



Youth Services Committee Meeting

September 11, 2024
3:00 pm

Mission Career Center
4981 Ayers Street
Mission Training Room
Corpus Christi, TX

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85012842908?pwd=YTA3UG5oeG5KWFVEaTBuWFVknN0lhodz09>

Toll Free Dial-In

888 475 4499 US Toll-free

Meeting ID: 850 1284 2908

Passcode: 939592

www.workforcesolutionscb.org

Strategic Goals

- Establish and Strengthen Partnerships
- Effectively/Efficiently Target Rural Area Services
- Increase Workforce Awareness
- Expand Innovative Services to Business
- Explore New Revenue Opportunities
- Improve Internal Efficiencies
- Refine Board Culture

Mission Statement

At Workforce Solutions of the Coastal Bend, we invest in our regional economic success through access to jobs, training, and employer services.

Value Statement

Accountability – We address our customers and co-workers in a positive manner that elevates their spirit and creates a professional, supportive workplace for staff, job seekers, and employers.

Teamwork – We combine our individual talents for the benefit of the mission and common goals leveraging our unique abilities and contributions.

Trust – We consistently deliver on our commitments to our customers and co-workers to establish strong, sustainable relationships.

Integrity – We are honest, supportive, candid in addressing difficult issues, and willing to share success to demonstrate respect and consideration for our customers and co-workers.

Tenacity – We resist giving up when the going gets tough and support our customers and co-workers in seeing that issues are resolved and the job gets done.

Understanding – We are serious and passionate about delivering our services with compassion and empathy.

Dignity – We interact with customers and co-workers professionally regardless of their backgrounds, experience, and circumstances to reflect our commitment as public servants.

Enthusiasm – We recognize the importance and value of our work and know that every day we have the opportunity to help build the economic success of our regional economy.

Disclosure and Declaration of a Conflict of Interest

Conflicts of Interest and the appearance of Conflicts of Interest shall be reported according to Board Administrative Policies #1.0.101.00 - Standards of Conduct and Conflict of Interest; and #1.0.105.00 - Reporting Conflict of Interest, Fraud, and Abuse, which were adopted by the Board of Directors on April 26, 2007.

Conflict of Interest – A circumstance in which a Board Member, Board employee, Contracted Provider, or Contracted Provider's employee is in a decision-making position and has a direct or indirect interest, particularly a financial interest, that influences the individual's ability to perform job duties and fulfill responsibilities.

Appearance of a Conflict of Interest – A circumstance in which a Board Member, Board employee, Contracted Provider, or Contracted Provider's employee's action appears to be:

- influenced by considerations of one or more of the following: gain to the person, entity, or organization for which the person has an employment interest, substantial financial interest, or other interest, whether direct or indirect (other than those consistent with the terms of the contract), or;
- motivated by design to gain improper influence over the Commission, the Agency, the Board, or the Board's Chief Elected Officials.

Code of Ethics

The Workforce Solutions Code of Ethics is a guide for dealing with ethical matters in the workplace and in our relationship with our clients and members of the community.

- We believe in respect for the individual.
- We believe all persons are entitled to be treated with respect, compassion and dignity.
- We believe in openness and honesty in dealing with the general public, the people we serve, and our peers.
- We believe in striving for excellence.
- We believe in conducting ourselves in a way that will avoid even the appearance of favoritism, undue influence or impropriety, so as to preserve public confidence in our efforts.



Youth Services Committee Meeting

Mission Career Center – 4981 Ayers Street – Mission Training Room
Corpus Christi, Texas

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85012842908?pwd=YTA3UG5oeG5KWfVEaTBuWFVhN0lhZz09>

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Wednesday, September 11, 2024 – 3:00 pm

AGENDA

Page

- I. Call to Order: *Omar Lopez, Vice-Chair*
- II. TOMA Rules: *Janet Neely*
- III. Roll Call: *Janet Neely*.....3
- IV. **Announcement on Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest**
Any Conflicts of Interest or Appearance of a Conflict of Interest with items on this agenda shall be declared at this time. Members with conflicts will refrain from voting and are asked to refrain from discussion on such items. Conflicts discovered later in the meeting shall be disclosed at that time. Note: Information on open meetings is included at the end of this agenda.
- V. **Public Comments**
- VI. **Discussion and Possible Action on Minutes of the May 8, 2024 Youth Services Committee Meeting**.....4-6
- VII. **Information Only:**
 - 1. Services to Youth Update BCY2024 (Q1 Oct.-Dec.) (Q2 Jan.-March) (Q3 April-June) (Q4 July-Sept.)
 - a. Third Quarter (Q3) Program Report: *Catherine Cole*.....7-9
 - b. Third Quarter (Q3) Performance: *Catherine Cole*.....10

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Equal Opportunity Employer/Program

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

Deaf, hard-of-hearing or speech impaired customers may contact

Relay Texas: 1.800.735.2989 (TDD) and 1.800.735.2988 or 7-1-1 (voice)

2. Services to Special Community Populations	
a. Student HireAbility Navigator: <i>Imelda Trevino</i>	11-12
b. Foster Care Youth: <i>Catherine Cole</i>	13
3. Programs & Education Engagements	
a. Texas Internship Initiatives: <i>Catherine Cole</i>	14
b. Educator Externship: <i>Milanda Ballesteros</i>	15
c. Tri-Agency Regional Convener Grant: <i>Catherine Cole</i>	16
d. Career & Educator Outreach Program: <i>Luis Rodriguez</i>	17-19
4. Celebrating Success: <i>Catherine Cole</i>	20

VIII. Adjournment

Note: Except for expressly authorized closed sessions, meetings, discussions, and deliberations of the Board or Committees will be open to the public. Voting in all cases will be open to the public. Board members are advised that using personal communication devices to discuss Committee and Board business during the meeting may be a violation of the Texas Open Meetings Act. Such communications also may be subject to the Texas Public Information Act.

