

Dakota County Youth Council
1 June 2007
8:30 – 9:30 a.m.
MN WorkForce Center
2900 County Road 42
Burnsville MN 55337

Mission: *To provide leadership and support to community partners in fostering the educational and employment success of youth.*

Vision: *Developing successful youth with progressive career opportunities.*

Members Present: Shannan Boodoo, Norm Champ, Suzanne Sheridan, Trudi Greaves, Ann Glaves, Nicole Crews, Kari Davis, LaDonna Boyd, Mel Henderson, Rick Gubash ,

Members Absent: Mike Cook, Tanesha Ford, Regan Warren, Michelle Rydeen, Ruth Fonstad, Virginia Becker, Beth Olson, Will Branning, Everett Waters, Joyce Eissingner,

Staff: Marguerite Kirchoff

Visitors: Ramie Chackan, Dakota County Technical College

Call to Order:

Kari called the meeting to order at 8:32.

Minutes from May meeting were reviewed and approved as follows:

Motion- Mel; **second** - Ann

Membership

Ramie Chackan submitted an application for membership. Ramie is the Director of Career Services at DCTC and works with many young people through her position there.

Membership approved as follows:

Motion- Shannan; **second** Norm

University of Minnesota Extension Program Overview

Suzanne Sheridan summarized the many components of youth and outreach programming under the U of M Extension in Dakota County. She also shared pictures of participants involved in activities. A flyer about Suzanne's own program "On the Move... for Minnesota Families" is attached.

When most people think about the University of Minnesota Extension Program, they picture either the its world-famous master gardeners or its well-beloved 4-H program, but Extension now does much more in our communities. Suzanne Sheridan of Extension in Dakota County offered the Dakota-Scott Youth Council a bright overview of youth-centered programs at the June 1 meeting.

There is "Youth Teaching Youth" an alcohol, tobacco and media awareness program that employs teens to deliver strong messages to younger children about resisting peer and advertising pressure that might lead them to make unwise choices. There is "Simply Good Eating" that offers nutritional information to children and families in many venues. There is Bill Svendsgaard, their Americorps Promise Fellow, a retired professional artist, who brings opportunities for artistic self-expression and exploration to youth.

There is also "On the Move ... for Minnesota Families." This innovative program actually brings a vast array of educational and recreational services **directly to neighborhoods** where there is need. Recognizing that a lack of transportation isolates many of Dakota County's citizens, the Extension found a way to bring programs directly to people with an RV stocked with art supplies, instructional aids, as well as toys and games for children. The program is entirely mobile and entirely flexible; when Suzanne hears of a newly emerging community in need, she is able to bring services to them. "On the Move..." addresses the growing needs of our families by offering safe, welcoming and enriching activities and programs. Community partners in this project include many faith-based organizations, food shelves, Community Action Council, Public Health, the Dakota County Library's Bookmobile, 9 school districts and many community-minded citizens.

Performance PY 2006

Marguerite distributed a report from DEED listing the WIA Youth performance attainment by WSA. Dakota-Scott is passing all but one measure but will exceed 100% of goals in the aggregate and, if these do not change, will be eligible for an incentive for exceeding goals.

Common Measures are also listed on the report. These measures differ significantly from what are now called the “legacy measures.” “Placement” is counted for all youth; older and younger youth are not distinguished for these measures. Placement is considered employment OR the military OR advanced training OR post-secondary education. So a youth exiter can achieve the placement goal by attaining any of these statuses. The credential measure counts only those youth involved in training at some point in the program and counts a diploma, a GED, an AA or Bachelor’s degree or an occupational skills certificate as a credential. When the Workforce Investment Act is re-authorized, these measures will replace the legacy measures.

Contractor Report

Job Service Virginia was not present. JS is in the transition process with their service ending on June 30.

Tree Trust Norm reported that MYP was increased by .5 million over the state and that our portion will need to be used as start-up funding for next year’s program as the decision was too late to add program staff or activities or youth this year. His report is attached.

ETC Trudi announced that she is working on transition plans, either moving youth to the new program structure or closing the records..

Other Announcements

There is a training on Depression and Suicide among Youth at the Northern Services Center on Tuesday, June 12, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Youth Council members are welcome to attend. Please state that you are with the Youth Council.

Next Youth Council meeting is Friday, July 6, 2007, 8:30-10:00 a.m. at the Burnsville WorkForce Center, 2900 Co Road 42, Burnsville MN 55337. At this meeting we will elect officers, create our PY 2007 calendar, and enjoy a presentation by Suzette Scheele of NAMI on issues around youth mental health.