



# Spokane Area WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

## YOUTH COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLANNING MINUTES

September 14, 2010 – 8:32 AM – 10:02 AM

Next Generation Zone

901 E Second, Suite #100

*Anne Lockwood – Note Taker*

*Dawn Karber & Nancy Nelson - Editors*

### MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Andrew Arganbright– Kemper Auto, A Unitrin Business	Joanne Benham-City of Spokane, Youth Services	Bridget Cannon- Volunteers of America	Lynn Jonckers-Parent of Eligible Youth
Martin Kolodrub-Spokane County Juvenile Court	Trina Miller-Community Colleges of Spokane	Nancy Nelson-Humanix Staffing Services	Scott Oakshott- Spokane Skills Center
John Serben-Serben Consulting	Lisa White-Spokane Public Schools	YouthBuild – Michael Corbie (Representing)	

### MEMBERS ABSENT:

Linda Duncan-Sterling Savings Bank	Laura Foust-Job Corps	Kitara McClure-Spokane Community College	Bonnie Wagner-WSU Health Education Center
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### OTHERS PRESENT:

Austin DePaolo-Colleges for Success Foundation	Bob Everett- WorkSource	Machelle Johnson-WDC Member – Pearson Packaging	Tim O’Halloran- Northeast Washington Education Service District 101 (NEWESD101)
Heidi Peterson-Next Generation Zone	Kevin Quinn- Aerospace Joint Apprenticeship Committee	Patricia Robinson- Goodwill Industries of the Inland Northwest	

### STAFF PRESENT:

Dawn Karber – Assistant Director-Workforce  
Operations

Anne Lockwood – Secretary

### ITEM #1 – FOR EACH OF THE IDENTIFIED 5-YEAR VISION POSSIBILITIES, WHAT IS NEXT GENERATIONS ZONE’S CURRENT STATE?

**A PLACE THAT YOUTH LOVE TO COME; THEY HAVE A CONNECTION WITH STAFFERS AND DO NOT NEED ENCOURAGEMENT TO RETURN TO ASK FOR AFTER-PLACEMENT ASSISTANCE:**

- Struggle is losing contact with youth.
- There is someone who follows up after placement.

- Building the relationship is the key to getting youth to comeback and keep in touch.
- Can help with building a relationship with the youth, so they return to the Next Generation Zone, if we are not focusing on the funding source. Have not yet been able to resolve this issue.
- Funding to assist individuals who need services but are not eligible for WIA, YouthBuild, etc.

**DIRECTOR POSITION FUNDED BY ALL PROGRAMS:**

- Have a director that is not affiliated with a fund source.
- If trying to form better connections throughout the community we need someone who can speak for all the funded programs.
- As of where we are today, we haven't yet addressed some of the tenant-type issues and opportunities, such as renters pooling funds together for a position. It was determined when the Consortium moved into the Next Generation Zone that these types of opportunities would be sorted out later, which is now.
  - If we are interested in pooling funds to pay for positions, where should we begin?
    - Have renters start to identify what communications issues that have already occurred.
    - Discuss during Youth Council meeting.
    - Show the amount everyone would pay and what the impact would be.
    - During next twelve months look at communication issues that exist and then determine if there is a need for a director who is funded by all programs. Also would need to evaluate what would it look like to provide rent that would sustain the center.
- **DEVELOP AN ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM TO WORK WITH DIRECTOR**
  - May not be necessary
  - Could even be a person that if expanded services at the admin level, would follow up on the survey.

**COORDINATION OF VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES, E.G., A PARTNERSHIP WITH A UNITED WAY-TYPE ORGANIZATION:**

- Partnerships with United Way or J.R. Achievement.
- As our program funds continue to decline we will lose the ability to provide paid work experience and paid internship opportunities. Can we connect the youth with volunteer activities instead?
- Do we need a volunteer coordinator to arrange such activities?
  - We need to know what the volunteer coordinator would do.
- Possibly a volunteer match on the internet or a director of volunteers and agencies.
- Could we look at partnering with AmeriCorps or colleges?

**UNRESTRICTED FUNDS:**

- What are unrestricted funds?
  - Funds that we are able to use as we see fit. Basically, they are funds that do not come with strings attached, or at least not as many.
- We need funds that are not for low-income youth exclusively.
- Have to look at becoming a 501(c)3.
- Cannot get outside funding until you can determine the need. Can we get an idea from the survey what the youth need?
  - Could the Next Gen Zone have the WIA Follow Up Specialist include survey-type questions to get a feel for the need?

- This group can make the recommendation to the Youth Council Oversight Committee that a post-exit survey be included in follow up services.

→ Where do we go to get these funds?

- Seed money from the government to start a program
- Talk to businesses

#### **SERVICES FOR ALL YOUTH, NOT JUST PROGRAM ELIGIBLE YOUTH - NARROW THE GAP:**

- If a youth comes in and uses the computer there is no follow up done, because currently there aren't any program funds available to pay for this kind of service.
- Need to define how the youth come back. What do we mean when we consider youth coming back?
- Want every young person to be provided services regardless of their financial status.

#### **EXPLORE DEVELOPING PROGRAMS/TRAINING TO HELP YOUTH KEEP THEIR JOBS:**

- Social enterprise partner, e.g., youth could learn work skills on site and the project could be a source of revenue.
- Do you have availability to apply for different programs in NGZ?
- Unless you can take the youth to the job site and show them what the job is, the youth are not aware of what a job entails.
- Need to target around clusters and possibly use skills panels and state funds.

#### **STRATEGIC GOALS AROUND UNRESTRICTED FUNDS:**

##### **BUILDING NEW AND STRENGTHENING CURRENT PARTNERSHIPS:**

- Looking for new partners that can meet the following:
  - Strategically aligned with Next Generation Zone
  - Provide wrap-around services
  - Have ability to pay rent

#### **ITEM #2 - FOR EACH OF THE IDENTIFIED 5-YEAR VISION POSSIBILITIES, WHAT GOALS/STRATEGIES CAN BE SET TO PUT US ON THE PATH TO ACHIEVE OUR DESIRED NEXT GENERATION ZONE VISION?**

- Form a matrix of where to start.
- Have a small group research funding and bring back to Youth Council.
- Next meeting will set goals to dialog.

#### **OTHER DISCUSSION**

1. Next Generation Zone recently nominated for governors best practice award.
2. Congratulations to Nancy Nelson on the Alfred P. Sloan Award for Business Excellence in Workplace Flexibility.
3. The Skills Center has three classes out in the valley at U-City.