

Youth Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday

December 17, 2024

12:00 PM-2:00 PM

Meeting Facilitator: Heather Merritt - Youth Supervisor/ SNAP E&T Case Manager

Present: Brian Hankins, Kaitlyn Blankenship, Amanda Brubaker, Bradlee Jordan, Sarah Barrett; Region 2 Staff: Melissa Bias, Malissa Dishman, Heather Merritt, Courtney Harrison, and Adam Warden

Call to Order: Melissa Bias – Executive Director Region 2 Workforce Investment Board

Minutes:

- There was a motion to approve the minutes from our last meeting on 11.26.24. Bradlee Jordan motioned to approve the minutes and Malissa Dishman seconded the motion.

Region 2 Youth Report:

- Melissa Bias shared the challenges that we are seeing now with our youth. Melissa shared the importance of cross training to best help the youth with knowledge to support the youth. Melissa shared that we need connecting to more youth through different programs to help dual enroll and support the youth.

Guest Speakers:

- Heather Merritt introduced our host/guest speaker Sarah Barrett from Lincoln County Adult Basic Education. Sarah shared the various certifications that the ABE offers with their program. Sarah shared that she is working on more referrals in Lincoln County. Sarah provided a Community Needs Assessment to find out more of the needs of the community. Sarah shared stories of two current students, and the group shared referral information to provide additional support.

Youth Presentation:

- Heather began by introducing her Youth Career Planners Adam Warden and Courtney Harrison. Adam began by presenting recent graduate Autumn and sharing her story. Adam shared Bethany and her progression through Mountwest. Adam continued by sharing Brooklyn and her progress working as a front desk receptionist with Region 2 WIB. Adam passed it off to Courtney to discuss the Winfield Portfolio Fair. Adam picked back up to share the reach out in Lincoln by attending the Lincoln FRN and presenting at the Lincoln County DoHS Youth Services Staff. Adam shared the workshops on soft skills with youth and shared the recent workshop on work etiquette. Adam concluded by sharing information on January workshops, Workforce Virtual Job Fair, and Mental Health Resource Fair.

Open Floor Discussion

- Bradlee shared more information about the Mental Health Resource Fair taking place on Tuesday, January 14th from 10am-2pm.

Adjourned at 1:25pm

Respectfully Submitted by Adam Warden