



State Youth Council Meeting

1385 South State Street, SLC

Room 401

October 14, 2010

10:00 AM

AGENDA PACKET

1. Agenda
2. Minutes
 - a. April 8, 2010
 - b. July 8, 2010
3. Waiver Request
4. Youth Outcomes



State Youth Council

October 14, 2010

Department of Workforce Services

1385 South State Street

Salt Lake City, UT

4th Floor, Room 401

10:00 to noon

Call In Instructions (for those unable to attend in person):

1. Dial the toll-free Conferencing access number: 1-866-311-1127
2. Dial the Conferencing room number: *7859981* (Note: The star key must be pressed before and after the room number.)
3. Wait to be added to the conference.

Agenda

10:00—Welcome, Introductions & Regular Business..... Marie Christman

- Approval of Minutes 4/8/10 & 7/8/10
- Budget and Outcome Reports
- New and/or outgoing members
- Action from July meeting:
 - Jane will provide Zach Bale Volunteers of America, with the State Youth Council contact info. **Done.**
 - State Youth Council members should review and become familiar with the Economic Service Area Plan in their area. Information about funding allocations under the new Economic Service Area structure is available from the Area Director.
 - Jane will ensure Youth Vision Team outcomes report will be on the October SYC agenda. **Done.**
 - Regional Youth Council Chairs are to continue discussions regarding expenditure shortfalls with RYC members locally. They are encouraged to make it a topic at RYC meetings, and then forward their strategy decisions to Jane. Expenditure Shortfall continues. The local youth committees and the SYC will continue discussing funding at each meeting. **Ongoing.**
 - Jared Ferguson will send Jane the Mountainland paper/flyer on youth employment. Jane will forward it to the group.
 - In the State Council meeting, Marie will ask Service Area Directors to assign a Workforce Development Specialist to the Youth Councils/Committees in addition to the Operations Specialist that currently serve. **Done, see below.**

10:20—Waiver Request..... Group Discussion

10:30—Youth Vision Team Outcomes (30 minutes)..... Amanda Singer/Ron Harrell

11:00— DWS Restructuring (continued) Group Discussion

- Action from 7/8/10—Have AD assign a WD Specialist (business services rep) to the SAYCs
 - Bear River -
 - Castle Country – Nicole Steele, Bob Gilbert
 - Central Utah – Lorri Economy, Ann Barnson, Forest Turner
 - Mountainland – Julie Lay, Jared Chamberlain
 - Southeast – Nicole Steele, Bob Gilbert
 - Southwest – Lorri Economy, Ann Barnson, Forest Turner
 - Wasatch Front North – Susan Wright, Lesnie Foster
 - Wasatch Front South – Cassy Hahn, Kim Lamb, Julia Story
 - Uintah Basin – Nicole Steele, Bob Gilbert
- Action from 7/8/10—SAYCs review SA Plans and figure out how to integrate youth into the demand driven approach

11:15—Transition to Adult Living, ETV & Scholarships..... Jode Littlepage

- Provide information about Olene Walker Scholarship
- Report on TAL Summit

11:30—Service Area Reports (5 minutes each)
..... Regional Youth Council/Committee Chairs or Representative

11:55—Public Comment

Noon—Adjourn.

Meeting Schedule:

January 13, 2011
April 14, 2011
July 14, 2011
October 13, 2011

Notice: Reasonable arrangements for persons with disabilities will be made if requested. Please contact Diane Lovell at (801) 526-9231 or dianelovell@utah.gov

State Youth Council Meeting Minutes

April 8, 2010

Department of Workforce Services

Members: Marie Christman, Chuck Krivanek, Robert DePoe, Cecil Robinson, Andrea Scott for Jared Ferguson, Marty Kelly, Melissa Freigang, Ron Harrell for Tom Darius, Steve Goodrich, Patti VanWagoner

DWS Staff: Jane Broadhead, Peggy Killian, Kristen Donoviel, Rod Barlow, Julie Anderson, Shelly Ivie, Karla Aguirre, Brian Smith, Ann Barnson, Tricia Davis

Guests: Amanda Singer, George Billings, Dorie Farah & Tracy Hart (JJS)

Excused: Tom Darius

Members not attending: Jill Goodman & Kate Alleman (represented by Peggy Killian), Mike Beacco (represented by Robert DePoe & Ann Barnson), Scott Williams (represented by Julie Anderson), Paul Otto & Robyn Wright (represented by Melissa Freigang), Rich Parks, Mike Glenn, Lynette Robinson, Juan Pelaez

Notes: Tricia Mecham

Approval of Minutes – 10/08/09 (January meeting was canceled.)

Minutes approved as written.

