

**SANTEE-LYNCHES  
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
Youth Committee Meeting  
Conference Call  
Wednesday, August 17, 2016 - 3:00 PM  
SC Works Center  
31 E. Calhoun Street  
Sumter, SC 29150**

**Minutes**

**Youth Committee Members Present:**

Calvin Hastie, Sr. (Chairman), Brenda Golden, Fred Harris, Ramona Lies, Sharon Teigue

**Youth Committee Members Not Present:**

Barbara Brown, Ed Garrison, Kenneth Jenkins, Jr., Wendy Martin, Veronica Robinson, Zuelda Smith, John Tindal

**Staff Present:**

Areatha Clark, Workforce Development Director  
Esmonde Levy, Workforce Development Manager  
Becky Minegar, Santee-Lynches RCOG Administrative Assistant

**Guests Present:**

Amanda Wagner, Eckerd Workforce Development (dba Palmetto Youth Connections – PYC)  
Keidrian Kunkel, Eckerd Workforce Development (dba Palmetto Youth Connections – PYC)  
Wayne Rogers, Eckerd Workforce Development (dba Palmetto Youth Connections – PYC)  
Amanda Lucas, SC Department of Employment & Workforce - State Youth Coordinator  
Kevin Staggers, Job Corps, US Department of Labor

**I. Call to Order, Welcome & Introduction**

Chairman Calvin Hastie called the Santee-Lynches Workforce Development Board's (WBD) Youth Committee meeting to order at 11:00 AM and welcomed everyone.

**II. Approval of Minutes – March 21, 2016 - (M)**

Chairman Calvin Hastie called for a motion to approve the Minutes from the March 21, 2016 Meeting. A motion was made by Ms. Sharon Teigue and a second by Ms. Brenda Golden. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

**III. Youth Performance Update**

Ms. Keidrian Kunkel briefly reviewed the Youth Performance of Eckerd Workforce Development dba Palmetto Youth Connections (PYC). Ms. Kunkel stated as of today's date, PYC has 84 Active Enrollments; 60 Basic Skills Deficient (includes youth participant enrolled today – August 17, 2016), 60 High School Dropouts, and 69 Unemployed upon enrollment. She then stated that as of today's date PYC has the following outcomes: 2 High School Credentials, 3 Occupational Skills Credentials, 4

Literacy/Numeracy Gains, 7 Placements in employment, college or the military, 7 Work Experiences. Staff are working on building a group of students for the upcoming Career Smart class. Ms. Kunkel then shared two success spotlights; Kristina Brown earned her GED at Kershaw County Adult Education. She then went on and earned her C.N.A. Certificate and Phlebotomy Certification and she is now employed as a Patient Care Assistant. Ms. Brown was also featured in the One Sumter Community Voice newsletter. Another spotlight is Jessica Hatfield. She earned her GED at Sumter County Adult Education and went on and earned her Pharmacy Technician Certification and is now employed full time at Walgreens earning \$13.00 per hour. Ms. Clark stated Jessica shared her story at the Santee-Lynches Regional Council of Governments Board meeting.

#### **IV. Financial Report**

Mr. Esmonde Levy provided the financial report thru June 30<sup>th</sup> of Program Year 2015: Total Contract Amount - \$633,000; Actual Expenditures - \$608,428; Balance - \$24,572. Mr. Levy explained how the projected monthly expenditures are calculated as follows: PYC's Grant Amount (\$633,000) x Projected Goal of 85% = \$538,050/12 month = \$44,838 that must be spent per month to reach the 85% expenditure goal. Mr. Levy then explained the State Requirements - 80% Obligation Rate: Current year funds – Program and Administration Funds; 75% expenditure Rate: Carryover and current year funds – Program Year Funds only.

Mr. Levy then shared final Program Year 2015 Youth Obligation and Expenditure Outcomes:

- Obligation Rate: 93.47%
- Expenditure Rate: 89.14%

#### **V. State Level Update**

Ms. Amanda Lucas, State Youth Coordinator reported some updates from the final Regulations for WIOA that have been received. Ms. Lucas shared information for the Standing Youth Committee – she pointed out a couple of things to move forward as a group: additional membership (law enforcement, faith-based organizations, etc.). Ms. Lucas stated the Youth Committee could focus on efforts to support all youth. She quoted from the Regulations “the Youth Committee should not only focus on the day-to-day operations”. Ms. Lucas then stated another area the committee could focus their time on is strategies to serve the communities overall and all youth. Ms. Lucas quoted from the Regulations “the committee could recommend design for comprehensive community workforce development and opportunities for all youth”. Ms. Lucas suggested creating other partnerships/resources to serve all youth.

Ms. Lucas then suggested creating and ensuring the workforce system is inclusive of individuals with disabilities. She then stated all the local areas have a Disabilities Committee focused on employment for individuals with disabilities. She suggested having a joint committee meeting with the Disabilities committee. She also stated this is something the State would like to see in terms of getting a report out on the status of the Disabilities Committee.

Ms. Lucas further stated the State Workforce Development Board has created a Committee called the Priority Populations Committee. This group is focused on improving services to priority populations in South Carolina and ensuring they have opportunities. The groups of individuals the committee is looking at are individuals with disabilities, veterans, long term unemployed, homeless, youth with barriers, and offenders. She indicated the committee will be looking at these groups to determine what their barriers are and what initiatives and services are already going on in the State and how we can build on those or add to and support these efforts.

A discussion ensued concerning the minimum age for the Bonding Program. It was stated the age is 18 years old. The committee discussed how the youth could get bonded because once an employer has determined that youth is bonded they have a better opportunity for employment. Ms. Lucas stated she would check on the age for bonding.

## **VI. Other Business**

Ms. Areatha Clark asked Mr. Kevin Staggers to share information on the programs offered by Job Corps. He stated Job Corps is a program funded through the US Department of Labor that provides free education and training assistance for low income youth ages 16-24. Job Corps is a residential and self-paced program. Job Corps offers the opportunity for youth to receive their high school diploma or GED and also obtain a nationally recognized trade. Once students complete the program they are assisted with finding a job, going to post-secondary school, etc. Another requirement of these youth is for them to register with SC Works.

Ms. Clark asked Ms. Sharon Teigue from Sumter County Adult Education to share what her organization does at the next meeting.

Ms. Brenda Golden thanked Mr. Wayne Rogers and Ms. Kelly Goins for attending a Professional Development opportunity that was held with the Career Specialists. This training sessions provided information on economic development, labor market information and different resources for counseling services for youth in the community.

## **VII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 A.M.

Recorded by

Becky Minegar Administrative Assistant, Santee-Lynches Regional Council of Governments