



## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Supporting the Development and Retention of a World Class Workforce

Jeffrey S. Swartz, Executive Director

Carl A. Donato Jr., Chair

### Youth Investment Council Meeting Minutes Wednesday, October 29, 2025 via Zoom

#### ATTENDANCE

Name	Organization	Trustee Member	26-Feb	23-Apr	11-Jun	27-Aug	29-Oct
<b>Roth-Gutman, Jill (CHAIR)</b>	Roth-Gutman Law, LLC	X			X	X	X
Allen, Niquera							X
Banks, Evangeline	Juvenile Justice Commission		X				
Boucher, Shaneka	City of Camden						
Boyd, Carl	Community Liaison for the		X				
Cirili, Frank	Camden County One-Stop	X					
Clark, Justin	Office of Adult Literacy (NJDOL)				X	X	
Cooper-Vanderlip, Diana	e-Deuce & Associates, LLC		X			X	
Davis, Rodney	Turner Construction			X		X	X
Floyd, Kwame	Teacher Apprenticeship						
Green Aurella	Camden County College						X
Godorov, Lori	The Work Group	X	X				
Jenkins, Marcell	Winslow Township High School		X				
Maguire, Laurie	Camden County One-Stop			X			
Nobles, Shaniqua	CPAC		X				
Peterson, Jyi	Camden County One-Stop			X			
Pilla, Michele	Wholesome Riches					X	
Randall, Angela	Strength in Surviving			X		X	X
<b>Rosado, Joeliza, Vice Chair</b>	Truist Bank		X	X	X	X	X
Selby, Andrew	CPAC		X				
Smith, Quaison							X
Velasquez, Gil	Superior Court of New Jersey				X	X	X
Jacquelline Sapio	First Tee			X	X		
Richelle Hardison	WDB					X	
Michelle Rohan	WDB		X	X	X	X	
Swartz, Jeffrey S.	WDB		X	X		X	X
Vaughn, Debra	WDB		X	X	X		X

#### WELCOME

Jill Roth-Gutman, Youth Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. and asked for a motion to approve the minutes from August 27, 2025. Motion was made by Joeliza Rosado, seconded by Gil Velasquez. By a majority vote to the affirmative, the minutes were approved.

#### YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD PROGRESS UPDATE

The meeting focused on updates and next steps for the Youth Advisory Board initiative. Gil and Angela Randall, co-chairs, discussed their progress since August, including planning meetings and the need to engage youth in public spaces such as libraries. They aim to establish a board with nine youth members and are seeking 11 youth participants for the next meeting, tentatively scheduled for November or December. The group plans to provide professional development opportunities and career guidance for the youth, with a focus on creating a conduit for them to access community resources independently.

#### YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD INITIATIVE UPDATE

Jill emphasized the importance of reporting progress to the executive committee and discussed the youth committee's goal of establishing a youth advisory board. She acknowledged the thoughtful approach taken to move the initiative forward and highlighted the existing youth spaces and



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activities in the community. Jill encouraged focusing on one objective at a time and expressed gratitude for the work done so far.

### **YOUTH ENGAGEMENT INCENTIVE PLANNING**

The group discussed incentives for youth engagement, with Gil sharing that the Family Support Organization in Cherry Hill offered to sponsor an evening event with food and space, and Rodney suggested Wawa could provide food and host a professional development event for youth, including interview skills training. Jill emphasized the importance of collaboration with existing organizations and suggested leveraging professional connections for informational interviews and assistance with the Summer Youth Work Experience Program applications. The conversation ended with Jill requesting that a One Stop Program representative attend future meetings.

### **YOUTH PROGRAM GROWTH AND AWARDS**

Jill provided an update on the Youth One Stop program, sharing that 19 youth started the program last month and 93 GED tests were administered in September, with about 70% of tests taken by those under 24 years old. She noted that the number of youth participating in the program has been increasing monthly and may be affected by AI trends. Jill noted that a highlight of the GSETA Conference was seeing Jeff receive the Harry L. Wheeler Professional of the Year Award for his contributions to the New Jersey workforce development community, following Leslie's receipt of the award last year.

### **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD UPDATES**

Jeffrey highlighted the networking opportunities at the GSETA Conference the previous week. Over 800 people attended the 2-day event.

- The local plan modification has been submitted to the state and will be available on the WDB website for public comment.
- Jeffrey announced the quarterly Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled for December 17<sup>th</sup> at Camden County College/Blackwood campus at 8:30 a.m. Breakfast will be served. He asked that board members RSVP to ensure quorum to conduct board business.

### **NEXT STEPS**

- Gil and Angela: Schedule youth focus group meeting for November or December at a public library
- Committee members: Identify and invite at least 11 youth to participate in the Youth Advisory Board meeting
- Gil and Angela: Send flyer to committee members once edits are made for youth recruitment
- Rodney: Reach out to Wawa to explore sponsoring a youth event with food
- Gil and Angela: Email Jill with updates before December 17<sup>th</sup> quarterly board meeting
- All members: Review local plan modification when posted on website for public comment at end of month

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Jill asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Rodney Davis, seconded by Angela Randall. By majority vote to the affirmative, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

The next Youth Investment Committee Meeting will be held on December 10, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. on Zoom.

Respectfully submitted by: Debra Vaughn, Executive Assistant

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