Closed Session Notice. PUBLIC NOTICE is given that the Board may elect to go into executive session at any time during the meeting in order to discuss matters listed on the agenda, when authorized by the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code. In the event the Board elects to go into executive session regarding an agenda item, the section or sections of the Open Meetings Act authorizing the executive session will be publicly announced by the presiding officer.

Texas Open Meetings Act (TOMA). All public meetings are required to follow all parts of the Texas Open Meetings Act. Therefore, we will be holding this meeting both in-person at our **Mission Career Center – Mission Training Room** and on **ZOOM**. With this format, comes some changes to what is required of board members and the public.

- The presiding member (Chair or designee) must be in-person at the meeting location, 4981 Ayers Street, Corpus Christi, Texas.
- Board members must be visible on camera in order to count toward the quorum and in order to vote.
- The public and all presenters will need to be visible while presenting information.

This hybrid meeting format will allow us to meet TOMA rules, while still ensuring the safety of those who must attend.

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**Youth Services Committee
Roll Call Roster
September 11, 2024
(4 = Quorum)**

_____ Liza Wisner, Chair

_____ Omar Lopez, Vice-Chair

_____ Dr. Leslie Faight

_____ Michelle Flower

_____ Jose R. "Joey" Garcia III

_____ Ofelia Hunter

Signed

Printed Name

MINUTES
Workforce Solutions Coastal Bend – Youth Services Committee
Mission Career Center – 4981 Ayers Street – Mission Training Room
Corpus Christi, Texas

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82918752080?pwd=eTdjM0hUTDhBRVE4RUJlUitMU0NLUt09>

Toll Free Dial-In

888 475 4499 US Toll-free

Meeting ID: 829 1875 2080

Passcode: 493158

May 8, 2024 – 3:00 pm

Committee Members

Present

Omar Lopez, Vice Chair
Dr. Leslie Faught
Michelle Flower
Jose R. “Joey” Garcia III
Ofelia Hunter

Other Board Members Present

Sandra Bowen

Absent

Liza Wisner, Chair

Others Present

Shileen Lee, Workforce Solutions
Janet Neely, Workforce Solutions
Catherine Cole, Workforce Solutions
Samantha Smolik, Workforce Solutions
Luis Rodriguez, Workforce Solutions
Allyson Riojas, Workforce Solutions
Milanda Ballesteros, Workforce Solutions
Celina Leal, Workforce Solutions
Ricardo Munoz, Workforce Solutions
Ruben Aceves, Workforce Solutions
Zachary James, Workforce Solutions
Vicki Stonum, Workforce Solutions
Denise Woodson, Workforce Solutions
Xena Mercado, Workforce Solutions
Morgan Lovely, Workforce Solutions
Miroslava Paiz, Workforce Solutions
Angela Thomas, Workforce Solutions
Ramsey Olivarez, C2GPS, LLC
Geri Escobar, C2GPS, LLC
Linda Stewart, C2GPS, LLC
Robert Reyna, C2GPS, LLC
Robert Gonzales, C2GPS, LLC
Deborah Varner, C2GPS, LLC

I. Call to Order

Mr. Lopez called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

II. TOMA Rules

Ms. Neely provided information on the Texas Open Meetings Act (TOMA) Rules.

III. Roll Call

The roll was called and a quorum was present.

V. Public Comments

Due to the new TOMA rules we do have a laptop setup at 4981 Ayers Street and it is listed on the zoom call as Public. The laptop is available and open to the public.

VI. Discussion and Possible Action on Minutes of the February 14, 2024 Ad Hoc Youth Committee Meeting

Mr. Lopez moved to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2024 Ad Hoc Youth Committee meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Flower and passed.

VII. Items for Discussion and Possible Action

1. 4.0.100.07 – Incentives/Stipends

Ms. Cole presented information on updates to Board Policy #4.0.100.07 – Incentives/Stipends (included on pages 7-12 of the May 8 agenda packet).

Mr. Lopez moved to recommend to the Board of Directors approval of Board Policy #4.0.100.07 – Incentives/Stipends. The motion was seconded by Mr. Garcia and passed.

VIII. Information Only:

1. *Services to Youth*

- a. Program Updates

Ms. Cole provided information on Program Updates (included on pages 13-15 of the May 8 agenda packet).

Mr. Reyna provided information on the Work Experience Youth Cohorts (included on page 14 of the May 8 agenda packet).

Ms. Cole provided an update on the YOU! Choose Career Expo that will be held on September 18, 2024 at the Richard M. Borchard Fairgrounds in Robstown, TX.

