



1600 East Century Avenue, Suite 2
P.O. Box 2057
Bismarck, ND 58502-2057
Phone (701) 328-5345
Fax (701) 328-5320
E-Mail: jhirsch@nd.gov

**MEETING MINUTES
NORTH DAKOTA YOUTH DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
April 15, 2008**

Meeting Date, Time, & Place: April 15, 2008 at 9:00 AM, Best Western DoubleWood Inn, Bismarck, North Dakota.

Members Present:

NDYDC: Dave Ellingson, Ann Pollert, Anita Kostek, Wayne Kutzer, Gloria Maragos, Gaylene Massey, Leo Cummings, Debbie Painte, Al Austad, Wanda Bye (for Harley Engleman)

Members Absent:

NDYDC: Joseph Harr, Kent Ellis, Tim Eissing, Jolene Crosswhite, and Cheryl Penny.

Guests Present: Jerry Houn, Larry Anderson, Cornelius Grant, Beth Zander, Susan Gunsch, Korrine Lang, Deana Weise, and Rene Gonzalez (recorder)

Opening Remarks & Introductions: Dave Ellingson provided a welcome and members and guests introduced themselves.

Administrative Announcements: Travel vouchers are available for members.

Approval of Agenda: Dave Ellingson asked for a motion to approve the April 15, 2008, agenda.

Motion: Ann Pollert moved to approve the April 15, 2008, agenda. Wayne Kutzer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes:

Dave Ellingson asked for a motion to approve the January 9, 2008, minutes of the NDYDC.

Motion: Gloria Maragos moved to approve the January 9, 2008, minutes. Gaylene Massey seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chairs Report:

No Chairs Report

Career Promotion Initiative – ITCND:

Deana Weise from Information Technology Council of North Dakota is requesting \$50,000 over a three-year period (\$20,00 the first year, and \$15,000 each year after that) in Workforce Investment Act Governor's Set-Aside Funds to provide matching funds to establish the first-ever IT Career Awareness program. The objective of the IT Career Awareness Program is to inform students, parents, and educators of IT career opportunities in North Dakota; to encourage students to enroll in IT-related classes and degree programs at the secondary and post-secondary levels; and to develop a world-class IT workforce for the future. The North Dakota Department of Career and Technical Education has agreed to assist ITCND in establishing a set of measurable metrics to evaluate the success of the program.

Motion: Wayne Kutzer moved that a recommendation be made to the Workforce Development Council to support the IT Career Awareness Program. Leo Cummings seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Project Gear-Up:

Cheryl Kulas was not present to discuss Project Gear-Up. Jim Hirsch briefly explained that the project was geared towards low-income 7th graders that needed additional assistance in math, science and reading. Wayne Kutzer stated that the project proposal was not approved the first time, but they were hopeful it would be approved this go around. He further stated that there are only a couple of states that are not currently using this program and North Dakota was one of them.

State Commission Updates:

Jerry Houn reviewed the 2007-08 grants awarded for the AmeriCorps program. The following 7 projects have been funded:

- The Baptist Home
- Cooperstown Community
- Fargo-Moorhead YMCA
- Grand Forks Housing

- Jamestown Public Schools
- Richland County Consortium
- Youthworks

Learn and Serve:

David Massey reported for Dale Patrick. David stated that \$42,000 in funds has been awarded to provide grants for different organizations for community building. He further stated that they have received funding for next years, and the program will continue to be funded at \$42,000.

Agency Reports:

- **Career & Technical Education** – Wayne Kutzer from the Department of Career and Technical Education reviewed the Carl D. Perkins Consolidated Annual Report for the 2007 program year (July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007). Wayne stated that some information was difficult to collect, especially with the tribal schools and colleges. Dave Massey stated that the Department of Public Instruction uses a tracking software that they developed called STARS. He stated that by combining forces, information will be more accurate and information would be stored in one place. He stated if other agencies wanted to use this software, that this is now the time to talk about it as it would take up to one year to make the transition. He stated that the one-year lag time is needed to make changes to the program and to get people adequately trained.
- **Department of Public Instruction** - David Massey reviewed the Title II report. He stated that the report reflects represents the programs implemented under the Title II of the Workforce Development Act. The Department funded 18 programs with these funds. This is the same number of programs sites that were funded the year before. He further stated that over the past two years there has been a significant change in the number of students served with these funds. During this reporting period 1776 were served. That is a decline of 149 students from the previous year.
- **Job Service ND/WIA Reports** – Beth Zanders with Job Service ND shared the Performance Measure Summary for Workforce Investment Act, along with the financial data.