Budget and Outcome Reports

- **Budget.** Jane reviewed the budget report. The expenditure shortfall discussed at the October meeting was still a concern. During Program Year (PY) 2008, Utah expended 58% of the WIA youth funds and the required level is 70%. Utah is not on target to meet the 70% expenditure requirement again this year, PY09 because in November 2009, DWS projected a budget shortfall in WIA programs and suspended all WIA enrollments, including youth. DWS anticipates opening enrollments for new youth in May; however, the date is too late to allow adequate expenditures for meeting the 70% requirement.

DWS must expend at least 50 percent of youth funds on out-of-school youth, and the current expenditure level is 69%.

Brian Smith asked when DWS will know of the PY10 budget allocation. DWS received the allocation from the Department of Labor this week, Utah sustained a 10% decrease from PY08. Finance is working on the allocation to Regions.

- **Performance Outcomes.** DWS met the statewide performance outcome levels in the report submitted for the 2nd Quarter of PY09. The statewide levels were:
 - Placement in Employment or Education – 69% (planned level – 68%)
 - Attainment of Degree or Certificate – 62% (planned level 38%)

- Literacy/Numeracy Gain – 33.1% (planned level 27%)
- A report with the Regional break down was distributed and all Regions met or exceeded all outcomes except:
 - Placement in Employment or Education – Mountainland and North were within 80% of the planned level, 61% and 63%, respectively
 - Literacy/Numeracy Gain – North was within 80% of the planned level, 23% and Eastern and Western failed the Literacy/Numeracy Gain outcome, 20% and 18%, respectively.

- American Recovery and Reinvestment Act youth funds, SSIP. Of all youth enrolled in WIA Stimulus Youth (847):
 - Youth co-enrolled (85) in any other DWS program and the program:
 - FEP.....14
 - FEP Work Program.....2
 - Food Stamps.....5
 - Food Stamps ABAWD1
 - TANF Non-FEP3
 - Transitional-FEP1
 - WIA Adult31
 - WIA Stimulus Adult13
 - WIA Youth.....13
 - WIA Youth Follow Up2
 - Youth who met the Work Readiness Skill Gain outcome: 599/749 for 80%
 - Youth who completed the program: 604/749 for 80.6%
 - Participant age:
 - 18.....177
 - 19 – 21.....378
 - 22 – 24.....292

- Provider Approval. DWS state and regional program specialists completed the annual youth program monitoring. Providers in all regions have achieved a compliance level of 88% or higher, which provides justification to continue WIA youth service delivery with the existing providers in PY10. Cecil Robinson voiced a motion to continue with existing providers for PY10. Ron Harrell seconded the motion and it passed without further discussion. Marie will have Jane take this action to the State Council for final endorsement in the afternoon meeting.

- Action from last meeting. Regional Youth Council Chairs are to continue discussions regarding expenditure shortfalls with RYC members locally. They are encouraged to make it a topic at RYC meetings, and then forward their strategy decisions to Jane.

DWS Restructuring – Karla Aguirre

Karla Aguirre, Director, Workforce Development Program and Policy, provided an overview of the DWS reorganization and referred to a map provided in the packet to explain the boundaries for the nine Service Areas. After reorganizing the eligibility side of DWS a year ago, the next step was restructuring the rest of the organization to better support the workforce development

needs of Utah businesses. She spoke about the importance of aligning the State Youth Council with the demand driven approach.

Goal: To support employer's workforce needs by clearly understanding those needs and forging partnerships between workforce systems, government, education, and business to address those needs, placing special focus on high growth/high demand industries.

By having a State Youth Council whose membership has expertise in providing input to youth related public policy, and has a solid commitment to high quality youth services, the Department of Workforce Services (DWS) will reach goals of:

- *Supporting employer's workforce needs by clearly understanding those needs and forging partnerships between workforce systems, government, education, and business.*
- *Ensuring youth providers recognize the developmental and career planning needs of high-risk adolescents.*
- *Focusing youth program resources on helping youth gain the academic foundation necessary to access high growth/high demand industries.*
- *Providing effective connections with organizations that have strong links to the job market and employers.*
- *Ensuring a cross-agency, common vision that Utah's at-risk youth live successfully as adults.*

The Workforce Development Division includes nine Service Areas:

- Bear River
- Wasatch Front North
- Wasatch Front South
- Mountainland
- Castle Country
- Uintah Basin
- Southeast
- Central Utah
- Southwest

ACTION: Jane will provide a list of Area Directors.

There have also been changes at the state level. Karla now serves as director for Workforce Development Program and Policy. Her management team includes:

- Helen Thatcher – Workforce Preparation
- Sarah Brenna – Workforce Education and Training
- Sandy Terry - Workforce Connections
- Scott Steele – Direct Employer Services

Service areas will develop detailed plans for providing all services, and will include identification of target industries and occupations in their area.