Ms. Cole announced an email invitation was sent out to the Board of Directors by Ms. Neely for the YOU Choose Career Expo for the Open Ceremony at 9:30 am.

IV. Announcement on Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

Attention was called to the Disclosure and Declaration of Conflict of Interest and disclosures were requested by the chair at this time. None were made.

VIII. Information Only:

1. *Services to Youth*

- b. Performance Updates

Ms. Cole provided performance updates (included on page 16 of the May 8 agenda packet).

2. *Services to Special Community Populations*

- a. Student HireAbility Navigator

Ms. Cole reported on the Student HireAbility Navigator (included on pages 17-18 of the May 8 agenda packet).

- b. Foster Care Youth

Ms. Cole provided information on the Foster Care Youth (included on page 19 of the May 8 agenda packet).

3. *Programs and Education Engagements*

- a. Texas Internship Initiatives

Ms. Cole provided information on the Texas Internship Initiatives (included on page 20 of the May 8 agenda packet).

b. Educator Externship

Ms. Escobar provided information on the Educator Externship (included on page 21 of the May 8 agenda packet).

c. Tri-Agency Regional Convener Grant

Ms. Cole provided information on the Tri-Agency Regional Convener Grant (included on page 22 of the May 8 agenda packet).

d. Career & Educator Outreach Program

Ms. Smolik and Mr. Rodriguez reported on the Career and Educator Outreach Program (included on pages 23-26 of the May 8 agenda packet).

4. *Celebrating Participant Success*

Ms. Cole presented Celebrating Participant Success (included on page 27 of the May 8 agenda packet).

Mr. Lopez thanked everyone for attending the Youth Services Committee Meeting.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:26 pm.

INFORMATION ONLY

VII – 1a. Services to Youth Update BCY2024 – Third Quarter (Q3) Program Report

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Board Professionals will provide information regarding all youth related activities; information provided is for scope of April – June 2024.

WIOA YOUTH Program:

The Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) is designed to help job seekers secure the employment, education, training, and support services necessary to succeed in the labor market and to match employers with the skilled workers they need. WIOA Youth program participants are either an In-School Youth (ISY ages: 14-21) or an Out-of-School Youth (OSY ages: 16-24). As directed by the Department of Labor (DOL) and Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) a minimum of 75% of WIOA Youth funding will be spent on OSY and a minimum of 20% of the overall WIOA Youth budget shall be dedicated to serving participant through a Work Experience (WE).

- School Engagements
 - **High School & Career Fairs** – During Q3, multiple visits were made to ISDs by the WIOA Youth Program team to conduct outreach and engagements to in-school youth population. In addition to school visits promoting WFSCB program and resources, WFSCB participated in school job fairs at CCISD Senior Job Fair and at Del Mar College STEAM Career Exploration Program. Schools that were visited during Q3 were:
 - **A.C. Jones HS**
 - **Banquete HS**
 - **Gregory-Portland HS**
 - **Mathis HS**
 - **Premont HS**
 - **Sinton HS**
 - **Aransas Pass HS**
 - **Branch Academy**
 - **Ingleside HS**
 - **Moreno Junior HS**
 - **Ray HS**
 - **High School Signing Days** – WFSCB Youth Program team attended multiple High School Signing Day events throughout Q3. WFSCB was able to welcome senior graduates into the workforce and had them sign a letter of commitment to entering the workforce upon graduation. Additionally, the team was able to provide information regarding the YOU! Program and how the program could support students entering the workforce. High Schools that WFSCB participated in Signing Days were:
 - **Aransas Pass HS**
 - **Mathis HS**
 - **Premont HS**
- Youth Conferences
 - **SkillsUSA, April 4th – 6th:** WFSCB participated in SkillsUSA Texas Conference by volunteering for three days to be project guards and judges. Team members were able to

judge multiple projects such as engineering, art, computer science, business integration, debate, and resume and interview skills. WIOA Youth Team were also able to provide additional information regarding YOU! Program to local students and educators. WFSCB looks forward to working with SkillsUSA in April 2025.

- **Women In Industry Conference, April 11th:** WFSCB Board and Contractor teams participated in the 2nd annual Women In Industry Conference by volunteering to work the event and hosting a booth in the resource section. Multiple members from the Board team assisted in providing guidance to employers and students throughout the day. The Contractor team was able to host a booth and promote the YOU! Program to local high school girls that attended this year's conference.
- **YOU! CHOOSE Career Expo, September 18th:** YOU! CHOOSE is set to occur on September 18th at the Richard Borchard Fairgrounds. As of August 16th, 110 employers, training providers, and community partners are signed up to host a booth at the event. As of August 16th, 3000 students from across the Coastal Bend are registered to attend the event.
- **Coastal Bend Maritime Career Expo & Job Fair, October 2nd:** WFSCB has partnered with G&H Towing to host the 2nd Coastal Bend Maritime Career Expo & Job Fair in October. The goal is to have 500 students attend the career expo and learn more about the maritime industry. Schools that will be outreached are carefully selected in their geographic location and if the school has invested in programs that dive into the maritime industry.
- WFSCB Mobile Unit Outreach
 - During Q3 2024, the Mobile Unit was deployed across the region to outreach to rural youth.
 - i. The Mobile Unit was deployed to Gregory-Portland HS, Ingleside HS, and Refugio HS. WFSCB offered résumé preparation assistance and assisted youth in registering into WorkInTexas.com. Students were given information and applications for the YOU! Program.
 - ii. The Mobile Unit attended events at Coastal Bend College-Kingsville, South Texas Vocational Technical Institute, and Texas A&M University-Kingsville. Youth Program staff participated in youth outreach and WIOA presentations during these visits.
 - iii. The Mobile Unit was deployed to Banquete, Portland, Rivera, and Woodsboro, where outreach was conducted to rural adults and young adults to promote WFSCB services and were provided workforce services onsite to residents.
- Elevate361
 - In April 2024, WFSCB began staffing at Elevate361 Opportunity Youth Center with an assigned WIOA Youth Program Member.
 - Throughout assisting young adults coming into centers, multiple barriers have been noted on young adults not being able to be work ready.
 - i. Needing a HS Diploma or GED
 - ii. Needing public assistance
 - iii. Facing homelessness
 - From the average of 2-5 visitors a day, the most common services and resources sought by young adults have been:
 - i. Intensive job search assistance
 - ii. Work experience

