



Youth Council Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2026

Opening Remarks

1. Welcome & Attendance

Voting Items

2. Review and Approve Eckerd Statement of Work for PY2026-27 WIOA Youth Services Contract

Information/Discussion

3. Review April 21, 2026, Youth Council Meeting Minutes - Approved on April 29, 2026, Board of Directors Meeting
 4. CSRC Summer of Success Project Update
 5. Youth Connections Program Updates
 6. PY2025-26 3rd Quarter WIOA Primary Indicators of Performance Report
 7. Youth Connections Performance Report
 8. Youth Connections Success Story
 9. Adjournment
-

Members Participating by Teleconference:

Christie Shields, Robert McPartlan, Terrance Moore, David Freeland

Members Present

William Armstead

Members Excused

Lorna Landherr, Lana Barros, Aliesha Seitz

Members Unexcused

None

Public Participating by Teleconference/In-person

Kevin Ferrel, Kimberly Grey

Staff Participating by Teleconference

Tracey McMorris, Kate Sayger, Angie Stickland, Jennifer Eimann

Call to Order

Terrance Moore, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:04 am.

Agenda Item 2 - Review and Approve Eckerd Statement of Work for PY2026-27 WIOA Youth Services Contract:

Tracey McMorris, Vice President of Operations/COO, presented the following information regarding the Eckerd Statement of Work for PY2026-27 WIOA Youth Services Contract:

Statement of Work Updates

- **Performance benchmarks:** Rather than jumping straight to a 50% target in year one, benchmarks were raised to more realistic levels 35% for in-school youth and 65% for out-of-school youth. The team is confident these targets are achievable.
- **One-Stop integration:** Youth services have worked closely with the adult WIOA team, but the goal now is to expand integration across all One-Stop partners at the Career Center. Program Manager Angie Strickland will attend all quarterly One-Stop meetings going forward, which should naturally drive greater cross-team integration. Eckerd Youth have also been connected with the Business Services team to strengthen employment outcomes.
- **Training expectations:** There's a renewed focus on increasing training for youth participants. This can happen through co-enrollment with Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) adults, or through direct funding, including support for participants who may not be eligible for WIOA.
- **Unchanged elements:** The core "14 elements" requirements, the services that must be made available to all youth served, remain the same. This represents the foundational, day-to-day scope of the program.

A motion was made by Robert McPartlan to approve the Eckerd Statement of Work for PY2026-27 WIOA Youth Services Contract, as presented. Christie Shields seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 3 - Review April 21, 2026, Youth Council Meeting Minutes - Approved on April 29, 2026, Board of Directors Meeting:

Tracey McMorris, Vice President of Operations/COO, explained that typically, each council/committee approves their own minutes before they are forwarded to the Board. However, due to the Board meeting schedule this past quarter, the Youth Council minutes were instead approved at the April 29th meeting.

Since the minutes were already approved, they are being included in the Youth Council packet for informational purposes only, allowing any Youth Council members who were not present at the Board meeting to review them.

Agenda Item 4 - CSRC Summer of Success Project Update:

Tracey McMorris, Vice President of Operations, shared an update on the Summer of Success program, as students completed their four-week internships on July 10, 2026.



Recruitment & Selection

- Received over 100 applications, reflecting strong demand for the program
- Identified 40 youth for participation, in line with the budget
- 38 students ultimately enrolled — two selected students found full-time employment right before the program started. While they were not funded through the program, that outcome is still a win for those young people.

Pre-Internship Training

- All 38 students completed soft skills and digital literacy training to prepare them for the workplace
- 37 of the 38 earned the credential

Internship

- All 38 students entered paid internships, running June 15th through July 10th
- Participants earned \$15/hour while gaining hands-on work experience
- 9 participating employers across 27 work sites

Support & Outcomes

- Using county funding, program staff hired an assistant who visited every participant at their work site to provide support and address any employer-related issues
- Feedback from employers was overwhelmingly positive
- No dropouts, every student who started the program finished it

Overall, it was a successful year, and looking forward to running and expanding the program again in 2027.

Agenda Item 5 - Youth Connections Program Updates:

Angie Stickland, Program Manager, shared that as of July 1st, the team hit the ground running on this new program year. Knowing some of the expectations ahead of time, the focus has been on building new processes to support those changes.

Progress

- 16 new worksite agreements signed
- New enrollments underway
- Identifying youth for training and sourcing additional training providers
- Developing a process to integrate services with the adult WIOA program to allow co-enrollment. This is a new approach for the team, so they are working with Kate Sayger, WIOA Programs Coordinator, to build a streamlined plan that works for everyone involved.
- New marketing flyers in development for outreach, expanding the focus beyond youth services to highlight the full range of services now available through co-enrollment

Facility Updates

- Renewed the lease at the Indian River State College (IRSC) campus location, Fort Pierce, St. Lucie County, where the team is now based every day except Thursdays
- Thursdays are now spent at the REACH Center (recently opened) in Martin County

Recent Outreach/Events

- Participated in a workshop with the IRSC TRIO Summer Camp
- Attended the Fort Pierce Police Department's "Unity in the Community" event
- Participated in multiple job fairs

Highlight

Lead Career Coach Annette Stager was nominated for the Workforce Professional Champion award. The team will also be attending the Workforce Summit in September.

