

# Centralina Workforce Development Board

## Youth Council Meeting

Boys & Girls Club of Concord

247 Spring Street NW – Concord, NC

Thursday March 18, 2010 – 10:00 A.M.

### Members Present (12)

Gisella Busse  
Billy Marsh  
Katrina Duke  
Rick Brown  
Pat Woods  
Sharon Allen  
Sarah Dunlap  
Jasmine Thompson  
Tenkamenin Crowder  
Lisa Conger  
JD Williams  
Inez Williamson

### WDB Staff (2)

Natasha Pender  
Emily Clamp

### WDB Board Members

Bob VanGorden, Centralina WDB Chair

### Guests (20)

Lisa Crawford, US Census Bureau – Cabarrus Office  
Monica Wissbaum, US Census Bureau – Cabarrus Office  
April Youngblood, I-CARE, Inc. – youth  
Talisa Ramseur, I-CARE, Inc. – youth  
Debra Ervin, I-CARE, Inc.  
Monique Phoenix, I-CARE, Inc.  
David Dutton, Resource Development Center  
Almond Miller, Salisbury-Rowan Community Action Agency, Inc.  
Shenita Russell, Salisbury-Rowan Community Action Agency, Inc.  
JaTeare McNeal, Salisbury-Rowan Community Action Agency, Inc.  
Paula Holmes, Union County Community Action Agency, Inc.  
Brandie Dysard, Union County Community Action Agency, Inc - youth  
Wilma Means, Logan Community Optimist  
Carolyn Mays – Cabarrus County JobLink Career Center  
Ontique White – Florence Crittenton Services  
Shanell McLamb – Florence Crittenton Services  
Lakeysha Medlin – Connecting Futures, Inc  
Leon Gatewood, HOLLA  
Sara Brunner – Department of Juvenile Justice  
Roger Withers, Rowan-Salisbury Schools



In the absence of Youth Council Chair, Carol Johnson, Youth Council member Gisella Busse called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone, allowed each person to introduce themselves and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

### **Mission Statement Affirmation**

The Youth Council Mission Statement was read by Youth Council member Sharon Allen.

### **Approval of New Youth Council Members**

Gisella Busse announced that there were five new applicants interested in joining the Youth Council.

- Inez Williamson, an Independent Contractor, currently working with the Anson County Department of Social Services as an On the Job Training Specialist/Job Coach/ and Human Resource Placement Specialist.
- Jaun “JD” Williams , the founder/CEO of Second Net, a youth serving organization in Statesville founded on the principles of helping at risk youth become productive citizens. Second Net targets youth who have committed minor offences under the law, and gives them guidance and direction.
- TenKamenin Crowder, a youth participant in the WIA program at Salisbury-Rowan Community Action Agency in Rowan County. He is a member of the following clubs: Work Skills Club; Leadership Club; and the Life Skills Club at SRCAA. Mr. Crowder’s goal is to earn his GED by June of 2010. Mr. Crowder has been nominated to serve on the Youth Council by SRCAA WIA Director – Mrs. JoAnn Diggs.
- Sarah Dunlap, a youth participant in the WIA program at Salisbury-Rowan Community Action Agency (SRCAA) in Rowan County. She is a member of the following clubs: Ladies Book Club; Work Skills Club; Leadership Development Club; and the Life Skills Club at SRCAA. Ms. Dunlap hopes to earn her GED by May of 2010 and then go on to college so that she can gain employment and support her daughter.
- Jasmine Thompson is a youth participant in the WIA program at Salisbury-Rowan Community Action Agency (SRCAA) in Rowan County. She is a member of the following clubs: Ladies Book Club; Work Skills Club; Leadership Development Club; and the Life Skills Club at SRCAA. Ms. Thompson hopes to earn her GED by April of 2010 and then enroll in UNC-Greensboro in the fall of 2010.

Each applicant stood shared some information about themselves. Rick Brown made the motion to approve the persons stated above for membership in the Youth Council. Pat Woods, seconded the motion. Gisella welcomed the new members, Natasha Pender gave each new member a

Resource Handbook and welcome gift bag and thanked them for their interest and commitment to serve.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the January 28, 2010 meeting were mailed prior to the meeting. Gisella Busse waived the reading of the previous minutes and asked if there were any changes or corrections. Rick Brown moved that the minutes stand as submitted and Lisa Conger seconded the motion. Hearing no objections, the motion to approve the minutes was unanimously approved.

### **Presentations: Lisa Crawford, US Census Bureau – Cabarrus County Office & Pat Woods: NC High School graduation requirements**

Debra Ervin introduced Lisa Crawford, Partnership Specialist with the Charlotte Regional Census Center of the US Census Bureau.

Lisa Crawford delivered a brief presentation on the 2010 US Census, stating that the purpose of the census is simple: it determines Money, Power and the Future.

