

## MINNESOTA SHARED VISION FOR YOUTH



### SHARED VISION FOR YOUTH STATE TEAM MEETING

Wednesday, October 15, 2014

10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

#### LOCATION:

Science Museum of Minnesota  
Discovery Hall (4<sup>th</sup> level)  
120 West Kellogg Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55102

#### AGENDA

##### 1. Welcome and Introductions

The following team members and guests attended the meeting: Cate Smith Edlund (Job Corps); Steve Vonderharr (DHS-Adolescent Services); Kay Tracy, Larry Eisenstadt and Lynn Douma (DEED–Youth Services); Jayne Spain (MDE–Special Education Policy); Deborah Leuchovius (PACER Center); Joani Werner (Social Security Administration); Tom Balsley (DHS- Office of Economic Opportunity); Alyssa Klein (DEED-Vocational Rehabilitation Services); Angela Kraninger and Natasha Lemler (DEED-State Services for the Blind); Julie Neitzel Carr (MDH-Child and Adolescent Health); Carrie Wasley (DPS-Office of Justice Programs); Denise Felder and Eva Scates-Winston (MnSCU-Career Tech Ed); Wendy Robinson (MnSCU-Student Affairs); Cammy Lehr (MDE-Dropout Prevention); Michelle Ufford (NE MN Office of Job Training); Jenny Javitch (Big Brothers Big Sisters); Karen Kingsley (Youthprise); Brian Paulson (Pohlad Family Foundation); R.T. Rybak (Generation Next); Robby Callahan Schreiber, Anika Ward, Aiyana Machado, and Emmanuel Donaby (Science Museum of Minnesota)

##### 2. Overview of Science Museum of Minnesota’s Youth Programs

Staff from the Science Museum of Minnesota (SMM) offered an overview of the museum’s youth programs and the Kitty Andersen Youth Science Center (KAYSC). The KAYSC was created nearly 20 years ago in honor of Kitty Andersen, the wife of the founder of Andersen Windows. The KAYSC programs target youth from communities underrepresented in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields – low-income youth, young women, and youth of color. The youth programs incorporate leadership, STEM terminology, tools and skills, service learning, and college and career pathways. A program pathway offers progressive experiences starting in middle school, continuing through high school and culminating in a career and community connections program for youth once they move on from the high school program. More information about KAYSC can be found on their website: <http://www.smm.org/kaysc>

Robby Callahan Schreiber also reminded the team that SMM offers discounted admissions and memberships to individuals and families who receive benefits from a variety of public assistance programs. See the website for more details: <http://www.smm.org/tickets/discounts>

### **3. Presentation from Generation Next**

R.T. Rybak provided an overview of the work of Generation Next, a coalition of civic, education, and business leaders focusing on strategies to close the achievement and opportunity gap for students of color in the Twin Cities with an overall goal to have all children soar and thrive. Outreach and partnerships are essential as Generation Next is working through existing agencies and community organizations. There is no lack of compassion but there is a need to see that efforts are moving in a coordinated fashion. The specific goals are that every young person: is ready for kindergarten, meets benchmarks for reading by 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, meets benchmarks for math by 8<sup>th</sup> grade, graduates from high school ready for college and a career, and earns a post-secondary degree or certification. Strategies are currently underway for three of these goals with the other two goals being addressed in the coming months. More information about Generation Next is available from their website: <http://www.gennextmsp.org/>

### **4. Presentation on Northeast Career EdVenture**

Michelle Ufford from Northeast Minnesota Office of Job Training shared information about Northeast Career EdVenture, a partnership they have created between the K-12 education system, the public workforce development system, and the business community to assist school counselors in providing career planning services for students. The agency has developed a menu of free services (attached to these notes) from which school districts can choose to complement the activities already underway in the schools to prepare students for the world of work. More information about Northeast Career EdVenture can be found at: <http://www.nemoit.org/SchoolDistricts/NortheastCareerEdVenture.aspx>. Michelle also pointed out that all of Minnesota's sixteen workforce areas have career planning expertise that can benefit local students and schools.

### **5. Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee Update**

Carrie Wasley from the Department of Public Safety updated the team on the activities of the Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee (JJAC). Over the last decade or so, the federal juvenile justice formula funding has dropped from \$6.5 million to around \$600,000. As a result, JJAC is shifting to more of a policy focus and away from a grant-making focus. Carrie encouraged team members to reach out to her at [carrie.wasley@state.mn.us](mailto:carrie.wasley@state.mn.us) if there are policy areas in which the JJAC could become engaged. For further information, including the JJAC Annual Report, visit the JJAC webpage at: <https://dps.mn.gov/entity/jjac/Pages/default.aspx>.