State and Service Area supervisory personnel have been hired. Recruitment recently began for program staff for positions within the state and new service area structures.

Marie Christman voiced two concerns:

- 1) Meeting and working with ADs through transition, and
- 2) Staffing levels, and the important connections with partners in service areas.

Karla responded by ensuring her that the ADs will notify partners of recruitment result and will help facilitate dialog during the upcoming transitional year, and beyond. She expressed her support for continuing the important connections and partnerships developed in support of high-risk youth. Kristen Donoviel indicated that the goal in the Bear River Service Area is to continue with current partnerships and expand, not to dissolve those relationships. Shelly Ivie expressed her support for local youth partnerships and added a comment about the importance of understanding Karla's discussion regarding focus on target industries. We need to work harder on getting employers involved with youth.

Marie concurs with the comments in the discussion, views the new direction as a positive move, and is excited about possibilities for improved services for youth, including better connections with employers. This is a challenging time and partners need to be made aware of changes as DWS moves forward. She emphasized that although the SYC is an organization required by WIA law and regulations, there is no reason Utah's SYC cannot and should not change to conform with the demand driven approach.

Karla indicated the July State Council and SYC meeting will provide additional opportunity for discussion regarding SYC and service area strategy about youth services. Marie made the commitment to over-communicate as we move ahead.

Transition to Adult Living, ETV & Scholarships – Patti VanWagoner

- Patti will discuss the ETV continuous improvement efforts
 - A sub-group created a new slide show to orient youth to WIA and ETV, and a document outlining the annual cost of school at Utah colleges and universities. (Both available on www.justforyouth.utah.gov)
 - Kicking national youth in transition database. Want to be able to stay connected to youth as they exit DCFS. Starting in May will connect with youth turning 17 to keep current info & can do surveys of progress at regular intervals. DWS has been considering developing a “navigator” position to have participants better prepared for post-secondary education.
- ETV and Olene Walker Scholarship funding – recruiting now – application deadline is April 15. U of U has come on board as a partner, which increases potential applicants. 26 received the scholarship this year. most are doing well – there have been a few who have not been successful. Doing good collaboration with ETV & WIA to provide “wrap-around” support for the youth. There are quarterly meetings between DCFS & DWS staff statewide. Have been conversations about including JJS, but it was important to limit it to DCFS & DWS initially. Eventually, would like to include JJS (currently piloting with one JJS referral). There are difficulties with public image, which need to be overcome to allow us to reach out to JJS. It is a goal of Marie's.

YouthBuild –George Billings and Ron Harrell

George provided information about the YouthBuild grant. He introduced himself and shared some background. He is part of Trade Programs department at Salt Lake Community College

(SLCC) and worked with the Grants department to respond to a Department of Labor, YouthBuild grant solicitation. SLCC received funding, and the goal is to provide academic and occupational skills training to individuals in custody of Juvenile Justice Services and the courts. SLCC formed a partnership with Utah's Youth Vision Team, is currently training 43 participants, and will add 24 additional participants in July. The YVT partnership for this project includes Juvenile Justice Services, Vocational Rehabilitation and DWS' WIA youth programs in the Wasatch Front.

The targeted age group is 16 to 24 year old youth involved with JJS or the courts. George handed out SLCC YouthBuild information. The goal is to give participants an increased level of academic and occupational education, and an opportunity to be part of something larger than themselves. They may also gain critical soft skills and a sense of accomplishment through participation.

The initial component is a one-week session called Mental Toughness. Successful participants will enroll. Those who are not successful will be directed to other community resources.

Ron discussed the connection between the YB project and the Youth Vision Team, (YVT). YVT is an extension of the Transition to Adult Living initiative and focuses on court-involved youth instead of youth involved with the Division of Child and Family Services. Upon receiving information about SLCC's YB project, Ron captured the opportunity to complete service improvements for JJS and other youth. The original idea was to have YB come into the Decker Lake Youth Center and do some of the construction there, but space constraints required a different strategy. The program is not limited to youth in secure custody. Potentially eligible youth are screened through the Mental Toughness workshop and those 16 to 21 connect with the WIA youth program, Salt Lake County Youth Employability Services (YES) for determination of WIA youth eligibility. WIA eligible youth are paid a stipend through the WIA youth system for participation. SLCC pays the stipend to youth who are not WIA eligible.

George and Ron will continue to provide information about YouthBuild to the SYC as the project continues.

