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# Workforce Development Board Youth Committee Meeting

*Youth Committee Purpose Statement: Delivers access to services and job opportunities to connect disengaged youth so that they can engage within the workforce pipeline and benefit from a continuum of economic mobility*

**Agenda- November 30th, 2018**

**Welcome and Introductions**

* Name
* What organization are you with?

**Committee goals**

* + Decrease the number of disconnected youth within the City and County of Denver
	+ Increase the number of paid internships for Denver youth

**Discussion**

* + Brainstorm specific actions the committee can take in relation to committee goals
	+ Review gaps identified with WIOA and potential ways in which the committee or partner organizations can help fill these gaps
	+ Youth Resource Mapping(existing platforms versus new list)

**Meeting schedule**

* Determine next meeting date, time and location

**Next steps**

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Meeting Minutes:

Sara Butz, Black Creek Group

Arys Subiadur, Denver Public Schools

Matt Dodge, Denver Public Schools

Maggie Bolden, Palace Construction and Denver Workforce Development Board

Jenny Smith, Colorado Workforce Development Council and Denver Opportunity Youth

Shay-La Romney, College Track Colorado

Sonia Adame, Arrupe Jesuit High School

Maddy Lawson, Hope Communities

Dawn Coleman, Cochlear Americas

Kathleen McCleary, Denver Workforce Services

Definition: What is a disconnected youth?

16-24 year olds facing significant barriers to employment, lacking access to resources, not actively involved in school and/or employment, or those that are underemployed.

What population are we talking about:

Per Jenny, Denver Opportunity Youth recently released a Population Data Report—will share with the group. Currently, there are 8,800 disconnected youth in Denver alone, and 16,000 in the Metropolitan Denver area.

How are these individuals receiving information about where to go for help?

Through non-profits, public agencies, foster care, often in different or multiple systems, but these systems do effectively communicate with each other. Many programs out there, but are unintentionally siloed.

How and where do we provide wrap-around services? Ideas include:

Denver Public Libraries – work experience opportunities where youth can work at the library through DPS. Does not appear that the libraries have flyers specific to services or resources available to youth. DPS has provided materials specific to the WIOA Youth program in the past.

Union Station

Rec Centers

Boys and Girls Club

Identifying resources is only one part of the conversation, keeping disconnected youth engaged

Issues include:

* Toxic stress in every day lives – stability
* Distrust in systems
* Immediacy in need – always competition from others, including negative providers (how do we provide services before others do?)

Resource mapping: one list is currently maintained by the Denver Workforce Integration Network (DWIN), and others are available through existing sites, such as Aunt Bertha. Committee would like to create a smaller resource map for those organizations participating in the committee to determine how we can effectively leverage our own services. Jenny Smith to create a survey and share at next meeting.

How do we establish and foster partnerships with these organizations to create a prioritization with the youth we are assisting? Create an agreement with these organizations (but not necessarily an MOU).

DPS met with a lieutenant with DPD to make requests on behalf of DPS – helpful to have this level of support.

Maggie meeting with Stacy Gilmore in a week – will have a conversation regarding youth and having a place to go to access all resources.

Denver Urban Scholars – offers one-on-one mentoring with youth.

There seems to be a communication issue with those who have boots on the ground. Sometimes so much bureaucracy involved, that individuals may give up.

Brainstorming:

If we could ask for anything that would solve the problem, what would it be?

* Systems that connect with each other (we need the same paperwork already collected by other agencies)
* What is preventing this initial collaboration? What are the silos?

Leverage networks to support youth and their immediate needs – Maslow’s hierarchy of need

Sector partnership for youth? Some of the industries have subcommittees focused on youth.

Could we use our network to create a robust pilot project and then provide wrap around services to support the needs of youth.

Blend funding.

DPS needs assistance with the pre-training or pre-screening piece.

Retail Grant - HOPE had 4 participants over the summer, is revamping to increase engagement (3 of 4 finished the program and gained employment). Timing – 7-week training, one evening a week—looking at making more time intensive over a shorter amount of time, different outreach, and revamping marketing materials. Amber and Maddy are happy to speak to organizations on the upcoming opportunity. This is prioritized for residents, but is also open to others.

Action Items:

DPS to put together a flyer to share with DPL that is targeted towards youth.

Invite DPL to one of the youth committee meetings. Already scheduled in 2019 to present at the Denver WDB.

Invite the Denver Police Department Lieutenant to a future committee meeting.

Jenny to draft a SurveyMonkey with questions to start identifying available services within our networks and will present at next meeting.

Look into building networks with trade organizations to learn more about available paid internships or apprenticeships.

Invite Maddy Lawson to be invited to the next board meeting and DWIN meeting.

Provide copy of Denver Opportunity Youth report to committee (Jenny shared via email during meeting):

[http://denveroy.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/2018-Population-Data-Report.pdf](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__denveroy.org_wp-2Dcontent_uploads_2018_11_2018-2DPopulation-2DData-2DReport.pdf&d=DwMFAg&c=3XK8O7YER0cC6JEKE6ep0w&r=5qEi-e6JbOR6dqVNcmCsZmKqlhGopFhDXTA0WpLC5YA&m=K9lXaKJ952sAZ1HsAZyt3lYLLgM8X_p3A5Q35VBD4HE&s=Uvqg118600yq8t5X3xEHy5XDh9N6EfVhO1bACH5sBb0&e=)

Provide group with a copy of the DWIN resource map.