- iii. Support services
 - WFSCB team members have provided job search and work readiness services onsite and continue to enhance the pipeline into WIOA services for those who need the additional support.
 - Work Experience Youth Cohorts
 - During Q3 2024, five job readiness cohorts were hosted. The April cohort focused on the Professional Skills and Trades industry, May cohort focused on the Public Service industry, and June focused on the Health Care industry. There were 33 youth participants within the five cohorts.

33 COHORT PARTICIPANTS	
CENTER	CUSTOMERS
Alice	4
Beeville	16
Falfurrias	2
Kingsville	5
Sinton	3
Staples	3

NEW WORK EXPERIENCE PLACEMENTS		
CENTER	OSY	ISY
Alice	0	4
Beeville	1	15
Kingsville	6	4
Staples	1	1
Total	8	24

- Services to WIOA Youth Customers During Q3 2024

- Enrollments into WIOA Youth Program

MONTH	OSY	ISY
April	5	6
May	3	4
June	8	5
Total	16	15

- Training Programs: Q3 Scholarships Awarded \$42,675.00

PROGRAM	CUSTOMERS
CDL	7
Crane Operation	1
Instrumentation	1
Medical Assisting	5
Welding	5
Total	19

- Work Experience – 32
 - Q3 Wages Paid \$99,702.39
 - Support Services – 35
 - Q3 Support Services Issued \$10,464.45

INFORMATION ONLY

VII – 1b. Services to Youth Update BCY2024 – Third Quarter (Q3) Performance

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Board Professionals will provide information regarding all youth related activities; information provided is for scope of April – June 2024.

Performance Updates:

- As of August 16th, March 2024 is the latest MPR publication by Texas Workforce Commission (TWC).
- WFSCB Contractor’s Quality and Assurance Team works to project performance measures and outcomes while also providing assistance to Career Centers to continuously improve performance and customer service.
 - Weekly meetings are between Board Team and Contractor Team to assess current performance measures and projections.

MPR Reporting	Employed/Enrolled Q2 Post-Exit	Employed/Enrolled Q4 Post-Exit	Median Earnings Q2 Post-Exit	Credential Rate	Measurable Skills Gains
Jan	100.28%	91.57%	109.63%	106.45%	89.24%
Feb	100.28%	91.57%	109.63%	106.45%	89.24%
Mar	102.38%	99.87%	109.63%	123.79%	81.01%

INFORMATION ONLY

VII – 2a. Services to Special Community Populations – Student HireAbility Navigator

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Board staff will provide information regarding all services to special community populations related activities, information provided for the scope of April – June 2024.

Student HireAbility Navigator (SHN):

- City of Corpus Christi's Committee for Persons with Disabilities
 - As a committee member, the Student HireAbility Navigator continues to attend monthly meetings.
- School Events
 - Student HireAbility Navigator attended and presented at several school events across the Coastal Bend including:
 - West Oso, Mary Grett Transition, Flour Bluff ISD, TAMUCC.
- Employer Round Table Discussion
 - Round Table Discussion Meetings with several area employers, VRS and WF Board Staff to discuss inclusivity in the workplace.
- Summer Earn and learn 2024.
 - WFSCB proudly kicked off the 7th Annual Summer Earn & Learn program! Summer Earn & Learn (SEAL) offers eligible students with disabilities or potential disabilities a paid work experience with local employers who, together with our TWS-VRS partners, can provide the support and accommodations needed for these students to succeed. These students participate in work readiness training to prepare them for successful employment, for most this is the FIRST time to earn a paycheck and helps them to gain a sense of independence as they venture out into their paid work experience. WFSCB has proudly hosted SEAL for the past 7 years in partnership with our TWS-VRS partners and are pleased to have placed over 375 students throughout Coastal Bend in employment opportunities.
- Texas Workforce Commission Workforce Forum
 - Student HireAbility Navigator was invited to be a presenter at this year's TWC Workforce Forum in Ausitn, TX. SHN proudly discussed best practices being utilized in the Coastal Bend and shared information on how to maximize successful outcomes when working with their local SHN's.
- Haircuts for Prom – Foster Youth
 - SHN and Youth Manager collaborated with BCFS & DFPS to provide gift cards for foster youth males to receive haircuts for prom.
- Employer Disability Awareness Training
 - SHN coordinated with TWC-VRS Business Relations Coordinator to host an employer disability awareness training. 28 local employers were in attendance to learn about services available to them as employers hiring a person with disabilities as well as people first language and sensitivity training. This was a incredibly informative and beneficial training!