Sarah Dunlap, new Youth Council Member and WIA participant for the Salisbury- Rowan Community Action Agency introduced Pat Woods. Pat Woods is a Centralina Workforce Development Board and Youth Council member. Mrs. Woods did a presentation on the graduation requirements for North Carolina High School students. She stated that it's important that leaders and administrators in youth serving agencies know of these requirements so that they may tailor their programs to help support and encourage students to plan for their future and be proactive in preparing for graduation day.

Gisella thanked both presenters for their time, and for sharing the information with Youth Council members and guests.

### **Other Business**

Natasha directed everyone to look in their folders at a handout depicting new Centralina WDB staff member Michelle McNulty. Natasha stated that Michelle has been with the Board as Accountability Specialist for a little over two weeks and was currently attending training in Raleigh.

Natasha Pender shared information regarding updates on the Workforce Investment Act stating that the North Carolina Division of Workforce Development has a monitoring visit scheduled for March 24-26, 2010 and that contractors should be aware that there may be a site visit at one of their organizations. Natasha also stated that Operations Manager, Patricia White has completed all but one youth contract monitoring visits; and that she will be visiting Union County Community Action Agency in early April 2010. Furthermore, Requests for Proposals for youth contracts will be posted soon, although the exact date is yet to be determined.

Natasha Pender reported that planning for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual North Carolina Youth Summit is underway and that the 2010 event is scheduled for Friday and Saturday April 23-24 at the Embassy Suites in Greensboro. Ten youth from the Centralina region were chosen to attend: Tenkamenin Crowder, Sarah Dunlap, Jasmine Thompson (from Salisbury – Rowan Community Action Agency); Troyona Fair, Traci Hudson, Jillary Rodriguez, Jasmine McSwain (from I-CARE) and Jason Hubbard, Divac Staton, and Terrance Hinkle (Union County Community Action Agency). These youth were chosen based on essays they wrote pertaining to why they wanted to attend the summit, and what they hoped to gain. Natasha stated that each Youth Council member was emailed a PDF of ALL the applicant essays and a tally of the ten “best” essays is how the winners were selected.

Natasha also stated that the Youth Summit was not exclusive for WIA participants, but due to limited space, youth and/or providers interested in sending youth to the event need to notify Natasha of intent to attend no later than Monday March 29, 2010.

### **Members & Guests Speak**

Billy Marsh stated that Lincoln County was hosting their third annual Gang Awareness Symposium at Lincolnton High School on Monday, March 29 2010 from 9am until 3:30. The event is free but pre-registration is required. Sharon Allen stated that the Union County Agricultural Center is hosting a “Shining Star” even featuring former NFL ballplayer Mike Minter on March 27, 2010. Leon Gatewood stated that he will be featured on a panel highlighting mentors on April 10, 2010. He welcomed anyone interested in sharing successes or best practices in their capacity as mentors to email him at [leon@wadesoro.com](mailto:leon@wadesoro.com) so that he may share during the panel. Almond Miller stated that Salisbury-Rowan Community Action Agency (SRCAA) lost one of their devoted employees on Wednesday and asked that each person in attendance keep the agency in their thoughts. Wilma Means stated she took several youth to the CIAA College Day and they all had a great experience. She added that the MEAC College Day will be April 9 -10, 2010. Shanell McLamb stated that the Department of Social Services has a Work Opportunity grant that will supplement employment for 500 TANF recipients for at least a year; anyone interested should contact their local DSS to see if the program is available in their county.

### **Folder Items/Handouts**

Items included in the Youth Council folders were:

- Handout: The Glenn Center 2010 Student Career Exploration Day
- Handout: Mooresville Graded School District 2010 Parent Symposium
- Handout: NC Workforce Development Training Center schedule
- Handout: ITT Technical Institute Scholarship Information
- Handout: Puerto Rico Birth Certificates Law Fact Sheet
- SaySo – Strong Able Youth Speak Out Program Brochure

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- Newsletter: Youth Resource Connections
- Newsletter: INNOVATIONS (News about high school innovation)
- “Seventeen Students receive GED” – *The Salisbury Post*
- “Local program reaches out to at-risk youths” – *The Statesville Record & Landmark*
- “Worthy Investment: Youth complete work experience at summit” – *Independent Tribune*

Gisella Busse reminded attendees that the Centralina Workforce Development Board E-Newsletter has a section titled “Youth Corner.” This section highlights youth related articles from around the region as well as upcoming events. She asked that members submit articles to Emily Clamp at [eclamp@centralina.org](mailto:eclamp@centralina.org). Natasha Pender reminded all in attendance to make sure that they sign in.

**The next meeting of the Centralina Youth Council is scheduled for Thursday June 3, 2010 at 10:00 am at the Cabarrus Boys & Girls Club in Concord.**

There being no further business, Gisella Busse adjourned the meeting at 11:45 am.