Youth Vision Team Outcomes Data Plan

Amanda Singer and Ron Harrell are working on data collection for the YVT project. The goal is to deliver data about outcomes, which were identified at the beginning of the project. The predecessor of Utah's Youth Vision Team is the Transition to Adult Living (TAL) initiative sponsored by then Governor Olene Walker in 2003. The overarching vision of the TAL initiative is "Utah's at risk youth live successfully as adults." The early initiative did a good job of improving community connections, services and outcomes for youth involved with DCFS; however, youth in JJS and court custody did not receive the same level of attention. YVT, as an extension of TAL, concentrates on the court-involved population.

Utah was one of 16 states that had pilot project for improved collaboration among youth-serving partners. Utah's team includes:

- Department of Human Services (JJS & DCFS)
- Department of Workforce Services (including WIA youth contractors)
- Public Education (Utah State Office of Education, Youth in Custody)
- Higher Education (Applied Technology Colleges)

- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Department of Health

The pilot sites are Mill Creek and Decker Lake Youth Centers. One of the objectives is to have the youth be a more active participant in designing their transition plans, and take ownership for the process of successful return to their communities. This also facilitates getting the family involved and supportive in a positive way. The pilot project grant helped Utah organize and begin the improvement process.

Marie noted that YVT efforts have helped change the perception of youth as a member of the community instead of separated from society. Many youth and their families now view juvenile incarceration as a temporary situation, which provides information about and connection to resources intended to better prepare them to succeed as young adults.

Amanda distributed a document outlining three outcome components and reported on work being done toward data collection for outcomes. Measurements and a means to evaluate the youth need to be developed. The three primary components are:

- Community Collaboration. Is the collaboration among partners helping youth become more successful when returning to their community?
- Preparation for Success. Does the data indicate youth from the pilot locations have better outcomes than those from other JJS locations?
- Success. Does the data indicate YVT youth live successfully as adults?

DHS is in the process of collecting data from partner agencies and doing “data matches” to facilitate analysis. Amanda and Ron have collected a list of the participant and comparison cohorts. There is a need to be careful with the distribution of the outcome data. She intends to share aggregate data with the SYC, YVT and federal Shared Youth Vision partners. Cecil Robinson cautioned that qualifiers will need to be taken into consideration due to the recent economic downturn and other circumstances.

ACTION: Jane will ensure YVT an outcomes report will be on the July (or October) SYC agenda.

Regional Updates

- North Region. Cecil Robinson reported on the most recent Wasatch North Regional Youth Council meeting. Although new enrollments have been suspended, DWS WIA youth program is still enrolling a few Youth Vision Team and ETV participants. The SSIP program last summer was very successful.
- Central Region. Chuck Krivanek and Rod Barlow reported on the recent reorganization of Central Region Youth Council committees. They are now focusing on re-engaging youth who have officially withdrawn from school. They completed the FERPA project some time ago and are now formalizing the process. They hope to have all school districts in the region involved. Job Corps is also involved. There are new committees; reporting and targeting parents as a constituency in supporting youth. The sub-committees will report to the Central Region Youth Council.

- Mountainland Region. Andrea Scott and Brian Smith noted that with the DWS re-organization, the Mountainland Consortium of Schools will begin serving Juab County in July. The current case manager is working out of Delta, so transition communication is critical. They are developing a brochure about the importance of skills and higher education in the labor market.
- Eastern Region. Shelly Ivie and Peggy Killian provided information about the Uintah Basin and Southeastern Regional Youth Councils. They are continuing to provide services for youth previously enrolled, although they are not able to enroll new youth. At each Regional Youth Council meeting, they highlight outstanding youth participants then report about it at the Regional Council meeting. At the most recent Regional Council meeting there was a very large membership turnout and employers were interested in youth services after hearing the reports of those participants.

Word regarding UtahFutures has spread through the local high schools and now, many youth are using it. Brian Smith mentioned that UtahFutures is being used in the Mountainland Region. Karla mentioned that the employer component to UtahFutures will be available on the Internet soon.

The Ute tribe is sponsoring a career fair in the near future.

Youth from the Eastern Region will be participating in the Career Fair in Farmington.

- Western Region. Ann Barnson and Robert DePoe reported on activities in the Region. Ann acknowledged that the Region is struggling with the Literacy/Numeracy Gain outcome. The difficulty will be addressed at the upcoming Regional Youth Council meeting. At the most recent RYC meeting, an employer presented information about his experience with the internship program. He had a very successful experience & recommended the youth internship program for others. Staff in the Region are looking forward to beginning recruitment for this summer's SSIP program.

Karla mentioned DWS has limited funding for the SSIP program this summer, so Western Region and Central Region's Refugee Unit will share the remaining funds. DWS is also working on a TANF ARRA funded pilot project. The eligible job seekers are unemployed youth (18 – 24) and Unemployment Insurance Claimants who are financially contributing to the support of a minor child. Participating employers may receive a subsidy of up to 2,000.00 per eligible participant.

