



Virtual Meeting of the Pima County Workforce Investment Board (“WIB”) Youth Council

**Tuesday, March 9, 2021
3:30 to 5 p.m.**

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Meeting Summary

Members Present

Dr. Vaughn E. Croft, Chair	Jim Zarling
Robert M. Ramirez	Maria Mercado
Karen King	Andrew Bevington
Deborah Dixon	Mike Rohrbach
Gina Pleas	Daphanie Conner

Members Absent

Deborah A. Dixon	Ryan Sermon
Liz Gulick	Byron Christopher
Gina Pleas	Eddie Valdez
Edward Dummitt	Helena Martinez
Johanna Duffek	Monica Amaya

Guests Present

Anna M. Cunes	Marcelino Flores
Lisa Wood-Hromidko	Jansen Azarias
John Farrell	Cassie Lundin
Georgina Valencia	Maria Suarez

- I. Called to Order:** Dr. Vaughn E. Croft, Chair, 3:32 p.m. and Anna entered in the Chat: Good afternoon and thank you all for being here! Please be sure to enter your first and last name in the Chat feature along with your Organization Name.
- II. Welcome and Introductions:** Attendees took turns introducing themselves and provided some updates.
- III. Action Item:** To approve the 02/09/2021 WIB Youth Council Meeting Minutes. Karen King motioned to approve; Andrew Bevington seconded the motion; and all were in favor.
- IV. REACH, TRANSFORM and ELEVATE:** Jansen Azarias-Suzumoto, CEO/President and Co-Founder, Higher Ground, shared information about the Higher Ground a Resource Center that is located at Wakefield Middle School, 101 W. 44th Street:

Our mission is to empower one life at a time to REACH, TRANSFORM and ELEVATE the community through love and building character.

For us, Higher Ground is more than just a place, but rather, it’s a culture-infusing catalyst that aims create system-wide change, building up our high-need communities - one child and family at a time - and creating collaborative networks of support that ultimately uplift our entire city.

Our vision is to inspire youth and families to be part of lasting community contribution. We want to create the momentum for lasting sustainable change in the way we develop our children and youth to redefine success as community contribution, where schools and youth organizations become places where an individual transformation leads to stronger collective impact in their own communities.

Notes from the Chat:

[4:28 PM] Jansen Azarias - Higher Ground (Guest): how do we get involved and become part of this group?

Anna entered in Chat: Anyone interested may complete a WIB "Request for Appointment to the WIB Youth Council" application. There's an appointment process. I can email info to you.

- V. ARIZONA@WORK Pima County One-Stop Youth Employment Center Staff Report:** Daphanie Conner, Youth Services Program Manager, Pima County One-Stop Youth Employment Center, reported on the Title I-B Performance Measures Report for 07/01/2020 to 12/31/2020 and data is dated for 02/19/2021.

Selection of Youth Direct Service Providers - Consistent with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act ("WIOA") section 123, the Pima County WIB must identify eligible providers of youth workforce investment activities in the local area by awarding grants or contracts on a competitive basis, based on the recommendations of the Pima County WIB Youth Council, and may terminate for cause the eligibility of such providers.

Procurement processes must ensure no entity or individual that has any role in the issuance of a solicitation may compete or submit a proposal under the procurement action including the development of requirements, drafting of the Request for Proposal ("RFP") package, of Invitation for Bid ("IFB"), evaluation of proposals/bids, and identification of best entity.

- VI. Action Item:** The Pima County Workforce Investment Board Youth Council approves and recommends for the appropriate Pima County staff (Economic Development Department, Community & Workforce Development Department, Pima County Procurement Department, Grants Management and Innovation Department) to move forward with the most appropriate, open, and competitive solicitation process for the WIB and Pima County to identify eligible providers of youth workforce investment activities needed for the Local Workforce Development Area. The awarding of grants or contracts, or entering into appropriate subcontract agreements, will be determined by the solicitation process (Request for Proposal, Invitation for Bid, Solicitation for Proposals), based on the scoring/recommendations of the Evaluation Panel, Pima County, and Pima County WIB Youth Council, who may terminate for cause the eligibility of such providers. Mike Rohrbach motioned to approve; Gina Pleas seconded the motion; and all were in favor.

Dr. Vaughn E. Croft announced that March 26, 2021 to June 25, 2021 are the dates for the Southern Arizona Junior Achievement ("JA") **JA Inspire** - virtual career development program for Grades 6 to 12, and the Tucson Indian Center 31st Anniversary "Diversity Career Fair" – virtual, for active minority job seekers of all ages.

- VII. Next Meeting:** April 13, 2021, 3:30 p.m., virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting

- VIII. Adjourned:** 4:49 p.m.