Agenda Item 6 - PY2025-26 3rd Quarter WIOA Primary Indicators of Performance Report:

Kate Sayger, Program Coordinator, stated that the WIOA Primary Indicators of Performance Report reflects federal metrics negotiated with Florida Commerce every two years.

Ms. Sayger explained that the areas highlighted in blue reflect that performance goals exceeded (greater than 100% of negotiated). Likewise, goals highlighted in green show that performance goals were met (90-100% negotiated), and those reflected in yellow still need to be met (less than 90% of negotiated) by CSRC

The one area of concern is the youth credential attainment rate tied to the youth contract renewal. This metric declined again and is currently at 70.2%, against a required threshold of 90%. Ms. Sayger explained that this stems from a prior cohort that faced significant personal and mental health barriers. The youth team has already updated its practices and processes to address these issues going forward.

Next steps: Ms. Stager explained that staff is working collaboratively with Eckerd Youth, and the team identified new strategies to add to the statement of work. While this measure likely will not be met by Q4 of PY25-26, the team is confident it will not be a recurring issue in PY26-27.

Ms. Sayger stated that overall, Eckerd exceeds targets on three measures and meeting others. The partnership continues to be successful.

Agenda Item 7 - Youth Connections Performance Report:

Kate Sayger, Program Coordinator, presented the WIOA Youth Connections Performance Report.

Ms. Sayger shared the following performance measures:

- Out of School Youth (OSY) Enrollments - On Track - Goal 45 Participants - YTD 45 OSY Enrollments
- In-School Youth (ISY) Enrollments - On Track - Goal 15 Participants - YTD 14 ISY Enrollments
- Total Number of Enrollments - On Track - Goal 60 Participants - YTD 59 Enrollments
- % ISY Enrollments - On Track - Goal 25% - YTD 23.7% ISY Enrollments
- Work Experience (W/Ex) Internship Placements - YTD 40 Internship Placements
- W/Ex Successful Internship Completions - YTD 29 Successful Internship Completions
- W/Ex Internship Completion Percentage - YTD 72.5% Internship Completion Percentage
- W/Ex Expenditures - On Track - Goal \$187,500.00 - YTD \$214,720.55

Ms. Sayger expressed gratitude for the outstanding teamwork and partnerships that made success possible.



Agenda Item 8 - Youth Connections Success Story:

Angie Strickland, Program Manager, shared the success story of Stephen Henry as an example of the partner support system working well.

Stephen grew up in a rough neighborhood in Fort Pierce but excelled in school and athletics, earning a full-ride scholarship to college. Tragedy struck when he was caught in the crossfire of a shooting (not involved himself) alongside his brother, leaving him a quadriplegic. He lost his football scholarship and struggled with how to move forward with his life.

A mentor from Kai Yunga brought him into the Eckerd Youth program. He was paired with career coach Melanie Tarnoff, one of the program's lead coaches, who worked with him to rebuild his confidence and outlook.

Once ready, Stephen was placed in an internship at the Manatee Center, starting as a greeter. He excelled at sales and was moved into a digital marketing role, managing the website, social media, and marketing projects and thrived. The Center wanted to hire him afterward but lacked funding, so CareerSource recruiters stepped in to help him find work.

Stephen landed a full-time internet sales job at Hyundai, performed well, but was later let go due to an AI-driven restructuring. Recruiters helped him again, and he secured a full-time dispatcher position at a towing company, where he's currently doing well.

Currently, Stephen is enrolled at IRSC studying accounting and recently got his driver's license.

His success reflects how the full network of partner services worked together:

- Kai Yunga - initial mentorship
- GoPro Rehab - helped with his license and wheelchair needs
- ART - transportation support once employed
- Coalition for Independent Living - housing assistance

Ms. Strickland emphasized that Stephens' case shows why it is critical for staff to know and use all available resources. She called this case a rare chance to see a client's full journey, from crisis to stability, thanks to coordinated partner support.

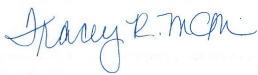
Ms. Strickland noted she will now start attending the one-stop partner meetings to build better familiarity with these resources, alongside the COSA meetings, where staff learn about other agencies.

Agenda Item 9 - Adjournment:

Having no other business, the Youth Council meeting was adjourned at 8:33 AM.

BOARD STAFF CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that these minutes reflect the proceedings by the Youth Council of CareerSource Research Coast, which have been reviewed by the Board of Directors, and approved or approved with modifications, which have been incorporated herein.



Digitally signed by Tracey
McMorris
Date: 2026.10.01 08:44:03
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Board Staff
Tracey McMorris

10/1/2026

Date