Public Comment

Marie opened the meeting for public comment. None was provided. Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting: July 8, 2010

State Youth Council Meeting Minutes

July 8, 2010

Department of Workforce Services

Members: Chuck Krivanek, Shauna South for Marty Kelly, Cecil Robinson, Melissa Freigang representing Clearfield Job Corps & for Paul Otto (Weber Basin Job Corps) and Robin Wright (Management Training Corporation), Jared Ferguson, Robert DePoe, Marie Christman, Tom Darius

DWS Staff: Jane Broadhead, Peggy Killian for Jill Goodman and Kate Alleman, Lesnie Foster, Ann Barnson for Mike Beacco, Ashley Nelson

Guest: Zach Bale, VOA Homeless Youth Resource Center

Excused: Patti VanWagoner

Members not attending: Mike Glenn, Lynette Robinson, Juan Pelaez

Notes: Tricia Mecham

Community Provider Spotlight:

Volunteers of America, Homeless Youth Resource Center – Zach Bale

VOA sees a unique segment of the youth population. Zach presented statistic. The programs include drop-in center and mobile outreach. There has been significant growth between 2003/2004 and the current. The center served over 400 in 2003/2004 and served almost 800 youth in the current year. There are approximately 50 youth per day using the center. VOA has a 7 bed transitional home for girls. The drop-in center serves youth ages 15–22, but most are over 18. The Road Home has also been working on developing housing opportunities and is developing four units, which will house 8 youth.

VOA's current focus is on employment, and they are seeking help with the next steps. Zach saw some interesting activities on a recent visit to Seattle. Shauna South recommended they incorporate www.UtahFutures.org as a resource if these youth have access to Internet. She also recommended developing partnerships with local schools. **ACTION:** Jane will provide Zach with the Youth Council contact info.

Contact info: Zach Bale, zach.bale@VOAUT.org 801.580.7469 (mobile)
VOA Homeless Youth Resource Center
655 South State Street, SLC UT, 801.364.0744

Approval of Minutes 4/08/10

Postponed approval until 10/14/10, there was not a quorum.

Budget and Outcome Reports

- Budget:
 - Last year's final expenditure level for WIA youth programs was 55%. The Department of Labor (DOL) expects states to expend 70% of the funding during a program year (PY). The percentage not spent is subject to rescission. It does not appear that Utah's WIA youth program will meet the expenditure requirement again this year. Jane encouraged regional youth council chairs to make funding an ongoing topic of the local youth

committee meetings. Begin now to work with the providers on strategies for expending youth funds at the 70% level by the end of program year 2010 (6/30/11). It is imperative that Utah expends appropriately each year. **ACTION:** State Youth Council members should review and become familiar with the Economic Service Area Plan in their area. Information about funding allocations under the new Economic Service Area structure is available from the Area Director.

- Performance Outcomes:

Jane reviewed the performance outcome results for the 3rd quarter of program year 2009 and shared information about failing the Literacy/Numeracy Gain measure in 2 quarters this PY. Cecil Robinson suggested we are not making the gains because of failure to post-test or enter post-test results into the system. Peggy Killian said they found in the Uintah Basin and Southeastern areas that some youth simply disappear. Shauna suggested if we know the youth is leaving, post-test them after 45 hours of remediation, rather than wait until 60. Jared Ferguson asked about the possibility of re-negotiating the measures. The statewide and regional results are:

	Placement in Employment/Post-Secondary Education (negotiated level 66%)	Attainment of Degree or Certificate (negotiated level 38%)	Literacy/Numeracy Gain (negotiated level 27%)
Statewide	60%	70%	35%
Central	62%	73%	44%
East	65%	74%	18%
Mountainland	60%	80%	35%
North	54%	61%	38%
West	92%	64%	18%

- New and/or outgoing members

There are no new members. Marie extended thanks to Scott Williams, who is no longer the Bear River RYC Chair.

- Action from April meeting:

- Jane will provide a contact list of Area Directors-sent out with April minutes. Status **Complete**
- Jane will ensure YVT an outcomes report will be on the July (or October) SYC agenda. Status – moved to the agenda for October.
- Regional Youth Council Chairs are to continue discussions regarding expenditure shortfalls with RYC members locally. They are encouraged to make it a topic at RYC meetings, and then forward their strategy decisions to Jane. Expenditure Shortfall continues. The local youth committees and the SYC will continue discussing funding at each meeting.

