

# YOUTH INVESTMENT COUNCIL

## Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 18, 2010 - 9:00 a.m.  
506 Jersey Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

### Attendance

**PRESENT:** Scott Bollwage, Chair, Lauren Balkan, David Blevins, Harriet Findlay, Alan Haveson, Mimi Hickman-Perfetti, Bruce Negri, Monika Pankiewicz, and Senovia Robles

**STAFF:** Jane Z. Brady, Abner Garcia and Elizabeth Holt

### Approval of Minutes from Meeting of January 28, 2010

The minutes of the January 28, 2010 meeting are to be filed as written.

### Discussion of Questions for Youth Survey

- A. **Survey for youth** – Scott Bollwage will e-mail the survey to council members for their review and suggestions. It was suggested to make the survey mature looking so youth do not feel like they are being treated as children. The youth survey should be done first. The goal for this survey is to identify interests and barriers for employment, including any disabilities and the needs and wants of the youth. It was also suggested to add more questions verses check-offs, and provide a brief description, including salary range and what and how to obtain the qualifications needed, of various job positions in demand.
- B. **Survey for adults** – This survey will be developed for our youth providers. We need a starting point. What information do we need to have on the survey that we all need? Also need to get to all places that provide services such as schools, community services, or an employer. The reason for this survey is to find out how to overcome some of the barriers for them to hire the youth.

Anticipated timeframe is to have the survey to the schools and providers before the end of the school year, but no later than the end of May or early June.

The goal of the survey is to determine interest in the program and identify barriers for training.

### Discussion of Who Will Be Asked to Complete the Survey

- A. **Youth targets** – 16 – 21 year olds. Will start with youth that Abner and Shamar are already in contact with. The survey will be given to schools, community organizations, religious organizations and posted on our website.
- B. **Adult targets** – This is a wider net to gather what they need to better serve the youth. Providers, employers, schools and the community must be contacted to find out what they have to offer and why they cannot meet, or if they can meet, what the youth wants. Must find out what is needed by all parties involved and get them to realize this is what they need.

### Status of Youth RFP Process

Abner Garcia reported that the Youth Request for Proposal (RFP) notice was issued, and as a result, three (3) youth proposals have been received. The RFP, once again, will concentrate only on out-of-school youth, not in-school youth. A full report on the youth proposals will be provided at the next meeting.

To date, there has been no word received on the youth funding allocation. However, everyone is hopeful that information should be received in the near future.

### Status of Current Youth Programs

Abner Garcia reported on the following youth programs that will be terminating on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010:

- A. **MC4YOU** – This is not an RFP but the program is running successfully.
- B. **MCC** – This youth program is fully enrolled, and is currently in its second cycle.
- C. **YMCA** – This program is also doing well.

All of the above youth programs will be in operation until June 30, 2010. Currently, they are all operating as planned. Middlesex County College and the YMCA have submitted a Youth RFP for funding consideration for next year.

### Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 am.

A notice for the next meeting, scheduled for April 22, 2010 will be forwarded to the committee.