMMUNICATIONS RELAY SERVICE.

THE WORKFORCE CENTER DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF RACE, COLOR, CREED, RELIGION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, GENDER, MARITAL STATUS, STATUS WITH REGARD TO PUBLIC ASSISTANCE, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, DISABILITY, OR AGE.

**Note:** If you are unable to attend this meeting, please contact Kari Court at 320.308.5749 or email at [Kari.Court@CSJobs.org](mailto:Kari.Court@CSJobs.org). Upon request, this material can be made available in alternate formats.

## CAREER SOLUTIONS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD YOUTH COUNCIL MINUTES

Location: Minnesota Workforce Center – St. Cloud, 1542 Northway Drive, St. Cloud, MN 56303/Conference Room # 1-482  
 Date: Thursday, November 9, 2017 at 3:00pm  
 Attendance: Jim Wagner, Les Engel, Greg Boelter, Kathy Fischer, Jeff Haviland, Melanie Legatt, Dave Norling, Gail Ruhland, Leah Sams & Harli Thomsen  
**Career Solutions Staff:** Tammy Biery, Ileana Merten & Kari Court  
 Absent: Sara Dahlquist, Lisa Guzek, Ken Huling, Dave Norling, Prudy Reberg, Mark Sakry & Roseann Stang  
 Guest(s): Luke Hartog & Ahmed Mohidin

Agenda Item	Summary	Action
<b>Introductions/Roll Call</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>J. Wagner, Youth Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:01pm. <i>(Note: not enough Youth Council members present to meet quorum until later in the meeting)</i></li> </ul>	
<b>Approve Agenda</b>		<u>Motion:</u> G. Boelter made the motion to approve the agenda. <u>Seconded</u> by: D. Norling. Motion carried.
<b>Approve Consent Agenda</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approve Minutes of 09/14/2017</li> <li>Youth Council Application – Scott Wallner, Director of K-12 Initiatives at St. Cloud Technical &amp; Community College</li> </ul>	<u>Motion:</u> G. Boelter made the motion to approve the consent agenda. <u>Seconded</u> by: D. Norling. Motion carried.
<b>Pre-Employment Transitions Services (Pre-ETS) Presentation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Merten introduced Luke Hartog &amp; Kathy Fischer, Vocational Rehabilitator (VR) Counselors for Vocational Rehabilitation Services. She stated they will be presenting about the Pre-Employment Transitions Services (Pre-ETS) Program. Career Solutions has named this new program to Career Quest to attract more students.</li> <li>Luke and Kathy stated there are 6 counselors out of the VR who build a trusting relationship with students with Individuals Education Program (IEP's) and provide a service focused around these five pillars:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Career Counseling Exploration</li> <li>Career Readiness Skills</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

Agenda Item	Summary	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Self-Advocacy</li> <li>– Explore Post-Secondary Options</li> <li>– Work Based Learning &amp; Job Seeking Skills</li> <li>▪ The VR's facilitate the vocational services and partners with organizations to provide job shadows and job coaching to these students. These partners then formulate their findings to best help the student's needs. These partner organization need to be certified by the State to ensure the can work with individuals with disabilities such as WACOSA and Functional Industries.</li> <li>▪ VR works with students who have three or more diagnosed disabilities and this is where the partnership with Career Solutions comes into play. Through the Pre-ETS/Career Quest Grant, Career Solutions is able help students who have been diagnosed with one or two disabilities and they may be on a waiting list with VR or do not qualify for their services.</li> <li>▪ Ahmed Mohidin who is a Career Planner for Career Solutions, will conduct career exploration with these students under the Pre-ETs grant. Tasks may include mock interviews, identifying their career paths, discuss their job readiness skills in order to be successful in their career path. This program is new to Career Solutions so the agency is in the process of recruiting students. Ahmed will also be reaching out to the rural schools to provide his services. Career Solutions goal is to enroll 75 students into this new program.</li> <li>▪ The Career Quest and VR services is a free and voluntary program to these students. VR can offer employment transitions (offer services past high school) and can fund post-secondary education, depending on the family income; whereas the Career Quest grant cannot go past their high school education. Majority of this grant is funded under staff time as it does not set aside any funds for training or schooling. The partnership is very successful between Career Solutions and Vocational Rehab as both organizations have the same goal in mind – to help students reach their potential.</li> <li>▪ The Youth Council thanked Luke, Kathy and Ahmed for their presentation.</li> <li>▪ <i>(Note: quorum now met, motions were carried).</i></li> </ul>	
<b>Discussion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Youth Council Meetings 2018 Calendar</b> – Career Solutions is requesting the Youth Council meeting be moved from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month. Motion requested from the Youth Council.</li> </ul>	<u>Motion:</u> J. Haviland made the motion to approve the 2018 Youth Council Meeting Calendar.