- Premont High School ARD Meetings
 - SHN attended exiting seniors ARD meetings and discussed services available to students & parents transitioning to post-secondary education and/the workforce.
- Ingleside Transition Fair
 - SHN attended the Ingleside ISD transition fair which was held for special education families. This event provided families with community resources available to them and their students.
- SEAL Signing Day
 - In collaboration with Texas Workforce Solutions – Vocational Rehabilitation Services, WFSCB was thrilled to host the 3rd Annual Summer Earn & Learn Signing Day, the kickoff event for the Summer Earn & Learn Program. Participants were treated to lunch and backpacks filled with items to make their summer work experience a success as they signed their letters of commitment to the program! Local employers, as well as community partners, were onsite to cheer the students on as they embarked on their journey into the workforce! This event was proudly sponsored by The Port of Corpus Christi.
- National ADA Symposium
 - SHN attended the National ADA Symposium. This conference has earned the reputation as the most comprehensive conference available on the Americans with Disabilities Act and related disability laws.
- Upcoming Events:
 - Summer Earn & Learn 2024 Wrap Up
 - TAVAC Presentation
 - Their Day Foundation Health Fair
 - NDEAM Events

INFORMATION ONLY

VII – 2b. Services to Special Community Populations – Foster Care Youth

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Board Professionals will provide information regarding all services to special community populations related activities, information provided for the scope of April – June 2024.

Foster Youth Services:

- Foster Youth Conference
 - In May 2024, members from Board and Contractor teams attended the annual TWC Foster Youth Conference that was held in San Marcos, TX. Members from VR, DFPS, Foster Transitioning Centers (BCFS), and Workforce Boards were in attendance to learn how to engage and serve Foster Youth. Key take aways:
 - Hot handoffs may be too fast for Foster Youth as they may need time to build trust with the organization.
 - Develop clear procedures for Foster Youth when entering a program.
 - Create wins and articulate the purpose of the program/activities.
 - There are many services available to Foster Youth and at times can be overwhelming for them to handle.
 - From the working relationship that WFSCB has built with BFCS and DFPS PALS Program, WFSCB was able to speak to our local transitioning center staff about lessons learned and continued the conversation into the quarterly meetings held with both organizations.
- Foster Youth Graduation Celebration
 - On June 7th, members of the Board and Contractor team attended the Foster Angels Foster Youth High School Graduation Celebration to celebrate eight foster youth who were graduating from high school in the Coastal Bend and Rio Grande, and Laredo area.
 - WFSCB was able to do a short introduction to the WIOA youth program.
 - WFSCB engaged with local foster youth to hear their barriers and their needs while also speaking to foster parents about the WIOA Youth program.
 - WFSCB networked with other foster youth serving organizations within the community.
- Aging Out Seminar
 - In July 2024, WFSCB hosted for the third time the DFPS Aging Out Seminar at the Staples Center. 25 foster youth from Coastal Bend, Rio Grande, and Laredo regions gathered to dive into content Foster Youth must know before leaving the Foster Care system. Topics covered were trafficking, abuse awareness, nutrition, accounting, and job search.
 - Contractor team members were present to provide information on WIOA Youth program and how the program can serve them in and after Foster Care.
- WFSCB currently has six Foster Youth enrolled into WIOA Youth Program.

INFORMATION ONLY

VII – 3a. Programs & Education Engagements – Texas Internship Initiatives

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Board Professionals will provide information regarding all program and engagements related activities; information provided for the scope of April – June 2024.

Texas Internship Initiatives (TII):

In partnership with Education to Employment (E2E), E2E has been the internship program provider through Emerging Professionals Internship Program (EPIP). This grant focuses on providing part-time paid internships in the Middle-Skill STEM areas of accounting, business management, engineering, and information technology. Participating junior and senior year high school students must pass a dual-credit credit course to be placed in an internship with a local business.

- May 2024 concluded the Class of 2024 Emerging Professionals Internship Program.
- Out of 35 students who started the program, 26 successfully completed their internships in May and were celebrated at their graduation ceremony.
 - Interns had created poster boards to share with their families and employers about their experience at their internship and what they learned throughout the process.
 - Interns were able to gain essential skills training, complete a college level course, gain a retail federation certification, and complete an internship with local employers.
- WFSCB was one of two WDBs that were awarded the next Texas Internship Initiative grant to start an EPIP Class of 2025.
 - With the goal of serving 35 students, 36 interns have completed their essential skills training and have completed their college course credit.
 - Three interns have begun their internships at two Corpus Christi law offices with the remaining interns preparing for interviews.
 - There are currently 10 interns who are in the Kleberg County area and three are in the Jim Wells County area. The remaining 23 are in the Nueces County area.

INFORMATION ONLY

VII – 3b. Programs & Education Engagements – Educator Externship (EDEX)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Board Professionals will provide information regarding all program and engagements related activities; information provided for the scope of April – June 2024.

