

## MINNESOTA SHARED VISION FOR YOUTH



### **SVY STATE TEAM MEETING Monday, December 10, 2012 9:30 A.M. to 12:00 Noon**

#### **LOCATION:**

Hubert H. Humphrey Job Corps Center  
1480 North Snelling Avenue  
Saint Paul, MN 55108  
Phone: (651) 642-1133

#### **MEETING NOTES**

##### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

The following team members attended the meeting: Cate Smith Edlund (Job Corps), Carrie Wasley (DPS-Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee), Alyssa Klein (DEED-Vocational Rehabilitation Services), Sean Roy & Deborah Leuchovius (PACER Center), Steve Vonderharr (DHS-Adolescent Services), Eva Scates-Winston (MnSCU), Kay Tracy & Lynn Douma (DEED-Youth Services), Anne Fischer (DEED-Incoming DEI Project Lead), Jane Delage (DHS-MFIP), Jayne Spain (MDE-Special Education Policy)

##### **2. Onsite Tour of Hubert H. Humphrey Job Corps Center**

Cate Smith Edlund provided an introduction to the Hubert H. Humphrey Job Corps program and a brief tour of the center. Humphrey Job Corps enrolls approximately 300 students, most of whom live on campus. New students begin the program weekly and exit the program when they complete the self-paced training. Students can stay in Job Corps up to two years but most exit the program in about twelve months.

Humphrey Job Corps offers seven career training areas: Advanced Clerical Occupations, Culinary Arts, Facilities Maintenance, Medical Office Support, Nurse Assistant/Home Health Aide, Office Administration, and Painting/Wallpapering. Many referrals to the program come from word of mouth as well as from outreach efforts by Job Corps' Office of Admissions and Career Transition Services. Many parents

also contact the center seeking services for their son or daughter. Job Corps accepts students ages 16-24 but most students are over 18. The median age of the students at Humphrey Job Corps is 20. Most Job Corps students have dropped out of high school and they can complete a diploma or GED in addition to their trade training while at Job Corps. Humphrey Job Corps has a child care program on site and is anticipating opening a dorm for students with children. Currently, students with children must live off center.

When students leave Job Corps, they have a counselor who follows them for a year and provides assistance as needed. The goal is for all students to leave job attached (at least 20 hours a week but preferably 32 hours a week or more), keep the job and be promoted. Approximately 60% of students fully complete the Job Corps program and of those, 90% of students get jobs.

Job Corps has calculated a return of \$1.61 for each dollar invested in the program.

Each Thursday morning the Humphrey Job Corps Center hosts an information session for those who are interested in learning more about the program. Cate encourages any SVY team members or their colleagues to attend one of these sessions, as well as young people who are considering enrolling in Job Corps. Contact Cate for more information at [smithedlund.cate@jobcorps.org](mailto:smithedlund.cate@jobcorps.org).

### **3. Update on new Disability Employment Initiative (DEI)**

Kay Tracy (DEED–Youth Services) announced that Minnesota has been awarded a Disability Employment Initiative grant by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL). The three-year, \$2.9 million grant will focus on youth with disabilities who have at least one additional at-risk factor such as foster youth, homeless youth, out-of-school youth, teen parents, or ex-offenders.

The overall goal is to link Minnesota youth with disabilities to gainful employment through individualized needs assessment and comprehensive services such as career planning, postsecondary education, systems linkages and service coordination. Another goal is to expand the use of benefits counseling by youth and their families and the use of work incentives such as the Social Security Administration's Ticket to Work program.

DEED is the grant recipient; Anne Fischer was introduced as the DEI Project Lead. She will be joining the Youth Services team as of January 2, 2013. She has extensive experience in the youth workforce system, most recently as a youth programs coordinator with the Minneapolis Employment and Training Program, and a background in special education.

Other key state-level partners in the project include MDE, VRS, State Services for the Blind, and the PACER Center. The Shared Vision for Youth State Team will also be involved in guidance of the project. For more information about Minnesota's DEI

project, visit the project webpage:

[http://www.positivelyminnesota.com/All\\_Programs\\_Services/Office\\_of\\_Youth\\_Development/MN\\_DEI/index.aspx](http://www.positivelyminnesota.com/All_Programs_Services/Office_of_Youth_Development/MN_DEI/index.aspx)

#### **4. Presentation on DB101**

Seth Levin, a consultant working with the Department of Human Services' Disability Services Division, provided an overview of DB101 ([www.db101.org](http://www.db101.org)). Minnesota's version of DB101 was adapted from a site created for California and has been funded through Minnesota's Pathways to Employment Medicaid Infrastructure Grant.

