

Attendees: Frank Alvarad, Cassilda Campbell, Viatta Carter, Theodore Jordan Jr., Rosemarie McKinney, Chad Rieflin, Dave Seeley, Bibiana Silvera-Portacio, Delia Smith, Antwan Williams

Welcome/ Member Sharing

Monroe County Department of Human Services and Office of Mental Health

United Way

- Campaigning to raise 18 million dollars for the community
- Recently had a chance to visit the Rochester M.A.P.P (Multi-Craft Apprenticeship Preparation Program)
 - Direct Entry into Building and Construction Trades
 - Youth can work and get a union job and make beyond livable wages
 - Gain skill sets they can apply to become an entrepreneur
 - Kudos to this program for creating apprenticeships and teaching real skills

Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Rochester (CCCS)

- Will be re-launching Driven to Success
 - Aimed to help low to moderate income individuals that are in need of transportation to work on obtaining affordable automobile loans from local lending partners

Ibero-American Action League

- Partnership with Unidos Us
 - Virtual six-week program starting 3/21/23
 - Will be providing skills training in telecommunications in partnership with Spectrum

RochesterWorks

- Upcoming workshops
 - Resume Development Lab, 3/17/23 at 10am
 - Opportunity for staff to be in the computer lab with clients to assist with their resume
 - VR Career Exploration Demonstration
 - 3/16 for those interested in finding out how it works
- Informational Session by Celebrate Us on 4/6/23, 9am
 - Will be offering a Sterile Processing Technician Training program
 - Connected with URMC and Walgreens

- Youth System
 - Reviewing program enrollment numbers, comparing submitted program reports with OSOS and verifying
 - Currently working on coordinating activities/ employers for the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP)
 - Working on increasing applicant numbers

ACCES-VR

- Will be switching to a new database system, “Aware”
- Working closely with RochesterWorks on Accessibility in the Workplace Job Fair 5/9/2023, 1-4pm
 - Will include 1 hour of sensory friendly time

SYEP

- As of today, 1, 074 youth have applied for RochesterWorks summer program in collaboration with the City of Rochester
 - Still struggling with getting youth to submit the required documents
 - Last Tuesday, mailed out letters to parents notifying them of their youth applying and providing the next steps for eligibility
 - Theory is that youth are just submitting application and not realizing the next phase of the required documents which require some assistance from parents/ guardians
- Upgraded our online application system and Document Collection System
 - Last year the two systems did not talk to one another, and this year was able to streamline the process
 - With the upgraded system, the Youth Summer Team has been able to complete eligibility with document collection which has decreased the application processing time
- Formed a new partnership with the Summer Jobs Connect Program
 - Funded the enhancements RochesterWorks was able to make to the online systems
 - Connected with ESL Federal Credit Union and will be providing all employed youth a free checking account
- Outreach/ Marketing Efforts
 - Currently have radio advertisements (sponsored by the City of Rochester)
 - Upcoming Job Fair sponsored by the Monroe County Youth Services Bureau
 - Will have a table to provide assistance to youth with completing online application
 - Attended a career panel discussion at East High School
 - A recording was distributed to all applicants in RCSD
 - Interviewed at Edison High School by students

- Working with Industry and Foster Care to ensure those youth are given the opportunity to apply
- Excited with the momentum for SYEP
- If your organization would like to partner with RochesterWorks and host a youth intern for the 6-weeks summer program, contact: Delia Smith, Youth Career Services Specialist, dsmith@rochesterworks.org
 - Youth ages 16-20
 - 40-hour weeks
 - In past years have been able to employ youth until the end of September
- A. Williams provided committee with 2023 Summer Work Experience for Youth Recommendation to Fund report
 - Will be funding 11 of the 14 programs that applied, employing a total of 209 youth not to exceed \$548,888 in funding
 - Programs are looking to place youth in the following work experiences/ career exploration:
 - Landscaping, Entrepreneurship, Recreation, Social Media, Technology, Culinary and Construction
 - Will be sharing Recommendation to Fund report with the WDB Board to request approval
 - A. Williams will be connecting with programs RochesterWorks will not be funding to offer an opportunity to go over the reasons they are not eligible for funding and provide technical assistance, so they can have a better understanding of the criteria and requirements
- Proposal review committee
 - Total of 8 individuals separated into 2 teams
 - Consisted of RochesterWorks, ACCES-VR, Monroe County and City of Rochester team members
 - Each person was responsible for reading 7 proposals and completing an evaluation that generated a rating score and recommendation to fund/ not fund
 - Any objections or request for clarity is welcomed from Committee members

WIOA

- Currently doing review of program files
 - Last month the State completed their monitor report
 - Showed a lot of participants were exit
 - If 90 days go by and there are no new services or updates in OSOS, the system will do a soft exit
 - If assigned Navigator is unaware of the exit, when they add a new service, it will automatically create a new enrollment, which will count as a double enrollment

- Will count against RochesterWorks and negatively impact Performance Measures
- Currently going back to programs and providing technical assistance to correct this issue and prevent future errors
- Goal for program year 2023 will be to provide training by RochesterWorks for new programs/navigators

In-School Youth

- Rochester Education Foundation connected with RW to host a roundtable on the topic of Creating Pathways to Careers in RCSD
 - Noticing a high percentage of students leaving RCSD (graduating and dropping out) are not connected to any career pathways
 - A few months back met with Community Stakeholders to get to the core of the issue
 - Why it is occurring and what we can do as a collective to address it
- Certain youth are falling through the cracks because they are not given exposure/information on alternatives for college
- Circulated a survey to all the school counselors at RCSD and are awaiting the data back
 - Have pushed a survey out to the youth to get feedback on their awareness and access to resources and opportunities
- Looking forward to having data to speak to it so that we can change it
 - The importance of finishing school and post-secondary opportunities

Funding

- ROC Seeds
 - To serve 150 youth- 2-year grant
 - Provide employability skills in the manufacturing field
 - To work with hard to serve population
 - 50% placement goal but would like to exceed
 - 18 years or older
 - Will be rolling out in a couple of months – details will soon follow
 - Manufacturing is an in-demand career field
 - Exposure equals opportunities for our youth and can contribute to the reduction of violence

Youth engagement

- Are youth gravitating to the website for information and resources?
 - Social platforms are constantly changing

- Workday Wednesdays with the news station- United Way would showcase one of their funded programs and is a good way to get information to parents/ guardians
- Having an intern- youth that can oversee RW's social media content
 - To create videos with resources
- Look into Surveying SYEP Youth
 - Ask the question: What will be the best way to reach you? How did you learn about Summer Employment and what is your choice of Social Media platform(s)
- The more community partners we can connect with, the more we can disseminate information to different areas
- Primetime 585- look into connecting with
- Ibero's radio station- to utilize for next year
 - Every Saturday invites a community partner to share about their program and provides Spanish translation
- Will like to invite more community partners to the committee, please feel free to refer/invite

Next Meeting- Thursday, June 22, 2023