Transition to Adult Living, ETV & Scholarships - Marie Christman

- Planning for the Transition to Adult Living (TAL) Summit is underway. It will be held at the University of Utah in August.
- Olene S. Walker Scholarship:
 - Received approximately 50 applications

- Snow College is a new participating school for Fall Semester
- Scholarship Committees have started to review applications and those for SLCC, UVU, and CEU have been determined.
- Since the scholarship is getting more competitive, the committee is reviewing the academic skill level of the youth and if the youth are not performing at a college entry level but need remedial work, they may not be approved for the scholarship. They are checking with Patti VanWagoner to see if ETV is available to support those youth for their first year of college and then have them apply again for the scholarship.
- Please thank WIA Youth workers as oftentimes the youth did not have complete information and it was very helpful to Patti when she was able to contact the WIA Youth counselors and quickly get what was needed.
- The scholarship application deadline for Spring Semester is November 15th.
- Jared suggested the scholarship application be put on, or linked to UtahFutures. Kim Bartel is the DWS contact for UtahFutures.
- ETV enrollment is 75

DWS Restructuring

Utah conducted comprehensive assessments of DWS' direction and approach in operating the state's one-stop system to reposition the department into a more demand driven system. The criteria for separating the state into economic service areas (ESA) included labor market information, worker commuting patterns and access to post-secondary educational resources. Even though this realignment is occurring, youth council responsibilities remain. Chuck Krivanek recommended Chairs review their Service Area's plan, highlight anything that does or should affect youth, and take it back to the local youth council/committee to brainstorm how they can support it. Youth councils/committees need to focus on improving connections with employers. Workforce development specialists can and should assist. Melissa Freigang agrees. The committees should formalize the connection with employers. She believes councils/committees need to determine existing resources within their community to stabilize the youth, so they can get and retain jobs. Jared mentioned a new flyer about youth resources in the Mountainland area. **ACTION:** Jared will send Jane the Mountainland paper/flyer on youth employment, to forward to the group.

- Responsibilities of State Youth Council:
 - Coordinate state level activities for at-risk youth
 - Input and approval of youth employment and training policy
 - Input to WIA State Plan
 - Oversight of statewide service delivery
 - Input into youth provider selection
- Responsibilities of Regional Youth Councils/Service Area Youth Committees:
 - Service Priority
 - Incentive Plan
 - Leadership Development/Citizenship Projects
 - Coordination with Community Partners (public education, higher education, JJS, DCFS & other youth-serving organizations)
- Have a discussion about how to move toward reaching the goals:
 - Supporting employer's workforce needs by clearly understanding those needs and forging partnerships between workforce systems, government, education, and business.
 - Ensuring youth providers recognize the developmental and career planning needs of high-risk adolescents.

- Focusing youth program resources on helping youth gain the academic foundation necessary to access high growth/high demand industries.
- Providing effective connections with organizations that have strong links to the job market and employers.
- Ensuring a cross-agency, common vision that Utah's at-risk youth live successfully as adults.

Language about state youth council exists in federal statute, so it will continue. It may be helpful to adjust the language: particularly regarding "at-risk." Messaging should be that "at risk" does not mean risky.

ACTION: In full Council, Marie will ask Service Area Directors to assign a Workforce Development Specialist to the Youth Councils/Committees in addition to the Operations Specialist that currently serve.

Regional Reports Plans:

- Bear River -
- Wasatch Front North – Cecil reported that they are excited about the new focus and direction. They are able to do collaboration with other youth serving agencies in the area, particularly with Vocational Rehabilitation. The annual youth monitoring results for case edits is 94%.
- Wasatch Front South – Chuck reported that they recently participated in a retreat with the full Council and Youth Council members. The primary topic was restructuring.
- Mountainland – Jared reported that their RYC had a presentation from the Boy Scouts of America, National Parks Council about a co-ed program delivered in conjunction with public education called Learning for Life. They have combined efforts to get kids into mini-internships at medical/health facilities.
- Southeast, Uintah Basin, Castle Country – Peggy reported that the Uintah Basin RYC recognizes an outstanding youth participant in any of the partner agencies at each meeting. All three ESAs want to start focusing on preventive measures. Job Corps participated in the Uintah Basin meeting recently. The Council has also committed to a project assisting homeless youth in the Carbon and Emery County area. Marie Christman provided details. The committee's initial objective concentrates on effective discharge planning for youth exiting Juvenile Justice Service (JJS) custody. The committee developed a couple of transitional homes. If we want to keep youth in the rural areas, we need to develop opportunities for them to work and support themselves. There is also a very different project in SLC.
- Southwest & Central Utah – Robert DePoe and Ann Barnson reported on activities in their area. They received most of the remaining SSIP funds for a smaller program this summer. There are 81 youth in worksites. The funding does not cover all of the local needs, so they use regular WIA youth and adult funds.

Public Comment:

The meeting was opened to public comment. There was none.

Next Meeting: October 14, 2010

State Youth Council to be in support of Economic Service Area Youth Councils/Committees.

