

**Mountainland Regional Council
Full Council Meeting
December 10, 2009
Division of Child & Family Services**

PRESENT:

Brad Whittaker, CEDO
Brent Platt, Division of Child and Family Services
Britt Mathwich, Homestead Resort
Darren Johnson, Division of Rehabilitation
Debbie Fotheringham, DWS
Deborah Van Leeuwen, Wasatch Community Council
Debra Pritchett, Utah County Commission
Gifford Briggs, Big-D Construction
Jared Ferguson, Provo School District
Jeff Lindstrom, Iggy's Sports Grill
Joe Edman, DWS
Julie Lay, DWS
Karen Larsen, DWS
Kip Bromley, Alpine Adult Education
Lizetta Lobato, DWS
Maira Lesa, WIA Youth Services
Major Gerald White, Utah National Guard
Nicole Silva, Childcare Resource & Referral
Paul Kennard, Wasatch County Economic Development
Ralph Clegg, Utah County Health Department
Shelly Ivie, DWS
Summer Barrick, United Way of Utah County
Susan Thackeray, Utah Valley University
Todd Herbert, Todd's CDL

GUESTS:

Betty Quinn, Christmas Box Club
Glen Bailey, Alpine School District (Youth Council Member)
Linda Holt, Intermountain Health Care (Youth Council Member)
Lisa Birch, Pathways Coordinator (Youth Council Member)
Lori Stewart, MATC (Youth Council Member)
Shirlee Silversmith, Learning for Life (Youth Council Member)

EXCUSED:

Bill Hulterstrom, United Way of Utah County
Clay Christensen, MATC
Dave Cook, Clyde Companies
Gary Anderson, Utah County Commissioner
Gary Ashby, GHA
Julia Mohr, Childcare Resource & Referral
Karlyn Norton, Xactware
Kendall Crittenden, Wasatch County Commission
Pam Niece, Intermountain Health Care
Rickie Bryan, AFL/CIO
Sam Jarman, Alpine School District

ABSENT:

Lacey Cherrington, Checknet
Todd Harris, NuSkin
Myla Dutton, Community Action
Tim Dahlin, Park City Christian Center

WELCOME – Todd

Thank you for attending this last meeting of the year. Thanks to Brent Platt for hosting our meeting.

Vendor Fair update – On October 28th, the council sponsored a vendor fair – 135 DWS, Rehab and school counselors attended, and 30 vendors participated. Positive feedback from employers and attendees, hope to do this again. Gave counselors an opportunity to go to various vendor booths to find out about their programs.

Immigration Law Seminar – On November 18th, the council sponsored an Immigration Law Seminar for employers. Roger Tsai was the presenter. He brought an official with ICE to discuss deportation and issues with illegal employment. Thanks to Gifford for representing the council and introducing the speaker.

DEPARTMENT UPDATE - Shelly

In Executive meeting this morning we talked about the continued restructuring in DWS. Going to demand-driven focus and what employers need, and helping to build workforce to meet that need. Partnering with Education, Economic Development and industry. Better align job-seeking customers and employers and preparing workforce for the future. By moving and restructuring will have an impact on current regional structure. Will be moving from a 5-region structure to a nine service area structure. This service area structure impacts Mountainland by gaining Juab County and losing Summit County to the Salt Lake area.

Change will provide more latitude and more flexibility in this structure than going through current state structure. More local focus to meet employer needs regionally. Asked Jared to speak about Utah Futures.

UTAH FUTURES – Jared

Utah Futures is new software that USOE has adopted statewide. Intent is to better track students' goals without starting over when they change education levels. Kids have developed goals in past in high school then go to college and can't make up mind on what to pursue but there's no history for Higher Ed counselor to help kid makes choices. Resume component. Online database to access resume no matter where they are, and hopefully a living document that stays update4d instead of trying to get it developed before job searching. Working in Provo District with UVU to connect Utah Futures seamlessly. Can tweak and adjust program as needed. Hoping to have presentation in future meeting on Utah Futures.

Stimulus – a lot of money received by DWS through ARRA for summer internship program for youth ages 18-25, served approx 900 youth statewide to gain experience and paycheck. Program ending mid-January as money has run out. Appreciate all who participated as employers for these youth.

As of mid-November had projected all stimulus dollars and training funds and spent all since July. Still have TANF dollars available. Serving four separate trade act petition companies so still very busy in employment centers providing training.

Applying for National Emergency Grants to supplement funds. Regional Councils came together with state council and applied for various healthcare grants for training opportunities for those wanting healthcare occupations. Partnership and collaboration with industry in state

to develop state sector energy grant. Energy efficiency and renewable energy training opportunities in grant. Statewide there are three grants for curriculum development: 1) UVU for digital media, 2) SLCC for energy efficiency, 3) WSU for aerospace.

Demand driven aspect of DWS is going to be looking for multiple grant opportunities to apply for to meet workforce needs.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT – Brent Platt

DCFS finds itself in the news whenever a child is abused or neglected. Often have to remove child from home. We serve Wasatch, Utah, Summit, Millard, and Juab counties.

Don't know how we will look next year because of budget cuts but have to keep doors open no matter what. Need to partner with community to meet needs of kids in custody. Currently we have 140 staff in five county area to serve children. Caseworkers will be working on trying to notify relatives to get them out of shelter care. Recent case: notified of sibling group of 6. Home in horrible state and kids have lice. Kids will be removed from home because of unsafe conditions. Foster care numbers fluctuate – had 550 children in July. Last week had 504 through persistent efforts with community and family. Christmas is rough time for families so expect more referrals to come in before end of year. Receive a lot of phone calls from families asking for help and will work with community resources to help these families.

Don't solicit for donations but a lot of other people help us. Earlier this year we were approached about the Christmas Box Club that's affiliated with the Christmas Box House to serve children. Not just Utah County, but all community. There are two offices in Provo to house donations. Foster parents can access donations from the Christmas Box Club when children are taken from home.

Betty Quinn, volunteer for the Christmas Box House. Glad to be with you. Been able to work with Richard Paul Evans for last several years, his books have gone nationwide. Involved with him when working at corporation in SLC and in charge of charitable donations. Met with him and fell in love with his cause for children of Utah. It's my passion to help children. Utah County doesn't have a shelter, we have clubroom, which is a resource room to foster care program. Wish list provided to each member. It's my responsibility to organize communities to donate and give to children.

Support organizations – Promise and House of Hope. Support Boys and Girls Club with school supplies.

One little boy wrote letter to Santa and added could you send Rudolph to make my mother better? Kids touch hearts and need help. Giving Tree project on other side of wish list. Elementary kids made ornaments. Need home for one more giving tree. Any business that can help would be appreciated. Richard Paul Evans gave each of you a book as a gift. Support DCFS and been able to help a lot of children.

Maximum stay is 28 days at Christmas Box House. Our region brings child in and immediately puts them into a private home to start the transition to safety. Over 22,000 children at risk at any given time in Utah.

Betty shared a video of the Christmas Box Club in Provo and a video of the Christmas Box House and its mission.

Council commenced doing their service project – making hygiene kits for infants entering shelter care. Thanks to all council members who brought items for these kits, and to Betty and Brent for spearheading this great opportunity.

Happy Holidays Everyone!

Meeting Adjourned.

Next Meeting: February 25, 2010