North Dakota Talent Initiative Update:

- **Single State Biennial Strategic Plan** – Larry Anderson reviewed a chart he created that illustrated the various key players of Workforce Development, Workforce Training, and Talent Attraction. The illustration details how all key players provide components to the Workforce Intelligence, Talent Initiative and the Talent Pool. He stated that the first organizational meeting was held in Minot on January 9, 2008. The second scheduled meeting will take place on June 23, 2008. Jim Hirsch stated

that the legislation passed required a state consolidated plan. This plan goes beyond the unified state plan.

Governor's Set-Aside Funds Update: Jim Hirsch reviewed the Governor's Set-Aside-Funds. The current funds are as follows:

- Jobs For Americas Graduates (JAG) - \$100,000 spread over two-years
- JSND Spidering - \$100,00
- Transitional Assistance Program 0 \$32,750
- ITCND Career Promotion – this fund is currently pending approval but would consist of \$50,000 spread out over a 3-year period.

HGJTI Grant: Jim Hirsch also reviewed the High-Growth Job Training Initiative Grant for the Energy Industry and Construction and Skilled Trades in the Energy Industry. The application for this grant has been submitted. If awarded, this grant would be in the amount of \$1 million dollars and would provide for 1279 individuals who will be recruited, trained, and/or placed into career opportunities with the energy and construction industries in the 21 County Region.

NEW BUSINESS:

Tuition Incentives/Loan Payback: Dave Ellingson asked to discuss the tuition incentives and loan payback opportunities throughout the state. Jim Hirsch stated that a focus group under the Workforce Congress and headed by Senator Tony Grindberg was discussion tax credit options for students that remained in the state. They are also looking into a “loan forgiveness” program. The idea is to keeping existing workforce in the state. It was suggested that Senator Tony Grindberg be invited to attend the next Youth Development Council meeting to discuss these issues.

Dave Ellingson voiced concerns regarding counter-productive actions from other state agencies that affect workforce issues. For an example, he stated that he has a young mother that joined Burdick Job Corps. By doing so, the state child support enforcement has gone after her mother (the grandmother) in order to collect child support. This has being event a larger financial burden on the family. Jim Hirsch stated that the committee should invite a representative from Human Services should be present at the next meeting to address these issues and concerns.

Virtual Area Centers: Wayne Kutzer presented PowerPoint on Virtual Area Centers. He stated that they received \$1.2 million in funding that would help establish two career technical centers. He stated that they received 5 proposals, but only received approval for three. One center was ultimately denied due to a lack of having any real substance to the program. Wayne further stated that during the next legislative session they will be asking for the funding to continue at the same level. At that time, they will be looking to expand these centers to other areas.

Workforce Congress Update: Jim Hirsch reported on the Workforce Congress. He stated that the Workforce Initiative held five focus group meetings throughout the state. During these meetings many of the same issues were identified. Wages was one of the key issues that were brought up at each meeting, as well as the need for career promotion/advising advancement of lifelong learning. He stated that the final report has not yet been issued. This report will be posted on the legislative branch website.

North Dakota Transitional Team Update: Korrine Lang, with Job Service ND reported on the North Dakota Transitional Team. She stated that several representatives throughout North Dakota attended the Transitional Forum in Baltimore in March. The goal was to bring together key leaders of the Workforce system. She provided an overview of the conference. Jim Hirsch stated that after the meeting, a meeting was held here in Bismarck with representative with Monster.com. Monster.com has identified 480,000 registrants who have or have had some connection with North Dakota and 37,000 people have indicated interest in employment opportunities in North Dakota.

Youth Council Planning: The committee requested that Senator Grindberg be invited to the next Youth Development Council meeting to discuss tuition loan/tax credits. The committee also requested that a representative from Human Services attend the next meeting to discuss

Public Input and Discussion: None

Action Plans:

1. **Jim Hirsch will contact Senator Grindberg and ask he address the YDC regarding tuition payback.**
2. **Jim Hirsch will contact Carol Olson to address the YDC regarding child support issues that are affecting the workforce.**
3. **Invite Senator Grindberg to provide a report on the Workforce Congress and initiatives aimed at retention of youth.**
4. **Have an employer panel which includes the retail industry to talk about their workforce challenges and concerns as one of the entry level points of the talent pipeline.**
5. **Kayla Effertz will be invited to discuss ND *Works!***

Adjournment: Dave Ellingson asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Anita Kostek moved to adjourn the meeting. Wayne Kutzer seconded the motion. Motion carried.