Agenda Item	Summary	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>2017 YouthBuild Report</b> – I. Merten stated the YouthBuild Report is attached for reference. The report provides the 2017 statistics and captions/testimonies from some of the participants.</li> <li>▪ This upcoming year, there has been some changes. The former instructor will not be teaching the YouthBuild class this year so the school district needs to find a new teacher for the two 6 week courses. Instead of running one course each semester, the school district will need to hold two sessions in the spring simultaneously.</li> <li>▪ The YouthBuild program engages youth in the construction career path. The students may earn a carpentry certificate from the union to help these students enter employment after their high school graduation. This certificate allows the student to start beyond an entry level role which could start at \$5.00+ more an hour.</li> <li>▪ <b>Higher Education Career Advisor Pilot (HECAP) Update</b> – I. Merten stated Career Solutions applied for the HECAP grant but unfortunately, this grant was very competitive and Career Solutions was not awarded the \$12,000 grant. In previous years, the Career Planners would travel to different school districts to provide career pathway services to the students. Since our Career Planners are currently traveling to different schools anyways, our Career Planners will still be offering some of the services to these students.</li> <li>▪ A Council member asked where the funds were distributed to? I. Merten stated the majority of the funding was distributed to the metro area and non-profit organizations. T. Biery stated, unfortunately, this is happening more frequently. Initially, when the HECAP program was originated as a pilot program and Career Solutions was one of four WorkForce Centers working on this pilot. Now there are a large amounts of non-profits who are competing for the same funding.</li> <li>▪ <b>Supportive Services “Minnesota Meaningful” Grant</b> – I. Merten stated we are in the process of applying for the Supportive Services Grant and she titled it “<i>Minnesota Meaningful</i>.” This grant focuses on all Minnesotans having meaningful employment and sustainable wages for their families. Career Solutions is looking at replicating the Coleman Project by helping aged out students find suitable employment. Career Solutions has been in contact with eight different partner agencies to replicate the Coleman project. The partnership list includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Adult Basic Education (ABE)</li> <li>– Islamic Center of St. Cloud</li> <li>– St. Cloud State University</li> <li>– AAM</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><u>Seconded</u> by: D. Norling. Motion carried.</p>

Agenda Item	Summary	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Coleman (offering an additional project)</li> <li>– Immigrant Employment Connection Group</li> <li>– La Cruz Community Center</li> <li>– ISD 742</li> <li>▪ With this grant, we hope is to serve 50 young adults ages 18-24. There will also be three cohorts occurring throughout the year – 1 in the winter and 2 during the summer. There is currently 36 would qualify for ABE classes as they will be aging out of high school.</li> <li>▪ I. Merten stated this competitive grant has a total of \$1.5 million to be awarded to any of the organization that apply for this grant, which includes, schools, colleges, non-profits and WorkForce Service Areas. Over 100 organizations applied with only 10-14 organizations being awarded. We should hear in November or December if Career Solutions receives this competitive grant.</li> <li>▪ T. Biery stated if Career Solutions does not receive this grant, there is another opportunity called Pathways to Prosperity (P2P) grant coming soon. We might be able to use components from the Minnesota Meaningful grant to apply for the P2P grant. The Coleman project was funded from the Otto Bremer grant Career Solutions has and we would like to find a way to fund these projects through DEED. I. Merten stated one struggle with the P2P grant is they are requiring an accredited certification and majority of these students are still learning the English language and then will need to earn a certificate as well.</li> </ul>	
<b>Information/Other</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Next Youth Council Meeting</b> is for January 9, 2018 at 3:00pm at the St. Cloud Workforce Center.</li> <li>▪ <b>From the Floor</b> – <i>none discussed.</i></li> <li>▪ <b>Suggestions for Presentations</b> – some suggested presentations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Scott Wallner from St. Cloud Technical &amp; Community College to present on his new role</li> <li>– United Way discussing their new Resource Advocates within the 2 schools – possibly have Jama or Corey present with Daniel Larson</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ <b>Announcements</b> – G. Ruhland from St. Cloud State University stated their Interim President, Ashish Vaidya, has accepted a new position starting July 1, 2018. SCSU is searching for a new president.</li> <li>▪ T. Biery stated the Immigrant Employment Connection Group had their New American Job Fair yesterday. There was 20 employers present and around 150 job seekers</li> </ul>	

