



Meeting Minutes of Shared Youth Vision Council
New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development
1 John Fitch Way, Trenton, NJ 08625
Thursday, February 15, 2018
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Shared Youth Vision Council (SYVC) meeting was called to order at 10:00 am. Acting Executive Director Gary Altman welcomed attendees and explained that the mission statement of the Council on the SETC website differs from its overview in describing its purpose, programs and services. Mr. Altman explained that the goal of the Council is to gather together those who serve youth, to consider youth workforce policies and initiatives. The purpose of this meeting is to develop a shared vision for the mission statement that will better define this Council's purpose and goals.

Council Chairperson Catherine Milone, Executive Director of Junior Achievement of New Jersey (JANJ), thanked the attendees for their interest and participation. Ms. Milone introduced her colleague Christy Tighe. Ms. Tighe has extensive knowledge of the challenges facing public education, through her leadership of the JANJ College of Career Readiness initiative and its Strategic Planning initiative. She also serves as Vice President of the New Jersey School Boards Association and is a former member of Greenwich Township Board of Education.

2. Considerations

Ms. Milone introduced SETC's Kyree Robinson who shared some background facts and purpose of the Council to help the group create a vision for developing a mission statement:

- The State Employment and Training Commission is the State workforce development board; it provides policy guidance and strategic leadership on workforce issues in New Jersey and provides guidance to local workforce boards. The SYVC is a part of the SETC's critical work to improve outcomes for youth in our state.
- The SYVC is a statewide body, formed in April 2013. It is comprised of partners from public and private organizations, and is under the auspices of the NJ State Employment and Training Commission.
- Engage stakeholders to develop comprehensive strategies and policies to support our youth through broadened educational and training experiences such as entrepreneurial skills, work experience, internships and apprenticeships. This transpires while also maximizing the needed support and follow-up services which will help youth achieve economic independence through career pathways.

Mr. Robinson shared statistics gathered from research showing how great the need is to provide services to the youth in our State. Some statistics covered included teen pregnancy and birth rates, youth employment, poverty, encounters with law enforcement, substance abuse and suicide.

Mr. Robinson offered some considerations:

- Improve collaboration between government agencies, workforce, employers, educational institutions, nonprofits and industries to prepare students for successful careers;
- Identify best practices;
- Braid services;
- Develop model for students to achieve stackable credentials and/or degrees;
- Create employer driven training programs and curricula to help prepare for the jobs of the future; and
- Promote and expand apprenticeship and internship programs to expose more young people to work-based and experiential learning.

3. Creating a Mission and Vision Statement

Christy Tighe asked attendees to stand and introduce themselves and tell what they do. She asked them to form small groups by the areas of the state in which they serve, to have an interactive discussion. Four groups were formed.

a. Overview

Ms. Tighe gave an overview of what a mission statement encompasses, and described a vision statement. She explained that a mission statement is the foundation of a strategic plan. A good mission statement tells the world why your organization exists, what difference it makes, what you would want it to be remembered for, and what wouldn't happen if it ceased to exist. Ms. Tighe explained that a vision statement describes the hoped-for future state that will result from the organization achieving its mission. A vision statement takes a long-term perspective and taps into emotions, trying to make us feel uplifted or inspired to achieve the mission.

b. Group Process

Ms. Tighe prepped the attendees for a group analysis called S.W.O.T. with an explanation of what it stands for:

- Strengths: What an organization can do
- Weaknesses: What an organization cannot do
- Opportunities: Potential favorable conditions for an organization
- Threats: Potential unfavorable conditions for an organization

Ms. Tighe asked the groups to take half an hour to brainstorm their group's perspectives on the S.W.O.T. topics and list them.

c. Discussion

Group discussions took place and Ms. Tighe asked that a representative from each group bring their findings to the front and summarize on a flipchart. Results were compared to establish a goal for the mission statement. Ms. Tighe explained that by summarizing all the results they should be able to come up with a core purpose. A

discussion took place with all attendees regarding the nature of the services they provide and the importance of collaborating and networking to provide high quality services to their local areas.

4. Moving Forward

Ms. Tighe thanked attendees for their participation and said that the S.W.O.T. results will be put into a document to be shared with everyone at the next meeting.

5. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:05pm.

ATTENDEES

Lori Godorov
Cheri Thompson
Patricia Jordon
Robert Mercado
Catherine Milone
Christy Tighe
Tammy Molinelli
Michele Safrin
Joeny Mendez
Michelle Slaney-Mills

GUESTS

Patricia Robertson
Rigo Salas
Jeffrey Swartz
James Bryant
Maeisol Vasquez
David McNair
Kim Liguori
Kim Clayton
Mark Biedrun
Jyi Peterson
Edward LaPorte
Sonja Williams
Sharon Rawlins
Curtis Myers
Donna Buchanan
Keri Sullivan
Cheri Thompson
Dorothy Edgerton

Next Meeting

Tuesday, June 26, 2018

10:00 am to 12:00 noon

NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development Building,

13th Floor Auditorium

1 John Fitch Way, Trenton, NJ