

# Youth Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday

May 20, 2025

12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Huntington One-Stop

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

**Present:** Bradlee Jordan, Tonya Wallace, Amanda Brubaker, and Elizabeth McCulloch, Ashley Graham, Rylea Jennings, Zach Mahaney, and Jill Goheen. Region 2 Staff: Melissa Bias, Heather Merritt, Malissa Dishman, and Courtney Harrison; Region 2 WIB Youth: Samantha Arbogast and Alexis Miller. Attending virtually: Sara Hatfield.

**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 April 15, 2025, by Bradlee Jordan and Elizabeth McCulloch seconded the motion.

## **Region 2 Youth Report:**

- **Melissa Bias** shared that youth are coming to us with a lot more barriers. Although we no longer have “Summer Youth”, we will work our youth “Year-Round”. We must spend 20% of our youth funds on Work Experience. Please refer youth with barriers to us!

## **Guest Speaker introduced by Heather Merritt, Youth Supervisor:**

- **Samantha Arbogast (R2 WIB Youth)**- Samantha is currently working on obtaining her High School Diploma through Penn Foster High School (online); she only has 4 books left to graduate! Samantha works at R2 WIB as a Youth Administrative Assistant/Customer Service under a Work Experience Contract and is doing a fantastic job! She has volunteered at Dress for Success River Cities; Sara Hatfield thanked Samantha for her volunteer work, stating, “she is proud of her!”.

### **Youth Presentation:**

- **Heather Merritt** began by updating everyone on the youth who are working with R2 WIB on Work Experience Contracts and their goals/accomplishments: Alexis, & Samantha. Heather also gave an update on Chase, who has worked until he has now passed his GED! Congratulations, Chase!
- **Courtney Harrison** updated us on Autumn, who has now enrolled in Med-Care and Malaki, who started his CDL training. Heather and the Youth Career Planners informed everyone of the outreach they have been attending.

### **Open Floor Discussion**

- **Sara Hatfield – May 20, 2025 “Terrible Twos” @5:45pm at: The Boutique.**
- **Marshall Medical Outreach – May 31, 2025 @9am-11:30am at: The City Mission.**
- **Next R2 WIB Youth Council Meeting- June 17, 2025 @12pm-2pm**

**Adjourned at 12:48 pm**

**Respectfully Submitted by: Malissa Dishman**