Agenda Item	Summary	Action
	<p>attended this event. Career Solutions staff placed flyers at the local cafes, grocery stores and an ad playing on the local Somali Radio Station. ABE provided transportation for their students, in which the students arrived bus loads at a time. Our parking lot was full which is a good problem to have is! There was three staff on-site who helped with translation. A survey was sent to the employers asking about their experience at the job fair and to rate how successful it was for your organization.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ahmed helped with translation during the event and he commented about the job fair. He stated there was a large amount of people who attended but have a difficult time applying for jobs due to their limited English skills. He stated he wrote down several individuals' names and phone numbers down and have started calling them to assist in applying for jobs. T. Beiry mentioned that many of these job seekers are attending ABE classes during the day so they are looking for 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> shift positions so they can continue their education during the daytime hours. This may be a nice balance for some employers who are looking for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> shift employees.</li> </ul>	
<b>Adjourn</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ J. Wagner adjourned the meeting at 3:37pm.</li> </ul>	

Next Youth Council Meeting: January 9, 2018 at 3:00pm at the St. Cloud Workforce Center.



# LEARN & EARN



## Preparing Young Adults for What is Next

### What is LEARN & EARN?

- LEARN & EARN is an 8-10 week program designed to help young adults prepare for a successful future.
- It's a chance to gain work skills, increase English and math skills, work towards obtaining a diploma and gain employment with sustainable wages.
- LEARN & EARN begins February 5, 2018 and takes place at American Axle & Manufacturing (AAM) at 5200 Foundry Circle, St. Cloud | [www.aam.com](http://www.aam.com)

### Who can benefit from LEARN & EARN

- Young adults ages 18-24 who live in the St. Cloud area, who want to earn a diploma OR are underemployed seeking a higher wage and want to prepare for a bright future.
- Participants must be available 1st or 2nd shift, Monday - Friday, be able to occasionally lift 75 pounds and pass a physical exam.

### What's great about LEARN & EARN

- Increase skills leading to a diploma and obtain work experience and employment.
- Learn what qualities an employer is looking for and how to be successful in the workplace.
- Learn a variety of manufacturing skills and duties through on-the-job training.
- Earn up to \$14/hour to learn and work! Participants work in various production jobs. There is opportunity for job advancement with benefits at AAM after 60 days.
- To get started contact Denise to register for an informational session and tour of AAM on Jan. 3 at 1:00pm or Jan. 9. at 3:30pm.

### For more information contact:

**Denise Hooper,**  
Career Planner  
Call: 320.308.5720  
Text: 320.266.1227  
[denise.hooper@csjobs.org](mailto:denise.hooper@csjobs.org)

**Ahmed Mohidin,**  
Career Planner  
Call: 320.308.5701  
[ahmed.mohidin@csjobs.org](mailto:ahmed.mohidin@csjobs.org)



A Proud Partner of America's Job Center Network.

Upon request, the information in this document can be made available in alternative formats for people with disabilities by contacting [angie.dahle@csjobs.org](mailto:angie.dahle@csjobs.org)

Equal Opportunity Employer and Program Provider

### Partners:



**St. Cloud Area School District**  
*Learning for a lifetime. It's our promise to you.*

La Cruz Community

Central MN Adult Basic Education

1542 Northway Drive • St. Cloud, MN 56303

[careersolutionsjobs.org](http://careersolutionsjobs.org)