



## 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 Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 27, 2025 via Zoom

#### ATTENDANCE

Youth Investment Council 2025								
Name	Organization	Trustee Member	26-Feb	23-Apr	11-Jun	27-Aug	22-Oct	10-Dec
<b>Roth-Gutman, Jill (CHAIR)</b>	Roth-Gutman Law, LLC	X			X	X		
Banks, Evangeline	Juvenile Justice Commission		X					
Boucher, Shaneka	City of Camden							
Boyd, Carl	Community Liaison for the Camden		X					
Ciri, Frank	Camden County One-Stop	X						
Clark, Justin	Office of Adult Literacy (NUDOL)				X	X		
Cooper-Vanderlip, Diana	e-Deuce & Associates, LLC		X			X		
Davis, Rodney	Turner Construction			X		X		
Floyd, Kwame	Teacher Apprenticeship							
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, Jji	Camden County One-Stop			X				
Pilla, Michele	Wholesome Riches					X		
Randall, Angela	Strength in Surviving			X		X		
<b>Rosado, Joeliza, Vice Chair</b>	Truist Bank		X	X	X	X		
Selby, Andrew	CPAC		X					
Velasquez, Gil	Superior Court of New Jersey				X	X		
Jacqueline Sapio	First Tee			X	X			
Richelle Hardison	WDB					X		
Michelle Rohan	WDB		X	X	X	X		
Swartz, Jeffrey S.	WDB		X	X		X		
Vaughn, Debra	WDB		X	X	X			

#### Committee Call to Order and Minutes Approval

Jill Roth-Gutman, Youth Committee Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:34am. Jill asked for a motion to approve the minutes from June 11, 2025. Rodney Davis made the motion, which was seconded by Joeliza Rosado. By a majority vote to the affirmative, the minutes were approved.

#### Summary

##### Youth Investment Council Success Update

The Youth Investment Council meeting began with introductions. The committee discussed the successful 2025 Summer Youth Work Experience Program, which doubled its participants to 100 and achieved a 98% completion rate. Jill shared a positive letter from a parent whose son gained confidence and decided to pursue law school after participating in the program, which places youth in various work environments based on their interests and qualifications.

##### Youth Program Placement Site Planning

Jill discussed the need for placement sites in the southern part of the county and encouraged people to consider medical or hospital locations for next summer. She mentioned the youth focus group and the need for a co-chair to work with Gil Velasquez. Angela volunteered to be the co-chair, expressing her previous positive experience with the youth. Jill suggested asking participants from the summer program to attend and proposed reaching out to the juvenile prosecutor's office and defense attorneys in the future.



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### **Youth Subcommittee Planning Discussion**

Jeffrey explained that the subcommittee would be advisory, helping to identify youth goals and aspirations while making them aware of various career opportunities. The group addressed concerns about providing stipends to youth participants, agreeing that while some grant funding might be available for expenses like dinner and transportation, large stipends were not feasible due to budget constraints. They concluded by discussing the need to clearly communicate expectations to youth participants and confirmed that Angela and Gil would need to verify the meeting date.

### **Youth Program Event Planning Meeting**

The group discussed scheduling a youth program event, ultimately selecting October 7th after considering various dates and Angela's availability. They agreed to hold the event at Voorhees Library, with Michelle confirming she would create a flyer pending confirmation of the date and location from Angela and Gil. The discussion emphasized focusing on the long-term benefits for participants rather than highlighting the lack of immediate payment.

### **Youth Advisory Committee Planning Meeting**

They clarified that participants between 16-24 from Camden County are eligible regardless of GPA, with a focus on out-of-school youth seeking employment assistance. Jeffrey suggested making the meetings feel special for participants with refreshments and a formal letter of invitation, while Jill emphasized the importance of accessible locations with public transportation. The conversation ended with Jeffrey providing an update that the One Stop Basic Skills program did not receive state funding for their learning link initiative but continues to serve customers through referrals to literacy services.

### **GSETA Conference and Expo Planning**

The meeting covered two events: the upcoming GSETA Conference at Ocean Resort in Atlantic City from October 22-23, expected to draw around 700 attendees, and an Empowerment Expo on October 8th from 3-6 PM at Clementon Fire Hall, featuring various community resources and service providers. The annual report for 2022-2023 is being finalized and will be available before the next quarterly board meeting on September 17th, with each committee chair providing an update.

### **Next steps**

- Angela and Gil confirm October 7th the date for the Youth Advisory Board meeting.
- Angela and Gil to coordinate who will reserve a room at the Voorhees Library for the Youth Advisory Board meeting.
- Michelle to update the Youth Advisory Board meeting flyer with the confirmed date and location.
- Angela and Gil to reach out to potential youth participants for the Youth Advisory Board meeting.
- Gil to connect with Angela to discuss Youth Advisory Board planning and coordination.
- Committee members to share the Empowerment Expo flyer on social media once it's distributed.
- Rodney to share the Youth Advisory Board flyer with Camden Prep and the 12 Plus program once it's available.
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- Michelle to reach out to summer youth program participants about the Youth Advisory Board meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Jill asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Gil Velasquez and seconded by Rodney Davis. By majority vote to the affirmative, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30am.

Respectfully submitted by: Michelle Rohan, Committee Coordinator