

**Youth Investment Council
Minutes
June 15, 2004**

Attendees: Brigette Satchell - Burlington County College
Dan Boas - Burlington County Board of Social Services
Pauline Glenn - Burlington County Board of Social Services
Liliam Thompson - Burlington County Board of Social Services
Darlene C. White - Burlington County Board of Social Services
A.C. McIntosh - Division of Youth and Family Services
Karen Cheress - Pemberton Township School District
Nefertiti Sule- Goodwill Industries of Southern New Jersey
Kristy Hutchinson - Goodwill Industries of Southern New Jersey
Jane Guillard - Juvenile Justice Commission
Fred Aiken - Burlington County Institute of Technology
Barbara Weir - Workforce Investment Board

Meeting called to order at 10:05 AM.

I. Approval of Minutes from the May 11th Meeting

- The minutes were accepted, P. Glenn 1st motion/A.C McIntosh 2nd motion and approved as submitted

II. Youth Request for Proposal (RFP)

- The RFP was reviewed on Thursday, April 22, 2004. The Review and Evaluation Panel has forwarded their recommendations to endorse the application submitted by the Board of Social Services to the Board of Chosen Freeholders. Unfortunately, due to a significant wait for the State to issue a Notice of Obligation (NOO), the awarding process was put on hold. Since then, the WIB did receive the NOO and the award should be issued soon.

II. Youth Job Fair

- About 400 youth came to the 3rd Annual Youth Job Fair.
- 28 Employers participated and found themselves elated with the outcome. Many reported that they are already looking forward to the Job Fair next year. 13 of the 28 employers were "new" the Youth Job Fair. One employer just walked in.
- Overall the Job Fair was a success. Barbara sent the survey to the employers and has already received several responses. Slomin Shield was looking to fill 49 job openings and actually hired 40 of that 49. Many employers, including Slomin Shield conducted on-the-spot interviews and hired the youth then. Barbara will have the employer survey statistics prepared for the next meeting in September.
- The employers also reported that they were extremely impressed with the way the youth presented themselves and by the way they were dressed.
- A Surprisingly 187 youth completed the survey that was designed to monitor the outcome of how marketing and recruitment efforts. Of that 187 youth, 27 rated the

fair as Excellent, 69 rated the fair as Very Good, 62 rated the fair as Good, 27 rated the fair as Fair and 2 rated the fair as Poor. While most of the comments were positive, there were a couple that the Council will take into consideration for next year, such as not enough employers and employers staying until the promised time of 6:00 PM.

- Barbara thanked everyone for participating and effort to make the Youth Job Fair another success.

IV. Youth Opportunities Program Update Juvenile Justice Commission Update:

- Jane Guillard reported that they are coming to the end of the program year and will be finishing up in May and June. She looks forward to working in conjunction with the Board of Social Services for the next program/contract year.
- Jane reported that they just hired a former Youth Opportunity Program participant as an intern in one of the Female Units within the JJC Program. Pauline explained to the Council that the individual Jane was referring to was one of the first graduates of the YOP in 2001. She is currently enrolled at Stockton State College and was just accepted into Rutgers Dual Master Program for Criminal Justice. She'll receive her BA from Stockton and her Masters at Rutgers---at the same time.

Board of Social Services Update:

- Darlene White and Lil Thompson reported that 57 youth are eligible for the Summer Work Experience Program (SWEP). However, 8 of those youth sought employment on their own...and received it. So right now there are 49 youth, 25 have already completed the necessary paperwork. Interviews are scheduled for June 23rd at 3PM in the Human Services Facility Cafeteria. Employers are due to arrive at 2PM for instructions. The SWEP begins July 6th to August 13th, although some have been extended until the 27th of August. Goodwill will conduct the monitoring. Youth who failed a class will not be excluded from participating in the SWEP, if they agree to attend the tutoring program or Summer School. For those youth who's school does not have a Summer School Program, youth will attend Goodwill's tutoring program twice a week in the evenings from 4 PM to 7 PM.
- There will be Gender Related Activities slated for the summer. YOP is working with a program called Building Bridges on this effort.
- The YOP in conjunction with the Boys and Girls Club will hold Summer Career Camp for youth between the ages of 14-18 years of age. The Summer Career Camp will run for the entire month of July and will provide youth with workshops in Resume Writing, Careers, Employment Applications, Fitness for Life and other "fun" activities.
- Graduation Ceremonies will be held today, in the Human Services Building at 3:00PM. Approximately 49 youth are slated to attend. The youth will be recognized for their achievement in High School, GED Programs and Training Programs. The guest speaker is the individual both Pauline and Jane spoke about earlier. Anyone wishing to attend is gladly invited.

V. New Business

- Members of the Council suggested that a date for next years Youth Job Fair should be examined and scheduled quickly due to lack of space in the building during the month

of May. Barbara will speak to someone in the Human Services Office and will have a date by the next Youth Council meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned P. Glenn/B. Satchell at 10:45 AM.

REMEMEBER...there will be NO MEETINGS held during the months of July and August!!!!

**The next Youth Investment Council meeting will be held on
September 21, 2004 at 10:00 AM
Human Services Facility - Lecture Hall B**