



State Youth Council
Meeting Agenda
December 11, 2008
9:00 am – 11:30 am

Conference Call Info

720-348-2783 (Metro Denver)

866-539-1119 (Outside Metro Denver)

1212193 (room #)

1. Introductions
2. CWDC Goals/Update
3. SYC 2008 Recap & Planning Session
4. Finance Update
5. Membership Update
6. Think Big Youth Forum 2009
7. SYC Facilitation, Training, TA Proposal
8. Governor's Summer Job Hunt
9. Youthnet
10. Partner & Projects Update
11. National Youth Employment Coalition
12. Meeting Schedule 2009

Attendees: Steve Wright, Julie Berge, Barb Palmer, Dani Crane, Melody Bolton, Andy Johnson, Jo Dawn Newlon, Debi Holleman, Tiffany Bazanac (proxy for Kelly); Bette Matkowski

Colorado Workforce Development Council Update

The CWDC initiated strategic planning under the new leadership & membership.

Three priority areas emerged:

1. Promoting Regional Targeted Industry Strategies (demand side)
2. Aligning and Leveraging Resources and Strategies to Develop a Highly Skilled Workforce (supply side)
3. Positioning and Communication (marketing and outreach)

The council will continue to refine the action items and subcommittees aligned with these three goals.

State Youth Council Strategic Planning

- Dani & Bette are excited to re-engage and work on a 2 year plan in alignment with the CWDC.
- We will continue to monitor the Governor's direction, initiatives, and the Colorado Promise items.
- Leadership would like to become better connected to the national organizations related to youth, workforce development, and other areas that align with the work of the SYC and our members.
- We need to consider our goal areas from 2005-2006 as they align with the CWDC's goals; at the same time, we need to incorporate the themes and concepts that were brainstormed into the SYC system vision (the pantheon) that was created over the spring and summer of 2008.
- Dani discussed the potential to engage in a facilitator to assist with the goals and action plans.

Finance

- The SYC has \$200,000 of plan year 2008 funds available, with \$11,000 carryover from 2007. This money is "left over" from projects and grants that ended between June 30, 2008 and September 30, 2008.
- The SYC needs volunteers to reconvene the finance committee. This group would determine the budget and review opportunities that arise during the year, and bring recommendations and decision items to the full SYC. Another item proposed would be to develop a template or formal procedure (perhaps with dollar amount thresholds) so that there was an adopted process that would be followed to handle requests. Certain requests may be required to make a presentation at a SYC meeting or through a webinar or teleconference to the SYC.
 - The following individuals volunteered during the teleconference: Jo Dawn Newlon, Julie Berge, Barb Palmer, Melody Bolton, Kelly Folks, Steve Wright; other interested members can contact Steve Wright

at 303 318-8237 or steve.wright@state.co.us We would need one or both chairs to participate on this committee.

- Immediate Action Items - Think Big & SYC Facilitation
 - Two items that need quick action are the Think Big Youth Forum and to decide whether or not to hire a facilitator for SYC planning.
- Other finance items brainstormed at the meeting were the topics of Professional Development, Travel to Conferences, and Career Camps

Think Big

The finance committee needs to address action item concerning Think Big. The approximate budget to cover most/all attendees would around \$80,000 (high estimate). We polled the SYC and partners, and some regions could handle some costs or registration fees, others could not. Hosting the conference in the Denver Metro area could reduce costs as fewer people would require overnight accommodations.

The following SYC members were interested in participating on the Think Big Planning Committee – Jo Dawn, Kelly, Julie, Steve, Sue, (need rural), Katie Kozney (Barb Palmer will check her availability from CDE)

Membership

Targeted recruitment and re-engagement needs to be addressed. We will reconvene the membership committee, assess gaps, and disseminate the renewal memo to members after the New Year.

NYEC/National Involvement

The State Youth Council has been a member of the National Youth Employment Coalition for many years. SYC leadership would like to be more active and connected to this group and their activities. They are currently planning their annual conference, we could participate on their planning committee if SYC members are interested. It would require participation on approximately 4-5 conference calls.

In addition, the NYEC promotes Pepnet, which is a process promoting organizational best practices around youth development. Dani recently participated in a conference and sees a possible opportunity for the SYC to explore Pepnet. We could research the process and tools.

Governor's Summer Job Hunt – Julie Berge

- The Program Guidance Letter for this statewide program will come out shortly.
- Workforce centers saw over 43,000 youth last year, from Feb-Aug.
- They are exploring what to do if employers are reduced this year due to economy.
- The metro area is planning 4 youth job fairs, sponsored by workforce centers and the GSJG.

- Their campaign is “Keep Colorado Youth Working”, similar to the Governor’s “keep co working” campaign.
- A few metro regions are coming together for a combined event at the Convention Center (A/D Works, Denver) also Broomfield, Adams, and Jeffco are having their own youth job fairs.

Youthnet

A searchable database of resources for youth, in particular, youth with barriers and disabilities, was created in March 2007 as a deliverable on 2 federal projects that the CWDC received. Steve, Sue Schierkolk, and Andy Johnson are putting together a team to review recommendations from focus groups of youth to improve this database. Any interested SYC members are invited to join this group. Contact Steve if you are interested (see contact info above). Dani and a few members would like to make this an action item under the SYC planning, and may have a financial request to implement changes.

Partner Updates

Andy – CDHS/Supportive Housing and Homeless Programs

- A successful awareness campaign “Colorado Runaway Youth Awareness Month” was implemented in November. Several new partners are interested in being part of the solution.
- The Division of Child Welfare was awarded a \$200,000 grant targeting rural homeless youth (potential annual award of \$200k for 5 years). A series of teleconferences are being conducted about the project to inform local rural regions on how they can participate.
- The annual report and state plan are being developed

Bette Matkowski – President of Johnson & Wales University, SYC Co-Chair

- Speaker elect from the house and the chair of the joint budget committee presented about a group called Jobs by June, which is a big effort on part of legislature to stimulate jobs

Jo Dawn Newlon – Collbran Job Corps

- Big Job Corps initiative nationally, SYC may want to look at job cluster strategies

Barb Palmer – Colorado Department of Education

- DVR is on order of selection, waiting list
- CDE and DVR are restructuring SWAP; could be serving younger youth, more preparatory services; serving groups of youth rather than individuals; examining local partnerships
- Need communication piece to let workforce know they will be seeing additional exposure from SWAP providers
- We have many good examples of local partnerships in Colorado (especially rural areas and several metro regions), explore partner cross training; The SYC did a webinar on this specific topic

- Job readiness is a big need and many of the youth may not qualify for programs from the current systems; Think Big would be a good venue to explore and present on this topic, could do a case study;
- Andy – Center for Systems Integration will be doing some community planning and could integrate some of the SWAP content with 3-5 rural communities around the state as they do their network analysis and planning

Next Meeting

January 8, 9 am – 11:30

Finance Committee – please send availability/dates to Steve for a meeting prior to 1/8/09!