STATE OF UTAH
Workforce Investment Act Waiver Request
Allow the State Flexibility to Determine the Extent of WIA Youth Program
Element Procurement

Utah Department of Workforce Services (DWS), the administrative entity for the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), requests a waiver of the statutory and regulatory requirement of selecting providers of youth activities by awarding grants or contracts on a competitive basis.

Utah will implement this waiver immediately upon Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration's (DOLETA) approval of the request.

1. **Statutory Regulations to be waived:** WIA section 123 requirements to competitively select providers of youth program elements, which by association, apply to section 129(c)(2); and 20 CFR664.410.
2. **State or local statutory regulatory barriers:** In anticipation of approval of the waiver, Utah DWS reviewed State statute and rules (including procurement rules), and DWS Workforce Development Division (WDD) policies and procedures for contradictions. Research determined there are no conflicting statutes, rules policies or procedures. State Workforce Development Board and DWS WDD policies and procedures comply with current federal guidelines. Upon notification of approval, DWS will update the WIA/Wagner Peyser State Plan to comply with the terms of the waiver.

Justification for the request and goals to achieve with the waiver:

- Utah's experience with procurement of youth services indicates few qualified providers exist, and those with whom DWS has successfully contracted are government organizations. DWS has announced RFPs for WIA youth in each of five service areas once every five years since 2000. Currently, Utah law and Procurement Code allow partner agencies to enter into non-competitive inter-governmental agreements. Waiving section 123 of WIA law would not prevent DWS from striking such agreements when appropriate.
- DWS is the WIA grant recipient and One-Stop operator for the State of Utah and respectfully requests broader waiver authorization. Utah's WIA/Wagner Peyser State Plan, as approved by DOL, allows DWS the ability to deliver all WIA youth services in the event a qualified provider is not available.
- Of the ten required WIA youth service elements, DWS currently delivers, or has the capacity to deliver the following:
 1. Tutoring/Drop-out prevention (through the Basic Education Approved Provider List)
 2. Paid and unpaid internships
 3. Summer youth employment opportunities
 4. Occupational skills training (through the current ITA waiver using the Occupational Skills Training Approved Provider List)
 5. Comprehensive guidance and counseling (through DWS Social Worker's charging WIA youth funding for the time spent with WIA eligible youth)
 6. Mentoring
 7. Leadership development
 8. Supportive services
 9. Alternative school (Utah's State Youth Council on Workforce Services includes representation of public and adult education. The Utah State Office of Education

staff work with DWS Youth Program Specialist to draft policy and procedures for coordination across the state. Public education is responsible to deliver alternative school, and DWS service areas work closely with local educational entities to ensure WIA eligible youth receive appropriate services. Each service area youth council includes representation from public and adult education.)

10. Follow up

- Utah is committed to the federal shared youth vision partnership. Utah's Youth Vision Team (YVT) ascribes to a shared vision, "Utah's at-risk youth live successfully as adults." The target population for Utah's YVT is youth involved with Juvenile Justice Services. This waiver would help reach the YVT goals by:
 - Increased consistency in tracking the target population with the result of increased access to employment and training resources
 - Increased high school and/or GED completion rate
 - Increased level of obtaining and maintaining employment
 - Increased consistency in access to public assistance and other supportive services offered by DWS
 - A significant benefit of allowing Utah to waive the competitive procurement requirement is a reduction in the administrative costs of procurement. One of Utah's goals provided the waiver is granted, is directing funds we would use for procurement back to services for eligible customers.
 - Economic Service Areas (ESA) would have the flexibility to follow existing Utah Procurement Code, which would provide the options to:
 - Enter into inter-governmental agreements as appropriate within an ESA,
 - Announce request for proposals and select providers within or outside of government as appropriate within an ESA,
 - Deliver services within DWS.
3. **Programmatic outcomes achieved by the Waiver:** This past year, Utah conducted comprehensive assessments of DWS' direction and approach in operating the state's one-stop system to reposition the department into a more demand driven system. The criteria for separating the state into economic service areas included labor market information, worker commuting patterns and access to post-secondary educational resources. The effort resulted in the creation of nine Economic Service Areas. The greater flexibility resulting from this waiver would allow employment centers to improve the continuity of services to youth, implement a more cost-effective and integrated service delivery system, and develop stronger ties with local employers in high growth and emerging industries. Utah desires to obtain the waiver to achieve efficiencies, reduce the cost of competitive procurement, and direct more funds to program activities that lead toward performance outcome improvements.
4. **Individuals affected by the waiver:**
- WIA eligible youth. The efficiencies gained, which would be a result of the waiver will assist a growing pool of disconnected, high-risk youth population. The unemployment rates for youth 16 to 19 years old went from 8.7% in 2007 to 16.2% in 2009. For 20 to 24 year olds, 5.4% in 2007 to 13.4% in 2009.
 - Local workforce investment board and youth committee members. Although Utah is a WIA single state workforce investment area, there are separate economic service areas, each with a workforce investment board and service area youth committee. In the past, procurement of youth services occurred independently in each area on a five-year cycle, a process taking almost a year to complete. Granting the waiver would

allow DWS at both the state and economic service area level to minimize administrative costs associated with procurement and redirect those funds to targeted program services, such as, but not limited to:

