



MEETING NOTES

Young Adult Initiatives Committee (YAIC) Meeting
1:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 13, 2024
Location: Hybrid/ZOOM

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** *The event started with a welcome from YAIC Co-Chairs at 1:05 p.m.*

2. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Denilda Varela–YAIC Co-Chair, Lorcen Bellevue–YAIC Co-Chair

- Mary Waldron – Chair of MassHireGBWB YAIC & Executive Director of the Old Colony Planning Council
- Robert M. Revil – MassHireGBWB Board member & member of the IBEW Local Union 223 JATC
- Guest: Sheila Milton, Founder & CEO, HENRICUS Healthcare Services LLC Staffing Agency & Training Center
- Guest: Isaiah Thelwell, Board Member with Greater Brockton Young Professionals & Founder Thelwell Group LLC
- Bri Nichols – Resilient Rose Respite
- Jaclyn Malloy – Brockton Housing Authority
- Ellie Cooper – Bridgewater State University
- Terry Finnegan – Brockton Public Schools
- Solange Alves, Brockton Public Schools
- Amber Polisher – JobCorps-Grafton MA
- Lori-Ann DeResdendes, Guidance – Brockton Public Schools
- Courtney Logan – Old Colony YMCA, Safe Corners
- George A. Brickhouse, Jr. – DARE TO BE GREAT
- Cassandra Brockton – Father Bills/MainSpring
- Adrianna Fredo – JobCorps-Grafton MA
- Paula Fontes – New Heights Charter School
- Allysa Montrond – Mayor’s Office, Constituent Liaison
- Jazmine Bradshaw, Director of Social Services, Mayor’s Office
- Shika – My Life My Choice out of Boston

Staff: Michael Joseph, David Vincent, David Edwards, Tyra Fernandes, Kelly Lopes, and Rachel Cherry-Adams

3. **WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS** – by Co-chairs, *Ms. Denilda Varela & Mr. Lorcen Bellevue*

- Welcome everyone – Members, Guest, and Students
- Introductions around the table & Icebreaker (“What is your favorite aspect of the Fall season?”)
 - Name and your organization.

4. **MINUTES: Review of Prior Meeting Notes from previous meeting(s)**

The Meeting Notes from September 11, 2024, were approved.

5. **Special Guest Speakers:**

- ➔ **Sheila Milton**, Founder and CEO of **HENRICUS Healthcare Services LLC Staffing Agency & Training Center**
Sheila founded HENRICUS in honor of her father, Henry, whose legacy of care and resilience continues to inspire their mission. HENRICUS is dedicated to empowering underserved communities, focusing on supporting Hispanic, Haitian, Portuguese, Cape Verdean, and Brazilian populations. They specialize in providing **language, work, and life skills training**, with an emphasis on **English as a second language**, and offer essential resources that foster independence and cultural connections.

- ➔ **Isaiah Thelwell**, **Board Member with Greater Brockton Young Professionals & Founder of Thelwell Group LLC**
Isaiah is passionate about urban development and community growth. He started his career in real estate at just 18 years old and has since been working for the City of Brockton’s Department of Planning & Economic Development. Now, at 21, Isaiah has founded Thelwell Group LLC, focusing on real estate developments that bring real value to urban neighborhoods and communities in Greater Boston. He will share his journey and vision for building stronger communities. [Greater Brockton Young Professionals \(@greaterbrocktonyp\)](#) • [Instagram photos and videos](#)

6. **MassHire Greater Brockton Youth Program Updates**

- Two events coming up for next week: A resource fair for young people and employment for them as well.
 - ➔ Network with other youth.
 - ➔ Civic engagement
 - ✚ **Event 1: Rep Your Org – Youth Resource Fair**
 - 20 organizations will be represented.
 - ✚ Date: Wednesday, November 20th
 - ✚ Time: 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM
 - ✚ Location: Brockton High School, Red Building, 470 Forest Ave, Brockton
 - ✚ Audience: Youth looking for local resources and supportive services
 - ✚ Purpose: Highlight your organization and the resources you offer to support youth development and
 - community engagement.
 - ✚ **Event 2: Young Adults Job Fair**
 - 18 employers will be represented.
 - ✚ Date: Thursday, November 21st
 - ✚ Time: 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM
 - ✚ Location: Brockton Public Main Library
- Mr. David Edwards – Connecting Activities Coordinator
 - Great Kick-off/1st STEM Exploration Event, partnering with Bridgewater State University (BSU)
 - Roughly One hundred (100) students in attendance
 - With Lincoln Laboratories, and BSU Cybersecurity, etc.
 - First time in having a Fall and Spring Session – to expand reach to students.
 - Next one STEM March 2025 and our CA Career Day Event.
 - December 2024
 - Winter Session, December 2024/ Exploring for Entrepreneurship Competition- “The Pitch” (up to 19-year-olds). more information to come.

7. **Partner Program Update** (Share info you are working on currently)

- *Bob Revil IBEW Taunton/*
 - ➔ How to apply for position in electrical trade – Event open to 17-year-olds and older, November 21, 2024, 5:00-8:00 PM; flyer will be sent out.

8. **CLOSING REMARKS**

- MassHireGBWB YAIC membership Roster revisited from 2023.
 - ➔ Follow-up
 - ➔ Discuss at another upcoming meeting.
 - Member Meeting questions: The answers will be analyzed at the next YAIC meeting.
 - 1) Who else should be present at these meetings (individuals/organizations)?
 - 2) How can we attract more young people to attend these meetings?
 - 3) What are your organization’s top priorities for FY2025, and how can our members help you achieve these goals?
 - 4) Who can we invite as future guest speakers to our meetings?
9. **ADJOURNMENT** – No business conducted; the meeting adjourned at 2:01 PM

NEXT MEETING
Time: January 8, 2025