9th Annual Educator Externship (EDEX):

In partnership with Education to Employment Partners (E2E), WFSCB and E2E offer Coastal Bend educators a one-week career and occupational experience to learn about in-demand industries in the region. EDEX engages educators in activities geared toward learning about skillsets required for occupations in the Coastal Bend and how to apply them to a classroom curriculum. Educators will learn how to use Labor Market Information to guide students for career-oriented decision-making.

- 264 pre-application registration forms were filled in from local educators and 100 educators were selected to attend EDEX 2024. Two cohorts were created for educators to participate in: Cohort I started June 24th and Cohort II started July 15th.
- Out of 100 educators that were selected for this year's EDEX, 99 completed the externship program.
 - 20 ISDs represented the 99 educators with 20 signed employers participating in this year's program.
 - 56 educators were new to the externship, 48 rural educators, with 34 educators from Middle School and 65 educators from High School.
- EDEX is predominately funded by TWC for 80 educators to participate. This year, Port Corpus Christi sponsored 20 additional educators to participate in EDEX.
- For participating in the externship and completing the mandatory deliverables, educators earned a \$875 stipend. Deliverables included:
 - Completing the EDEX.
 - Develop a lesson plan that will be utilized for the upcoming school year.
 - Complete a survey.

INFORMATION ONLY

VII – 3c. Programs & Education Engagements – Tri-Agency Regional Convener Grant

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Board Professionals will provide information regarding all program and engagements related activities; information provided for the scope of April – June 2024.

Tri-Agency Regional Convener Grant:

Through the Tri-Agency Workforce Initiative, the Commissioners of the Texas Education Agency (TEA), Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), and Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) developed partnerships in working together to help Texas grow in economic prosperity. In April 2023, the Tri-Agency launched a \$12 million dollar grant program focused on identifying, training, and designating a Tri-Agency Regional Convener in each of the state's 28 workforce development areas (WDAs) to develop a regional education-workforce partnership system. Prospective regional conveners will build regional infrastructure and demonstrate their proficiency in serving as a regional convener under the guidance of Tri-Agency Steering Committee. The Tri-Agency leveraged existing structures, such as regional workforce development boards, education service centers, institutions of higher education, and nonprofits with a regional scope of work to serve as a regional convener.

- Workforce Solutions Coastal Bend hosted Jobs for the Future (JFF) Grant Coach, Sarah Jenness, for a site visit to give technical assistance to the grant and to develop further the Coastal Bend Strategic Plan.
 - Members for the Pathways Leadership Team joined WFSCB to discuss the pressing issues the Coastal Bend faces with providing quality work-based learning pathways to local students.
- Strategic Plan: The TRPN focuses on the
 - GOAL ONE: Provide regional advising for educators, students, and parents to learn of the educational and career opportunities in the Coastal Bend by 2029.
 - GOAL TWO: Provide regional communication that outlines a student's education to career journey in a Coastal Bend in-demand industry by 2026.
 - GOAL THREE: Increase meaningful work-based learning opportunities throughout the Coastal Bend Region by 2029.
- The next deliverable for the grant is a draft of the Implementation Plan.
 - Grantees are to focus on expanding on how to reach each of the goals within the strategic plan within five years.
- Developing the Data Dashboard
 - WFSCB is looking to procure out a vendor that will assist in developing a data dashboard that will highlight education and LMI on the five chosen industries for the convener grant.

INFORMATION ONLY

VII – 3d. Programs & Education Engagements – Career & Educator Outreach Program

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Board Professionals will provide information regarding all program and engagements related activities; information provided for the scope of April – June 2024.

Career & Educator Outreach Program (CEOP):

The Career & Education Outreach Program is dedicated to educating, supporting, and providing TWC resources for school-based students (grades 6-12), parents, and educators in efforts to equip them with the necessary tools to make informed education and career decisions. Utilizing strategic outreach efforts, the program is set to establish relationships with local educators and employers to serve as a catalyst for career readiness in the Coastal Bend.

School Engagements

- Aransas Pass ISD
 - Essential Skills / Mock Interviews – April 10th: Practiced interviewing skills with seniors by asking them routine questions and providing positive critiques and feedback to given answers. (9 students).
 - VR Headsets – Aransas Pass High School – May 21st: Juniors and Seniors engaged in high demand careers and occupation breakdowns by diving into the career exploration modules equipped on our Virtual Reality Goggles. (65 students).
 - Planning Session – June 4th: Planning CEOP involvement with APISD CTE for upcoming 24-25 school year.
- Banquete ISD
 - Essential Skills / Communication & Active Listening – Summer Bridge Program – June 10: Explained and explored the importance of effective communication in the workplace, different types/styles, content, buzzwords, and its cohesiveness with Active Listening, followed with an activity. (23 students).
 - Essential Skills / Time Management & Critical Thinking – Summer Bridge Program – June 11: Explained and explored the importance of effective time management in the workplace, different types/styles, content, buzzwords, and its cohesiveness with Critical Thinking, followed with an activity. (26 students).
- Beeville ISD
 - VR Headsets – Moreno Junior High School – May 3rd: Students engaged in high demand careers and occupation breakdowns by diving into the career exploration modules equipped on our Virtual Reality Goggles. (60 students).
- Gregory Portland ISD
 - Planning Session – April 17th: Planning CEOP involvement for upcoming Career Fair.
 - VR Headsets – GP Middle School – May 13th: Students engaged in high demand careers and occupation breakdowns by diving into the career exploration modules equipped on our Virtual Reality Goggles. (74 students).
- Flour Bluff ISD
 - Planning Session – May 29th: Planning CEOP involvement with FBISD CTE for upcoming 24-25 school year.