- Concentrating on improvements to the Literacy/Numeracy Gain performance outcome,
- Providing increased opportunities for internships,
- Providing in-house resources for participants needing mental health treatment, or substance abuse prevention/treatment.
- Partner agencies. The efficiencies gained, which would be a result of the waiver will assist Utah's Youth Vision Team to continue addressing the needs of high-risk youth that individual organizations cannot solve independently.

6.5. Process used to monitor progress in implementing the waiver: DWS is the State administrative entity for the Workforce Investment Act. The waiver enables Utah the flexibility to concentrate on continuous improvement for seamless delivery of services. DWS will monitor progress in implementing the waiver by:

- Reviewing performance outcome data quarterly and comparing results with the levels for the previous year.
- Reviewing new enrollments monthly and comparing results with the levels for the previous year. This will give us information about increased number of youth served.
- Review financial reports monthly. Increased funding availability needs ongoing monitoring to ensure service areas expend 70% of funds available by the end of each program year.
- DWS has a comprehensive compliance monitoring process in place to ensure program integrity and continuous improvement. Elements include:
 - DWS' Program Review Team (PRT) monitors 10% of WIA youth cases each year to ensure program and fiscal compliance.
 - The Office of Legislative Audit conducts an annual audit of DWS program deliver and reports the results to Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.
 - Each service area is responsible to monitor for quality case management practices.
- The State Youth Council on Workforce Services (SYC) provides oversight to WIA youth service delivery. In discussions about continuous improvement, SYC members agree that the current procurement process is futile, and obtaining a waiver of the requirement will improve services to an increased number of participants. The SYC reviews performance outcome results and fiscal progress at each quarterly meeting. A representative of each service area is a member of the SYC. If DWS identifies a fiscal or outcome issue in any of the service areas, the local representative takes the message back to the service area and works with the provider to improve. Likewise, the representative carries congratulations for excellence, and shares promising practices from other service areas as part of the continuous improvement effort.

7.

6. Process for notice of local boards and opportunity to comment: Consistent with the general waiver request, the State is adhering to publication requirements to insure the broadest participation possible, including appropriate partners and interested parties such as labor, community based organizations, and the SWIB. Utah adheres to public notice requirements as specified in WIA section 189(i)(4)(B) and 20 CFR 661.420(c)

(i) Provide notice to any Local Board affected by the waiver:

Although Utah is a WIA single state workforce investment area, each of the state's service areas have local councils on workforce services (as created under state law in 1996), and youth committees that have provided waiver development input and approval to this waiver request.

(iv)(ii) Provide any Local Board affected by the waiver an opportunity to comment on the request:

Refer to Item above explaining Utah's single state workforce investment area.

(v)(iii) Ensure meaningful public comment, including comment by business and organized labor, on the waiver:

DWS published the waiver request for public comment at www.jobs.utah.gov on 10/27/10 allowing for the public to review and comment. DWS also sent e-mail communication to council members and stakeholders informing them of the opportunity to comment, and provided the deadline of 10/28/10 for input. DWS reviewed and incorporated comments into the waiver request.

Utah appreciates the flexibility afforded to states through the waiver process and anticipates the SWIB waiver request as outlined provides adequate efficiency, accountability and detail about improved performance for DOL approval.

Utah Quarterly WIA I-B Performance Measures for WIA Enrollments

DOL Report Quarter: **PY09 Q4**
 Report Date: **9/30/10**

Exceeds Planned Level
 Falls Planned Level (<80)

Measure	Utah PY09 Planned Levels *	Report Period		Outcomes						Unas- signed
		StartDate	EndDate	Utah	Central	East	Moun- tainland	North	West	
Youth Placement in Emp or Ed	66%	7/1/2008	6/30/2009	55%	61%	58%	56%	49%	42%	
Youth Attain Degree or Certif	38%	7/1/2008	6/30/2009	65%	71%	55%	80%	52%	58%	
Youth Literacy or Numeracy Gain	27%	4/1/2009	3/31/2010	32%	42%	22%	37%	32%	11%	
Total Youth Participants		4/1/2009	3/31/2010	1928	554	223	215	716	216	4
Total Youth Exiters		1/1/2009	12/31/2009	691	236	77	62	203	111	2