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

Joani Werner from the Social Security Administration reminded team members to encourage clients (and themselves) to register for a free *my* Social Security account. This is the fastest way for current beneficiaries to receive proof of their benefits, proof of age, and for individuals who are still working to verify the earnings reported to SSA and get an estimate of future benefits. The information is available instantly through the website: <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount/>

### **7. Update on Youth At Risk of Homelessness Planning Grant**

Steve Vonderharr from the Department of Human Services updated the group on the Youth At Risk of Homelessness (YARH) planning grant, an effort to improve outcomes for three different

groups of youth involved in foster care: those 14-17 in foster care; those 18-21 in foster care; and those 18-21 not in care now but with past experience in foster care. The first phase of the grant involves researching two populations: child welfare youth and their homeless experiences, and homeless youth with previous social service placements. A preliminary analysis of overlap in the data between the MN Social Service Information System (SSIS), Minnesota's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and Hennepin County's homeless database showed some interesting correlations: 1) a greater proportion of African American and American Indian youth experienced homelessness in comparison to Caucasian youth; 2) a greater proportion of female youth experienced homelessness compared to male youth; 3) a greater proportion of youth receiving financial support such as MFIP experienced homelessness compared to those who did not receive financial support. Review of the data also found that homeless youth had a higher average number of placement moves compared to non-homeless youth, and significantly fewer youth who achieved permanency when exiting foster care experienced homelessness compared to those who did not achieve permanency. This and other data will be used when DHS submits its proposal for an implementation grant later this year. Steve also solicited input from the SVY state team on any evidence-based programs or research they were aware of in the focus areas for the YARH: social-emotional well-being, permanent connections, employment and education, and stable housing.

## **8. Presentation from Pohlada Family Foundation**

Brian Paulson from the Pohlada Foundation shared information with the group about the foundation's focus on youth. The foundation gives about \$10 million per year in three general categories: community programs, youth programs, and special projects. Brian joined the foundation within the last year to help articulate the impact of the foundation's grants on people living in poverty. The board recently received and adopted a recommendation to align health and human services giving with grants for youth employment. Beginning in 2015, funds of about \$1 million per year will be targeted toward initiatives to improve the employment and education outcomes for disconnected youth. In the next couple of months, the foundation plans to request short concept papers (approx. 2-3 pages) from organizations to provide input to the foundation in the following areas as they formulate their activities with this new focus: need, the foundation's role, best practices, and what should be measured. The foundation will follow with a request for Letters of Intent and invitations to apply for funding in 2015. Brian will share the Request for Concept Papers with Kay Tracy when it is available and she will forward it to the team.

## **9. GradMinnesota Update**

Cammy Lehr from the Minnesota Department of Education shared an update on the activities of the GradMinnesota (GradMN) initiative. GradMN is a collaborative effort of the Minnesota Alliance with Youth, Office of the Governor, and Minnesota Department of Education and part of the GradNation campaign led by America's Promise Alliance. The initiative has been in place for about a year in Minnesota with a mission to achieve a 90% graduation rate for all students by 2020 and successfully prepare all students for post-secondary opportunities. GradMN is not creating new approaches, but engages a broad range of stakeholders through community summits, a listserv, community work groups, youth summits, an advisory council, and designated GradNation communities in Duluth and St. Paul to highlight effective solutions and strategies already in place. Among other activities, GradMN held a statewide youth summit in June 2014 and a metro region community summit involving 300 youth and adults in December 2013. The metro summit was one of eight regional summits in each of Minnesota's Congressional districts and resulted in a collective message with a plan for dissemination and use currently in process.

Cammy also mentioned that the Department of Education had recently identified 27 “Focus” schools, which are schools with a graduation rate of less than 60% averaged over three years for a six year cohort. These schools in particular may benefit from some of the strategies discussed by other team members at this meeting. For more information about GradMN or the Focus schools, contact Cammy at [Cammy.Lehr@state.mn.us](mailto:Cammy.Lehr@state.mn.us).

## **10. Age-Level Career Development Guidelines**

Denise Felder from Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) distributed a draft Age-Level Career Development Guide developed by the Minnesota Career and College Readiness Collaborative. The guide provides examples of activities for five age/grade levels: Grades K-5; Grades 6-8; Grades 9-12; College and University; and Adults. Contact Denise at [Denise.Felder@so.mnscu.edu](mailto:Denise.Felder@so.mnscu.edu) for more information or to obtain an electronic copy of the guide.

