

Iowa Collaboration for Youth Development (ICYD) Council Meeting
Iowa Department of Economic Development, ICN Board Room
February 10, 2010, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Members Present: Preston Daniels, Chair, Department of Human Rights (DHR)
Julie Hibben, (for Kathy Stone, DPH)
Cyndy Erickson, DOE (for Judy Jeffrey)
Wendy Rickman, DHS (for Charlie Krogmeier)
Diane Oak Goode, IWD (for Liz Buck)

Members Absent: Chuck Morris, ISU Extension, 4-H Youth Development
Gary Kendell, Director, Office Drug Control Policy (ODCP)
Shanell Wagler, Director Office of Empowerment
Richard Moore, Director, Child Advocacy Board
Becky Swift, ODCP (for Gary Kendall)

Steering Committee Members/State Agency Workgroup Members Present:
Steve Michael, DHR, CJJP
Paul Stageburg, Administrator, DHR/CJJP
Carol Behrer, Youth Policy Institute of Iowa
Annelise Plooster, DHR, SIYAC Coordinator
Jeff Grimes, AMOS
Amy Daniels, DHR, Youth Development Project Coordinator
Doug Wolfe, DHS, Adult and Family Services Division
Jason Allen, IWD
Eric Sage, CJJP
Dave Kuker, CJJP

Steering Committee Members/State Agency Workgroup Members Absent:
Ruth Allison – IVRS

Minutes were taken by Dottie Schiltz, Recording Secretary.

Introductions, Objectives, Review of Agenda

1. Daniels welcomed all; outlined the agenda. With quorum present, the meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. Agenda objectives included 1) Develop strategies and action steps for Annual Report "Recommended Actions", and 2) Establish next steps to implement strategies. Motion to approve agenda was made by Erickson, seconded by Rickman. Upon vote, motion passed.

Approval of Minutes

2. Daniels called for review of minutes of January 13, 2010, meeting. Motion by Erickson, second by Allen to approve as presented. Motion passed.

State of Iowa Youth Advisory Council (SIYAC)

3. Annelise Plooster provided SIYAC update reporting on Legislative Committee Activities they have undertaken and status of the "Life After Graduation Committee". SIYAC's third quarter meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 15, along with IJAG, and the focus for that day is Advocating Dropout Prevention. After speaking with Steve Havemann of IJAG, they have agreed to have SIYAC members sit in on meetings, and also present information from ICYD, if we were interested. SIYAC agreed that this was a great topic for their meeting and an opportunity to learn how to advocate for an issue. As this provides ICYD an opportunity to be a part of the process as well, SIYAC asked for any information they would like presented to legislature. SIYAC plans to tailor their presentation to an IJAG script and plan to endorse IJAG as a successful and effective program while promoting other programs that support Dropout Prevention. Since ICYD is currently focused on that topic SIYAC asked for assistance/guidance in brainstorming ideas. SIYAC will have a table in the Rotunda that day, displaying information, handouts showing committee work that is being done. They would like to provide as much information as possible specific to the dropout prevention issue.

ICYD members provided suggestions to include providing annual report information in a condensed one pager version, highlighting the economic impact that would be gained, and the goals and recommendations that have been developed, to talk with coordinators/counselors at schools and communities that are responsible for those

programs, to get a sense of how constituents deal with that, and to talk to students who have personal experiences to share, were provided. Erickson offered to get contact information on “Success Program”, which is a Des Moines School Program that was recently nationally recognized and is geared towards that focus as well. Jason Allen suggested contacting the Reengagement Center in Des Moines whose primary function is to get drop outs to re-engage in getting GED; and, Gateway to College, which takes the Center function step further in helping drop outs complete their GED but also grants college credits at same time they are doing that. This is a program that has been used in other places around the country, but not here in Des Moines.

Plooster continued that the Elevate Conference is Saturday and many SIYAC members will attend. There will be a table with brochures and applications. They are partnering with JEL and IJAG to collaborate activities being presented such as Creative Expressions, Health and Wellness, and Leadership. SIYAC Chair will be speaking during lunch. Friday night activity SIYAC will join with Kwakers, a local youth led service group, in a new service project to collect donations for Victims in Haiti. The SIYAC Outreach Committee will be filming the Youth Service Committee for upcoming Global Youth Service Day at end of April. The weekend conference will be filmed as well and excerpts from everything will be used as promotional item for service groups and will be presented at First Lady Culver ‘s Youth and Shelter Program conference. SIYAC continues to work with substance abuse issues with AC4C with the help of Julie Hibben, Public Health. She has been an integral part in communication with committee members. She concluded with request for questions/thoughts.

State Strategies to Achieve Graduation for All (Discussion led by Workgroup)

4. Daniels directed everyone to page 9 of the Annual Report. Committee Members who finalized the report, Michael, Erickson, and Behrer provided information and led the discussion. Spreadsheet with school district enrollment and dropout data was provided, and another with proposal for recommendations. To initiate taking “Recommended Action” 1 proposed to visiting communities and schools to obtain data as needed. Focus of proposed visits is to listen to what they have to say, what is working, and what barriers are preventing youth from graduating. Spreadsheet shows the 25 communities with the lowest graduation rates. Criteria was developed to narrow the group to those with high percentage of minority, the challenged districts, looked at urban and rural representation,

The selected communities are:

- Burlington,
- Cedar Rapids,
- Council Bluffs,
- Davenport,
- Des Moines,
- Dubuque,
- Marshalltown,
- Perry,
- Sioux City,
- Storm Lake, and
- Waterloo.

Invitations will be sent from the Governor to the mayor and school superintendent of each community to meet with a team of ICYD members and staff. Members of the ICYD Council are asked to commit to participate in at least two of the visits. Daniels as Chair will participate on all visits. Staff will follow the letters with phone calls to schedule the meetings. A draft schedule will be compiled and provided to all. Staff will develop logistical arrangements for two – four hour visits to include representation from all different avenues within the communities; such as, students, parents, businesses, and questions that would result in a better understanding of what is going on. Data and other information from all sites will be compiled for use during the meeting.

It is proposed to schedule the community visits during the last 2-3 weeks of April. Discussion confronted concerns of staying focused on targeted issue rather than being all over place, the possible confusion that may be realized with Race to Top (RTTT) Grant consideration, or concerns if in compliance with CSIP (school improvement plan) that might develop. DHS noted that one-page documents with statistics on community information, and other data information regarding unique issues or what is going on; i.e., homelessness, teen pregnancy, poverty, would be helpful. DHS will create reports on the resources and information that would be helpful.

5. Other Business

Opportunity available to have Karen Finn from Forum, a consultant for the Forum for Youth Investment, to facilitate a planning discussion on developing strategies and establish a timeline to implement the ICYD Council Annual Report's recommendations at the next ICYD Council meeting, March 10. The free federal technical assistance expires at end of March so it needs to be then. Karen will facilitate discussion with the decision makers and also have some time to work with the state agency staff. Consensus agreed to plan. No monetary requirement, however, it was suggested to extend the meeting time to three hours for the facilitated discussion. It was also suggested to invite additional groups to the table, in addition to SIYAC members, such as FFA and Elevate.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, March 10, 2010, 1:30-4:30 p.m., at the Jessie Parker Building Starkweather Room.

Adjourned at 3:25

Dottie Schiltz, Recording Secretary