- Kingsville ISD
 - Planning Session – May 30th: Planning CEOP involvement with Kingsville ISD for upcoming 24-25 school year.
- Dr. M.L Garza Charter School
 - VR Headsets – May 14th: Students (6th, 7th, 8th) engaged in high demand careers and occupation breakdowns by diving into the career exploration modules equipped on our Virtual Reality Goggles. (48 students).
- Pettus ISD
 - Planning Session – May 28th: Planning CEOP involvement with Pettus ISD for upcoming 24-25 school year.
- Premont ISD
 - Essential Skills / Résumé – Premont Secondary – April 25th: (Seniors) - Explained and explored résumés; their purpose, proper formatting, different types/styles, content, buzzwords, etc. Students build their own résumé by using Career Coach. (25 students).
 - Endorsement Breakdown – April 30th: Students (8th) engaged in a breakdown of the 5 different endorsements, the high demand careers, and occupations available, what path to choose in high school, followed by an activity. (57 students).
- Rockport-Fulton ISD
 - Planning Session – May 29th: Planning CEOP involvement with RFISD for upcoming 24-25 school year.
- Skidmore-Tynan ISD
 - VR Headsets – Skidmore-Tynan High School – April 3rd: Students engaged in high demand careers and occupation breakdowns by diving into the career exploration modules equipped on our Virtual Reality Goggles.

Activities & Events

- Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History – Planning Session - April 15th:
 - WFSCB CEOP was invited to participate in a STEM Summer Camp taking place Saturday, July 13th at the Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History. CEOP will be conducting Virtual Reality to camp participants.
- Educators Externship – Presentation – June 24th:
 - WFSCB CEOP presented an introduction to the program to Coastal Bend educators that are participating in cohort 1 of Educators Externship 2024. (49 educators).
- SEAL Signing Day – June 5th:
 - WFSCB CEOP participated in our organizations Summer Earn & Learn Signing Day Celebration, highlighting students with disabilities opportunity to work and sign on with their employer for the next several weeks.
- Skills USA – Conference – April 5th – April 6th
 - WFSCB in partnership with Skills USA Organization provided volunteers to help with day of functions and serve as judges for student made projects. Skills USA to continue hosting its Statewide Conference here in the Coastal Bend throughout the next 4 years.
- This One's For The Gals – Women In Industry Conference – April 11th:
 - WFSCB CEOP alongside other board team served as volunteers for this year's Women In Industry Conference, highlighting female presence in industry-based occupations.
- TWC Education Outreach – Booster Calls – April 5th, May 10th, June 7th
 - CEOP teams from across the state meet virtually once a month to share experiences and learn new initiatives to bring into the classrooms. We have outside industry partners present on their involvement with TWC and Local Workforce Boards, all while strategizing on how to continue to make an impact in our school districts.

- YWCA – Summer Camp – June 11th – June 26th
 - WFSCB CEOP presented twice to young lady participants, going over the importance of essential skills in the classroom and workplace, followed by an activity. (32 students).

Advisory Committees

- CEOP serves on the following advisory committees by providing strategic advice alongside local school districts to improve study issues, curriculum, flexibility and overall structure within the organization and our community.
 - Aransas Pass, Banquete, Corpus Christi, Flour Bluff, Gregory Portland, Robstown, West Oso, etc.

INFORMATION ONLY

VII – 4. Celebrating Success

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Catherine Cole will provide information regarding OSY participant, Marissa Valenzuela, for successfully completing her work experience and permanent employment with Corpus Christi Housing Authority.