DB101 is a tool created to provide resources and information on health coverage, benefits and employment for individuals with disabilities and others who have any connection to disability services (teachers, parents, work coordinators, social workers, counselors, etc.) The goal is to make work part of the plan and to change the conversation so that people think of benefits as a bridge to a better life when combined with employment.

A unique feature of DB101 is that it is connected to the state's Disability Linkage Line (DLL) through live chat capability on the DB101 website. DLL is a free, statewide information and referral resource providing a single access point for all disability-related questions. The DLL is also accessed by a toll-free number (1-866-333-2466) in addition to the online chat feature.

DB101 has created a "Get a Smart Start" toolkit which was developed in collaboration with partners at MDE and VRS and provides a complete, ready to use education package about work and benefits. This information is all available on the DB101 website. Special education teachers and vocational rehabilitation counselors have been pilot testing the toolkit resources. All the ten participating teachers have given positive feedback on the resources. The student response has been a bit mixed; the reading level of the material is too advanced for some and requires adaptation by the teachers to help them understand the material.

Seth reiterated that the goal of DB101 is not necessarily to make people experts in benefit planning, but rather to provide information resources and help everyone in the system send the same positive messages about work and benefits for people with disabilities.

Steve Vonderharr mentioned that it would be good to make the Governor's Financial Literacy Workgroup aware of DB101 to help spread the message.

#### **5. Update from Social Security Administration**

Joanie Werner from the Social Security Administration was unable to attend due to poor weather conditions. Her update will be rescheduled for the next SVY team meeting.

## **6. Update on Cross-Agency MN Career and College Readiness Collaborative**

Denise Felder (MnSCU-ISEEK) and Al Hauge (MDE-Career Tech Ed) were unable to attend the meeting due to the poor weather conditions. Alyssa Klein (DEED– Vocational Rehabilitation Services) provided an update on the activities of the Collaborative, which was formed in response to a 2012 state law which “strongly encourages” Minnesota school districts to assist students in “exploring their college and career interests and aspirations and develop a plan for a smooth and successful transition to postsecondary education or employment” (2012 MN Session Laws).

The Collaborative is working to bring together a variety of partners including education, workforce, business and community organizations involved in career development initiatives on the state, regional and local levels. One of the roles of the Collaborative is to support local teams in implementing Individualized Learning Plans (ILPs) and electronic portfolios. An ILP provides a framework for the alignment of school work with out-of-school time activities, postsecondary plans, work experiences and career plans. Thirty-five states have mandated the use of an ILP; Minnesota is strongly encouraging the use of ILPs for all youth. State-level Perkins funds have been provided to ISEEK for Denise Felder to work on this project.

The Collaborative brought together stakeholders in November for the Minnesota Youth Career Development Summit and is planning another statewide meeting for early 2013 for those who are interested. Contact Denise Felder ([Denise.Felder@iseek.org](mailto:Denise.Felder@iseek.org) or 651-201-1521) for more information on the work of the Collaborative.

## **7. Dialogue on Youth Planning for Vocational Rehabilitation Services**

This item was postponed until a future SVY team meeting due to time limitations.

## **8. Update on Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee (JJAC) Activities**

Carrie Wasley (Department of Public Safety) handed out a summary of Minnesota’s federal juvenile justice allocations over the last decade. Since 2002 Minnesota’s allocation has been reduced by 87% (total of \$836,490 in 2012) while federal mandates have increased.

Because of the reduction in funding, JJAC has shifted away from providing grants to organizations for direct services to youth to funding special projects which can impact youth in other ways. One example of a recent project is the creation of “Think First” cards, which law enforcement and other professionals can distribute to young people to educate them about the collateral consequences that can come along with having a juvenile record. These cards have been very well received by those who are using them because it sends a message to the recipient that the officer or other professional cares about their well-being and is a more positive interaction.

JJAC has also undertaken some special projects in North Minneapolis such as focus groups and conversations with youth and juvenile justice professionals to try to understand and respond to youth violence in the North Minneapolis community.

## **9. Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the SVY Team is scheduled for March 5, 2013 and will be hosted by Jayne Spain (MDE-Special Education). The meeting will be at the Department of Education, 1500 Highway 36 West, Roseville, MN in Room CC17 of Conference Center B (entrance is on the far west side of the MDE building).

Agendas and notes from SVY team meetings are posted on the SVY website: [http://www.positivelyminnesota.com/All\\_Programs\\_Services/Office\\_of\\_Youth\\_Development/Minnesota\\_Shared\\_Vision\\_for\\_Youth\\_Activities/index.aspx](http://www.positivelyminnesota.com/All_Programs_Services/Office_of_Youth_Development/Minnesota_Shared_Vision_for_Youth_Activities/index.aspx)