

**Yavapai County Workforce Development Board (WDB)
Youth Council Minutes**

April 3, 2019

West County One Stop Center, 221 N. Marina St., Suite 201, Prescott, AZ 86301

Members:	Absences:	Members:	Absences:
Mel Ingwaldson, Chairman - Present	0	Rich Ormond – Present	0
Corey Marshall, Vice-Chairman – Absent	2 (1*)	Kristy Prather – Present (via phone)	0
Linda Brannock – Present	0	Officer Steven Steinke - Present	0
*Excused Absence			

Staff: Leah Cickavage, Operations Manager, NACOG
Loreen Vargo, Administrative Specialist, NACOG

I. Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Ingwaldson called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. A quorum was present. Chairman Ingwaldson welcomed everyone and self-introductions were made around the table.

II. Approval of January 23, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Chairman Ingwaldson asked for questions or comments on the minutes. **Ms. Cickavage made a motion to approve the minutes from January 23, 2019 as drafted. Ms. Brannock seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

III. Chairman’s Report

Chairman Ingwaldson announced Officer Steinke’s membership application for Youth Council was approved by the WDB at their last meeting and he thanked Officer Steinke for his willingness to participate on the Council. Chairman Ingwaldson mentioned the 2019 Summer Youth Program and noted the details would be discussed later in the meeting.

IV. AmeriCorps VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) Program Presentation

Chairman Ingwaldson turned the meeting over to Mr. Ormond for his presentation on AmeriCorps. Mr. Ormond began by thanking the Council for the invitation to present today. He explained Annie Reifsnyder, Program Manager for Arizona Serve, would not be presenting with him as originally scheduled as she was called away to Tucson for another matter.

Mr. Ormond passed out a handout which provided an overview of AmeriCorps programs. Mr. Ormond shared AmeriCorps VISTA, one of three programs of AmeriCorps, is a nationwide program that was established in 1965 to help lift people out of poverty. Mr. Ormond noted the program in Prescott started in 2006 when several Yavapai County agencies saw a gap in services and brought together a small team of AmeriCorps VISTA members to fight poverty in Yavapai County. In 2009, the project became “Serve Yavapai” and a program of Prescott College. Mr. Ormond explained that the program expanded to Tucson in 2013 and became “Arizona Serve”. Arizona Serve’s mission is to connect passionate people with transformative community projects to fight poverty. In 2015, Arizona Serve was awarded their first AmeriCorps State and National grant, which expanded their full-time and part-time direct service opportunities available for projects targeting healthy futures, education and economic opportunities.

Mr. Ormond continued his presentation by providing an overview of membership and benefits of service for the AmeriCorps VISTA and State programs. He explained AmeriCorps VISTA members are recruited nationally for one

year of service (full-time) working to build a program behind-the-scenes for a community organization helping to fight poverty. The positions are typically higher level positions for recent college graduates, retired, highly skilled individuals, or experienced community leaders. State members provide direct services or help build capacity for agencies serving low income populations.

The benefits for AmeriCorps VISTA members include:

- Living Allowance: \$12,300 for year of service
- Housing Subsidy: \$100 per month
- Choice of a \$6,095 Education Award or a \$1,800 Cash Stipend (upon completion of service)
- Limited Health Care Benefits
- Relocation Allowance (if relocating more than 50 miles to serve)
- Student Loan Deferment and Reimbursement of Accrued Interest on eligible student loans
- Childcare Assistance (if eligible)
- One Year Non-Competitive Eligibility for Federal Employment (following service)
- Certificate in Civic Leadership and Service through Prescott College
- Ongoing Coaching and Team Support

The benefits for AmeriCorps State members include:

- Living Allowance: \$2,000 - \$12,630 depending on position
- \$1,290 - \$6,095 Education Award depending on position
- Student Loan Deferment and Reimbursement of Accrued Interest on eligible student loans
- Part-time positions that offer a flexible schedule
- Certificate in Civic Leadership and Service through Prescott College
- Ongoing Coaching and Team Support

Mr. Ormond concluded his presentation by mentioning Arizona Serve is open to everyone, 18 years of age or older. All members at Arizona Serve receive:

- A collaborative and inclusive team environment
- Ongoing, regular coaching from staff and team leaders
- Workshops and skill-based trainings
- Regional Issues Days
- Help with career plans after service
- Certificate in Civic Leadership and Service through Prescott College
- Four undergraduate credits from Prescott College

Mr. Ormond concluded his presentation with mention of the Arizona Serve website, <http://arizonaserve.org>, and podcast, <https://azserve.podbean.com/>.

V. Operations Manager Report

Ms. Cickavage began her report by mentioning the solicitation letters for the 2019 Summer Youth Program (SYP) were mailed out to numerous employers in Yavapai County on April 1, 2019. Solicitation letters went out to non-profits, city/town agencies, etc. Ms. Cickavage said information was sent to various youth organizations regarding opportunities for youth and is being advertised in social media and news articles. The deadline for employers to submit SYP applications is April 15, 2019.

➤ **Program Update**

Ms. Cickavage reported there are currently 33 In-School Youth (ISY) enrolled. ISY are attending school and are between the ages of 14-21. 92 Out-of-School Youth (OSY) are enrolled. OSY includes students who are out of school and students attending an alternative education program (considered OSY per WIOA). They are between the ages of 16-24. She stated there are a total of 125 youth enrolled and numbers will steadily increase as summer approaches.

