



**MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING OF THE
MARICOPA COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD YOUTH COMMITTEE**

Thursday, September 5, 2024 – 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

<https://www.gotomeet.me/MaricopaCountyWDB>

Phone: +1 (872) 240-3212; Access Code/Meeting ID: 167-097-701 #

The Agenda for the meeting is as follows:

Members Present: Anne Landers, JakinDee Kosaka, Tina Drews, Barbara Coaley, Meredith Critchfield, Jessica Putton, Marie Raymond, Nancy Stanford, Brian Jones
(Note: All members present attended via GoTo meeting)

Members Absent: Che Collins, Liz Valdez, Brittany Holmes, Jessica Rivera-Garcia, Tony Finn

Call to order.

Chair Anne Landers called the meeting to order at 1:33 pm and requested roll call.

Roll Call.

MCWDB Board Liaison, Julia Maciel-Vargas, took roll. A quorum was present.

Welcome, Opening Remarks, and Meeting Objectives.

Chair Landers welcomed all attendees and discussed the goals and objectives of the meeting. Goals included:

1. Identifying strategies to achieve FY2025 Youth Committee goals.
2. Providing guidance and input into the youth apprenticeships for the Central Arizona regional apprenticeship coalition.
3. Explore and develop new ways to connect youth to careers in industries that align to the strategic focus of the board.
4. Investigate the creation of youth career pathways to apprenticeships.
5. Explore new ways of educating the major stakeholders and decision makers, and policy makers of in-demand career opportunities.
6. Research innovative methods of connecting businesses in our community to youth and helping to leverage the work that's being done in the employer connection committee when possible.

Consent Agenda.

Meeting Minutes: May 2, 2024

Chair Landers asked for a motion to approve the MCWDB Youth Committee's consent agenda as presented. Tina Drews made a motion; JakinDee Kosaka seconded the motion.

Chair Landers called for an all-in favor vote:

In Favor: Anne Landers, JakinDee Kosaka, Tina Drews, Barbara Coaley, Meredith Critchfield, Jessica Putton, Marie Raymond, Nancy Stanford, Brian Jones

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Motion passed.

Chair Report.

Chair Landers reflected on meeting as an Executive Committee last month and ensuring that the Youth Committee is contributing to the greater work of the Board as a whole by aligning with other committees and supporting the staff by offering guidance to help maximize the work that they're doing. Engaging in ongoing discussions and actively participating in conversations during Youth Committee meetings was her call to action.

Information/Discussion Only.

MCWDB Youth Success Story:

Workforce Development Division Youth Program Supervisor, Zach Lynch, presented a recent success story with a member of the Youth Program.

14 Required Elements for Youth Programs:

Workforce Development Division Program Manager, Andrew Lucero, presented on the topic of 14 required elements for Youth Programs, listed below:

1. Tutoring, Study Skills, Dropout Prevention
2. Alternative Secondary School, Dropout Recovery
3. Work Experience
4. Occupational Skills Training
5. Education with Workforce Training
6. Leadership Development
7. Supportive Services
8. Adult Mentoring
9. Follow Up Services
10. Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling
11. Financial Literacy
12. Entrepreneurial Skills Training
13. Labor Market Information
14. Post Secondary Preparation and Transition

Chair Landers thanked Mr. Lynch and Mr. Lucero for their presentations on the WIOA Youth Workforce Services. The following questions and comments were discussed.

Question	Response
Do they age out at 24 or is it after they find gainful employment?	Participants do not age out at 24 and the program follows them until they are done with services. They just have to be enrolled in the program before the age of 25 and meet criteria.
Of those 14 elements, which ones are the hardest for your team to implement right now?	Limits and challenges include: Having limited resources as an organization, not being able to fulfill all 14 elements, and getting the youth to be responsive to program managers and doing their part to stay in the program and move it forward.
How are these programs marketed to the youth?	Program managers perform a lot of outreach to local high schools and agencies and colleges, send out weekly job blast, networking, grassroots approach.
How can the youth receive more information about the Youth Program services?	Stopping into or calling a career center, utilizing online application, or being referred by a partner organization.

FY 25 Youth Committee Goals

Chair Landers discussed the goals of the committee, listed below:

1. Explore and develop new ways to connect youth to careers in industries that align to the strategic focus of the board.
 2. Explore new ways of educating the major stakeholders and decision makers, and policy makers of in-demand career opportunities.
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3. Research innovative methods of connecting businesses in our community to youth and helping to leverage the work that's being done in the employer connection committee when possible.
 - a. I.e. TikTok and social media platforms

Apprenticeships/Central Arizona Regional Apprenticeship Coalition Progress Update

MCWDB In-Demand Career & Apprenticeship Strategist, Katelyn Harris-Lange, and Workforce Development Division and Apprenticeship Supervisor, Alejandro Esquivias, presented an update on progress with the newly formed Central Arizona Regional Apprenticeship Coalition.

Youth Apprenticeship opportunities include: Expanding Pre-Apprenticeships, Increasing apprenticeship opportunities for youth under the age of 18, Pursuing federal grants to cover first-year apprenticeship costs for youth, & Contributing to community awareness of existing Pre- Apprenticeship & Apprenticeship Programs.

Project Summary:

- The Central Arizona Regional Apprenticeship Coalition emerged from a collaborative effort to secure funding from the U.S. Department of Labor's Apprenticeships Building America Round 2 Grant program in 2024
- Although the proposal did not receive funding, the coalition, comprising Maricopa County, the City of Phoenix, and Pinal County, remains committed to advancing the project's mission of expanding and diversifying Registered Apprenticeship Programs (RAPs) in Central Arizona

Goals:

1. Identify external funding sources to support RAP expansion & 1st year program costs for apprentices
2. Strengthen employer engagement across Central Arizona's apprenticeship ecosystem
3. Expand access to Pre-Apprenticeships and RAP Programs
4. Explore Public-Sector RAPs and RAP sponsorship

Meet quarterly beginning in October 2024.

Question	Response
What do you think the barriers are, the greatest barriers are for participants in that younger portion of the youth quadrant?	Not having enough registered apprenticeship programs that have the ability for those 17 and younger to be part of the program.

Call to Public.

Chair Landers made a call to the public for comments. No one spoke.

Adjourn.

Chair Landers adjourned the MCWDB Youth Committee meeting at 2:33 pm.

Next Meeting: November 7, 2024