

Youth Task Force
Subcommittee of the GVPCCC
Meeting Minutes November 19, 2008

Present:

Kathy Johnson	Ann-Marie Long	Denise Green
Charlie French	Dottie Scarborough	Fred Watson
Maria Perkins	Cheryl Turner	Robert Bagley
DeCarlo Woodhouse	Sherrina Scott	

The BEST for Youth Task Force is a coalition of professionals in the Greater Hampton Roads region dedicated to promoting:

- *The principles of youth development, and*
- *Capacity building for youth work professionals.*

- Announcements:

- Kids PriorityOne is sponsoring a fundraiser giving away a \$500 gas card and \$250 Walmart shopping. Tickets are \$5.00. Contact Brenda Garrett.
- Remember to attend the December 2nd “Eat, Meet and Learn” presentation on tips for fundraising. Email was sent to all YTF members.
- Kathy will make sure YTF receives email announcements for all Chamber of Commerce events.

- Business:

- We were invited to attend Peninsula Council on Workforce Development/Education and Training Committee meetings. They focus on emerging workforce development needs. The committee needs members representing non-profit organizations and the military services. The Education and Training Committee meets monthly on the third Tuesday and they rotate meeting locations. Kathy will add us to their email list.
- The Youth Career Café is sponsoring a Career Expo at the Hampton Convention Center in February 2009. The topic is career awareness for all 11th and 12th grade students throughout the Greater Peninsula region, from Hampton to Gloucester. The Youth Career Café is soliciting vendors for this Expo.
- Regarding youth employability, Virginia Beach schools have developed a workforce readiness curriculum designed to address 13 skill sets. Students receive a certificate of workforce readiness that is recognized by employers on the Southside. The certification costs \$40 per student.
- If non-profit, youth-serving organizations on the Peninsula can assess and document achievement of these 13 skill sets by our youth, the Education and Training Committee will certify these students for employer’s considerations. We discussed developing an assessment tool similar to the one used on the Southside. This topic needs more discussion and we need more information. Kathy will invite Education and Training Committee members to attend our December meeting.
- Charlie French says over 500 people attended the statewide Drop-out Prevention Summit on October 28th. Conference attendees summarized that a lack of caring relationships contribute to students dropping out of school. Many students do not have a personal, caring relationship with any adults in their school setting. They don’t

have a sense of value or belonging. In spite of drop-out rates, statistics reveal that more students actually graduate than those who don't. Graduation rates appear low because only those who graduate on time are counted. Generally, graduation data do not include GED students or those who graduate later than their expected date.

- Charlie will share the overall conference summary when it is mailed to conference attendees. There is no necessary follow-up for YTF.
- **Next meeting:** December 17th Pot Luck. Bring a breakfast dish to share.