Ms. Cickavage then reported on the current outreach which included the following items:

- **Arizona Children's Association:** Ms. Cickavage provided orientation on services for aging out of foster care youth and recruitment for youth services.
- **Prescott High School Transition Fair:** Staff will attend fair for soon to graduate students on youth services.
- **Chino Valley Transition Fair:** Staff will attend and speak to youth and parents on services available.
- **Prescott, Chino Valley, Sedona, and Verde Job Fairs:** Staff has been working with planning committees for up and coming job fairs for the Yavapai County area. Chino Valley Job Fair was well attended on January 16, 2019. Prescott Job Fair was held on March 27, 2019. Verde Valley Job Fair is today, April 3, 2019, which has a specific section of the fair focused on youth, and a Young Adult Job Fair on May 1, 2019 at the Yavapai County Juvenile Probation lawn.
- **Adult Basic Education:** Staff have presented to ABE classrooms in East/West County for those working toward their High School Equivalency on supportive services, employment and educational opportunities.
- **Juvenile Probation:** Staff presented information regarding youth/summer youth services.
- **Mingus Union High School:** Staff presented NACOG services to counselors, posted flyers regarding SYP.
- **Pregnant/Parenting Centers:** Staff visits to centers and provide information on services, post flyers for those interested.
- **Posting flyers:** Staff posting flyers at smoke shops, laundry mats, apartment complexes, youth centers and recreational centers.
- **Humboldt Unified School District Alternative Learning:** Staff provided information about SYP program and flyers are posted for youth interested.

Ms. Cickavage then reported on upcoming outreach which included the following items:

- **Camp Verde Career Expo:** Scheduled for September 2019. Focus will be employment and educational training, apprenticeships/internships.
- **Summer Youth Program:** Continued outreach/enrollments.
- **Yavapai College CTEC Carpentry Preview Day:** Staff to provide information to those interested in NACOG services.
- **Young Adult Job Fair:** Staff to attend on May 1, 2019, to be held at Yavapai County Juvenile Probation.
- **VACTE:** Preview day for construction program; present to youth regarding WIOA services including summer youth program/boot camp.
- **School Counselors:** Reaching out regarding soon to graduate youth at all local area high schools.
- **Alternative Education:** Schedule presentations to attending students regarding services.
- **Adult Basic Education:** Schedule on site orientations to students to discuss/enroll for services.

Ms. Cickavage then shared current employment/education enrollments youth are involved in which are: Certified Caregivers, Certified Nursing Assistants, Registered Nurses, Dental Assistants, Cosmetologists, Front Desk, Research Assistants, Construction, Welding, Electrical, Probation Officers, Hospitality Services, Customer Service Representatives, Automotive Technicians, Forest Workers, Production Technicians, Information

Technology Technicians, Title Clerks, 3D Printer Assemblers, Manufacturing Assemblers, Engineers, HVAC Technicians, CDL Drivers and more. Several youth are completing their AA/BA degrees.

➤ **Summer Youth Program Update**

Ms. Cickavage recapped the deadline for employers to apply is April 15, 2019. The program will run from June 3 to July 26, 2019 (8 weeks). Youth will earn \$11.00 per hour. The budget is \$61,300, looking to enroll 16 youth. The employer orientation will be held on May 29, 2019, with informational orientations for youth held on April 24 and May 8 at 3:30 p.m. at the Prescott/Cottonwood One Stop Centers. The Summer Youth Program Timeline for 2019 is:

- Current budget \$61,300 (\$11.00 hourly, up to 40 hours a week)
- 16+ Out-of-School Youth participants
- Youth Outreach potentials soon to graduate students in school districts, CTED/VACTE, probation, alternative schools, parenting youth groups, low income housing, etc.
- Multiple worksites – solicitation letters out April 1, due April 15, 2019. 35 worksites.
- ACRC training for Youth, 5/20-5/24/19 (same workshops as Bootcamp)
- SYP Orientations for Employers and Participants 5/29/19 in Prescott/Cottonwood
- SYP Program to run 6/3-7/26/19
- Worksite Monitoring's/Youth of the Week Awards 6/24-6/28/19
- EWD staff schedule in Case Management appointments with all youth to develop next step in career goals

➤ **Social Media Update**

Ms. Cickavage then moved on to provide a social media update which included the following items:

- New Facebook page is active, <http://www.yavapaiatwork.com/>. Please visit, like, and share.
- Since January, our posts have reached 998 people and we've had 119 post engagements.
- 5,065 people reached with boosted posts.
- No negative feedback posted.
- Inter-joined with Twitter and will be to LinkedIn in the next couple of weeks.

Ms. Cickavage asked if there were any questions or comments regarding her report and there were none.

VI. Member Comments

Chairman Ingwaldson asked for member comments. Ms. Brannock asked for internship opportunities to be forwarded to her. Ms. Cickavage mentioned NACOG offers paid internships. Ms. Cickavage asked for Out-of-School Youth (OSY) referrals even if their GED is in progress. Ms. Prather commented they can offer information to younger, incarcerated individuals.

VII. Public Comments

Chairman Ingwaldson called for public comments and there were none.

VIII. Adjournment

Chairman Ingwaldson called for a motion to adjourn, so moved by Ms. Brannock, seconded by Mr. Ormond. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Ingwaldson adjourned the meeting at 11:10 a.m.