## **11. Department of Health Update**

Julie Neitzel Carr from the Minnesota Department of Health shared an overview of MDH adolescent health grant programs and the Adolescent Health Strategic Planning Process which has been underway for the last several months. A series of listening sessions was held by MDH in various parts of the state and community organizations also led structured discussions with community members to gather both youth and adult voice. MDH staff is synthesizing all of the input received into themes and will move toward identifying state recommendations which will be presented to stakeholders. The strategic planning process has been led by the State Adolescent Health Coordinator, Sara Hollie, who has recently taken another position at MDH. Hiring is currently underway for a new coordinator and the strategic planning process will resume when that position is filled.

## **12. Update on Disability Employment Initiative – Partners for Youth**

Kay Tracy and Lynn Douma from the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) reported on the Disability Employment Initiative grant project, Partners for Youth. Lynn and a representative from each of the three implementation sites gave a panel presentation about the project in September at the National Association of Workforce Development Professionals (NAWDP) Youth Symposium conference in Chicago. The presentation included an overview of the project and more detail on the strategies being implemented including the Guideposts for Success, partnerships and collaboration, and Integrated Resource Teams (IRT). Initial data coming in from the implementation sites is positive; through 6/30/14, 215 youth had been enrolled in the project, 73% had participated in an IRT, 61% had attained their individual work readiness or educational goals, 22% had obtained a high school diploma, GED, certificate or degree, 20% had entered unsubsidized employment or the military, and 47% remained in school or returned to school. Outcomes will continue to be updated as most youth are still involved with the project and continuing to achieve goals.

## **13. Update on Homeless Youth in Higher Education Forum**

Eva Scates-Winston from MnSCU distributed notes she took at a recent forum at Minneapolis Community and Technical College about helping homeless youth with the transition to post-secondary education.

## **14. Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held in early 2015.



**FREE Career Planning and Guidance Services for Local Schools**

AN INITIATIVE OF THE NORTHEAST MINNESOTA OFFICE OF JOB TRAINING

Services Available to Individual Students	Services Available to Classrooms, Groups, or School-wide	
<p><b>Career Assessments</b> of interests, abilities &amp; aptitude</p> <p><b>Resume &amp; application development</b></p> <p><b>Practice interviewing</b></p> <p><b>Job search assistance</b></p> <p><b>College/Post-secondary planning</b></p> <p><b>Financial aid/Scholarship guidance</b></p> <p><b>Access to community resources</b></p> <p><b>Transition from high school planning</b></p> <div data-bbox="251 1470 381 1585" style="text-align: center;"> </div> <p><b>Teachers and students can access services by contacting (counselor) at the (location) Workforce Center at (phone) or via email at (email)</b></p>	<p><i>Grade levels are only suggested; services can be adapted to meet the needs of any class. Detailed information sheets explaining each resource are also available.</i></p> <p><b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CEOs in the Classroom</li> </ul> <p><b>9<sup>th</sup> Grade</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Career interest assessments/results review</li> <li>• Financial Literacy I</li> <li>• *Business &amp; industry speakers</li> <li>• *Business tours</li> <li>• Career exploration after school clubs</li> </ul> <p><b>10<sup>th</sup> Grade</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Navigating Business Culture workshop</li> <li>• Career interest and values assessments</li> <li>• Financial Literacy II</li> <li>• eMentoring</li> <li>• *Business and industry speakers</li> <li>• *Business tours</li> </ul> <p><b>11<sup>th</sup> Grade</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Navigating Business Culture workshop</li> <li>• Career interest, values, and personality assessments</li> <li>• Financial Literacy III</li> <li>• Job searching</li> <li>• Postsecondary planning and financing</li> <li>• Social Networking for the Job Search</li> <li>• *eMentoring</li> <li>• *Business and industry speakers</li> <li>• *Business tours</li> <li>• *Career or Job Fairs</li> <li>• *Mock Interviewing</li> </ul>	<p><b>12<sup>th</sup> Grade</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Navigating Business Culture workshop</li> <li>• Career interest, values, and personality assessments</li> <li>• Financial Literacy IV</li> <li>• Job searching</li> <li>• Postsecondary planning and financing</li> <li>• Social Networking for the Job Search</li> <li>• *eMentoring</li> <li>• *Business and Industry speakers</li> <li>• *Business tours</li> <li>• *Career and Job Fairs</li> <li>• *Mock Interviewing</li> </ul> <p><b>*CONNECTING WITH LOCAL BUSINESS &amp; INDUSTRY:</b></p> <p><i>Because your students are our future workforce, Career EdVenture is able to bring business professionals into your school to help educate them on the needs of today's employers.</i></p> <p><i>*Resources with an asterisk involve engaging local professionals to give your students another perspective on their future and get them to start thinking about life after high school.</i></p>