

**MIDDLE GEORGIA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING  
August 19, 2021**

**MINUTES**

A virtual meeting of the Middle Georgia Workforce Development Board Youth Committee was held at Noon, on August 19, 2021. The following were in attendance:

**Members Present:**

Clifford Holmes  
Tishua Green  
Keith King  
Dan Brandon  
Patrick Manuel  
Sam Dorsey  
Christy Parker

**MGCI Staff Present:**

Terrell Mitchell  
Darrell Stillings  
Teresa Ragan  
Alexus Steele

**Guests in attendance were as follows:**

Melodi Robinson, Central Georgia Technical College  
Phil Dizon, We Thrive Workforce  
Danielle Espiritu, We Thrive Workforce

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS** – Chairman Clifford Holmes chaired the meeting. He called the meeting to order at 12:04 PM and welcomed everyone. There was a quorum present.

**MINUTES**

**1. Approval of the Minutes from the June 17, 2021 meeting Youth Committee Meeting.**

A motion was made by Sam Dorsey and seconded by Tishua Green to approve the June 17, 2021, minutes as written. There were no opposing votes and the motion carried by voice vote.

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was none.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1. We Thrive Demo** – Phil Dizon, Director of Partner Experience and Danielle Espiritu, both with We Thrive Workforce conducted a presentation on their entrepreneur training for youth being provided across the United States. He explained that they help the youth identify a problem in their community or local area and help them sharpen that idea into a viable business model. They provide seed funding to all participants in the program and the training is four to six weeks of 20 hours of curriculum depending on the different models. In response to questions raised the following was added:

- Danielle Espiritu, the Chief of Learning Success with We Thrive, explained the seed funds that are provided. She explained stated that no cash is exchanged but once a student identifies the proper supplier they need for their business the student submits a supply order form within the app and that's how they receive the funds for the supplies they need to launch their company.

- Also explained was how someone would register for the program. Ms. Espiritu explained that there are two different models. One model is the teacher to student model where there is a facilitator or group of facilitators who would like to facilitate the program and they would go through the steps necessary to launch the program with their students. Each student would be given their own app account as well. The other model is the direct entrepreneur model and is where students do each lesson model independently and self-paced within the app either on their desktop or mobile app. She further explained that how this has worked with previous schools or CBO is that they may have a program manager who wants to support the youth and they may meet with them periodically throughout the program just see how they are doing.
- Mr. Dizon added that the cost is \$300 to \$500 depending on different aspects and agreed to send a breakdown to Darrell Stillings to be shared with the other members.
- Ms. Espiritu added that there is an alumni portfolio program where any youth that has completed the program and launched their company is automatically transitioned to the alumni program for further opportunities and support.
- Ms. Espiritu added that their success stories are the participants that are in the alumni program that are either running their business or started a new business, etc.
- Mr. Dizon added that the organization is a nation-wide organization and has been in existence for eight years.
- Their success rate is 80% have successfully launched companies. On average a student's revenue during the program is \$300-\$500. They are currently working with the South Bay Workforce Development Board in California and the Partners for Work that serves Pittsburg.
- They will send videos that they have available on the companies that they have been launched to Darrell Stillings to share with the members. They will also send sample account so members can go in and see the apps.

2. **Internship for Youth Participants** —Darrell Stillings explained that the internship program is a more in depth program than the regular youth work experience program and requested approval to increase the pay from \$8 an hour to \$10 an hour. Since some youth will work 30 hours per week and other youth will work 20 hours per week, a cost estimate was presented for serving ten in-school youth working 30 hours per week as well as working 20 hours per week. The annual cost for wages and fringe benefits per participant is estimated at \$4,513.23 for youth working 30 hours per week and \$3,008.82 for those working 20 hours per week. The plan is to serve one youth for each of the ten counties in the Middle Georgia area.

A motion was made by Tishua Green and seconded by Sam Dorsey to approve increasing the youth internship wages from \$8 an hour to \$10 an hour as requested. There were no opposing votes and the motion carried by voice vote.

3. **Youth Programmatic Monitoring Report – This item was tabled until the full Workforce Development Board meeting on August 24, 2021.**

4. **Contractor Reports -**

- *Central Georgia Technical College* – Melodi Robinson reported that the summer classes started the third week of July back on campus, however, in all classes if the student can't make it in person they have the option to participate virtually. CGTC is prepared to go back to 100% virtual if need to do so. All workshops are available virtually as well, which allows CGTC to reach more students who have trouble with transportation, etc.

5. **Youth Expenditure Report** – Darrell Stillings provided copies of and discussed the Youth Expenditure Reported dated July 31, 2021. He reported that there is a balance of \$449,551.74 of the \$667,462 PY 20 grant, which ends June 30, 2022. He also pointed out that all expenditure requirements are being met for the grant as indicated in the report. A report was also provided on the PY 21 funds and it showed there have been no expenditures made towards the grant, however, this grant runs through June 30, 2023
6. **Youth Enrollment Report & 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Performance Report** - Terrell Mitchell, MIS Coordinator, provided copies of and discussed the youth enrollment report dated August 12, 2021. She reported that there is a total of 108 youth participants that are active in training and 110 are in job search for a total of 218 being served. She also reported that out of the total 216 are carryovers, and there have been two new enrollments since July 1, 2021. 164 are active, 69 are in job search and 30 have been exited.

Also provided and discussed was the PY 20 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Performance Report dated August 17, 2021. Terrell Mitchell reported that all measures were met for Youth except for the Credential Attainment measure which had a 55% negotiated plan and the actual performance was 53.7%.

#### **MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR**

There were none.

#### **NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING**

1. *Next Scheduled Meeting* - The next meeting scheduled for October 14, 2021, at noon, at the Middle Georgia Consortium office contingent on the Governor lifting the State of Emergency. If the State of Emergency is not lifted by the Governor then the meeting will be held virtually again.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There was no further business and a motion was made by Sam Dorsey and seconded by Patrick Manuel to adjourn the meeting at 12:37PM. There were no opposing votes and the motion carried by voice vote.