WFSCB Glossary of Terms

Program Title	Acronym	Program Description
Able-bodied Adult Without Dependents	ABAWD	An individual 18 yrs.+ , but under the age of 50, without dependents. SNAP-ABAWD recipients are referred by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC).
Board Contract Year	BCY	Board Contract Year (runs from Oct. 1 - Sept. 30)
Career & Education Outreach Program	CEOP	Provides career information to students at public middle and high schools, grades six through twelve, to direct students towards high-growth/high-demand occupations. Students receive in-depth information and directions on career choices as well as access to workforce resources.
Dislocated Worker	DW	An individual who has been terminated or laid off from employment is not eligible for unemployment benefits due to insufficient earnings and is unlikely to return to a previous industry or occupation.
Department of Labor	DOL	United States Department of Labor
Educator Externship	EDEX	Informs teachers of the skill sets needed for in-demand jobs, and allows the teachers to inform and guide students toward employment in industries that match their skill sets.
Employment Services (Wagner-Peyser)	ES	Services for employers and job seekers to ensure employers have access to qualified workers. Provides job matching and recruitment services to employers and job seekers.
Eligible Training Provider	ETP	Training providers certified by the Texas Workforce Commission to provide WIOA-funded training programs.
Eligible Training Program List	ETPL	A comprehensive list of training programs approved for WIOA-funded training using Individual Training Accounts.
Fiscal Year	FY	The fiscal year is the accounting period of the federal government. It begins on October 1 and ends on September 30 of the next calendar year.
Individual Training Accounts	ITA	An account established for eligible WIOA customers for training in an array of state-approved training programs. ITAs may be used only for programs included on the statewide ETPL.
Local Workforce Development Board	LWDB	Local workforce development board established in accordance with WIA Section 117, for the purpose of policy planning for a local area and has the responsibility to ensure that the workforce needs of employers and job seekers in the geographic area governed by the local unit of government are met.
Monthly Performance Report	MPR	Performance accountability indicators used to assess the effectiveness of states and local workforce systems to achieve positive outcomes for individuals served by the six core workforce programs.
Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Program	MSFW	A nationally directed program created by Congress in response to the chronic seasonal unemployment and underemployment experienced by migrant and seasonal farmworkers (MSFW). Provides funding to help migrant and seasonal farmworkers and their families achieve economic self-sufficiency.
National Dislocated Worker	NDW	A grant awarded to areas affected by major disaster or national catastrophe to assist in disaster relief employment and assist the substantial number of workers who were forced to relocate from an area in which a disaster has been declared.
On-the-Job Training	OJT	One-on-one training located at the job site for participants who already have some job-related skills. By participating in training as an employee, the participant acquires new skills and knowledge and receives the same wages and benefits as current employees in the same or similar position.
Program Year	PY	Program Year (for example, Program Year 2022: PY'22; –period varies for state and federal years)
Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment	RESEA	A federal grant program designed to allow states to provide intensive reemployment assistance to individuals who are receiving unemployment benefits and are determined likely to exhaust their benefits before becoming reemployed.
Rapid Response	RR	Provides immediate on-site assistance to workers who have job losses due to businesses closure or worker reduction. Designed to transition workers to their next employment as soon as possible.

WFSCB Glossary of Terms

Program Title	Acronym	Program Description
Summer Earn and Learn	SEAL	A summer program that offers basic work-based learning and training services for students with disabilities such as, pre-employment work readiness training and preparation for the work experience placement; work experience to help gain familiarity with the workplace environment and develop transferable job skills; and paid compensation for time worked on the job.
Student HireAbility Navigator	SHAN	Student HireAbility Navigator's role is to expand and improve access to employment and training services and to increase employment opportunities for students with disabilities by creating strong partnerships between vocational rehabilitation (VR) Workforce Solutions offices, independent school districts (ISDs), community organizations, employers.
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment & Training	SNAP E&T	Designed to assist SNAP recipients in obtaining employment through participation in allowable job search, training, education, or workforce activities that promote long-term self-sufficiency. SNAP recipients are referred by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC).
Trade Adjustment Assistance	TAA	A federally funded program, with no costs to employers, who helps workers who are adversely affected by foreign import or job shifts to a foreign country.
Texas Education Agency	TEA	The branch of government in Texas responsible for public education. TEA is responsible for the oversight of public primary and secondary education in the state of Texas.
Texas Internship Initiative	TII	Provides part-time paid internships in Middle-Skill areas of accounting, business, construction management, engineering, healthcare, and information technology. Participating senior high school students must pass a dual-credit course to be placed in an internship with a local business. This grant is in partnership with Education to Employment (E2E) for the Coastal Bend.
Texas Industry Partnership Program	TIP	Supports collaborations between local workforce development boards and industry partners through the leveraging of matching contributions of cash or qualifying expenditures for occupational job training. Match funds must support certain WIOA (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act) activities and focus on eight designated industry clusters.
Texas Veterans Commission	TVC	A state agency that assists veterans, their families, and survivors through services provided by federal, state, local government, and private organizations.
Texas Veterans Leadership Program	TVLP	A non-profit agency that provides services to veterans to help find employment and achieve successful transitions back into civilian life.
The Workforce Information System of Texas	TWIST	TWIST is a centralized point of reporting intake and case management for customers. Intake information is submitted just once for multiple employment and training programs and can be retrieved statewide. TWIST also allows staff to query and retrieve information from the legacy systems – Employment Services, Unemployment Insurance, SNAP E&T, TANF, Supplemental Security Income, and the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.
Vocational Rehabilitation Services	VRS	A federal program that helps individuals with physical or mental disabilities get and/or keep a job.
Work Experience	WE	A work-based learning opportunity in which program-eligible customers learn both essential and technical skills for long-term employment. Businesses are referred to as “work experience sites.” Intended to be short-term (12 or fewer weeks) and part-time work experience can be a volunteer, internship, or temporary short-term paid-work setting.
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act	WIOA	Helps job seekers and workers access employment, education, training, and support services to succeed in the labor market; and matches employers with the skilled workers they need to compete in the global economy.
Work In Texas	WIT	A comprehensive online job search resource and matching system developed and maintained by TWC. It provides recruiting assistance to Texas employers and job search assistance to any individual seeking work in Texas.
Workforce Opportunity Tax Credit	WOTC	A federal tax credit that the government provides to private-sector businesses for hiring individuals from nine target groups that have historically faced significant barriers to employment.