

MEETING NOTES
Young Adult Initiatives Committee (YAIC) Meeting
1:00 p.m. Wednesday, September 11, 2024
Location: Massasoit Community College/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
 - Bri Nichols – Resilient Rose Respite
 - Jaclyn Malloy – Brockton Housing Authority
 - Ellie Cooper – Bridgewater State University
 - Dr. Carine Sauvignon, Massasoit Community College & MassHireGBWB Board member
 - 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

Staff: Lorraine Albert, Michael Joseph, Shaleah Gilmer, David Vincent, David Edwards, Jayden Shell, Tyra Fernandes, Vanessa Labossiere, 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 May 8, 2024, were approved.
5. **Special Guest Speaker:** Rahsaan D. Hall, President and CEO of the Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts rhall@ulem.org
 - We were excited to have Rahsaan D. Hall, Esq., President and CEO of The Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts as our special guest speaker. Mr. Hall is known for his visionary leadership and influential initiatives, and we enjoyed his presentation.
 - Mr. Rahsaan D. Hall quoted Jessie Owens: “We all have dreams. But in order to make dreams into reality, it takes an awful lot of determination, dedication, self-discipline, and effort.”
6. **MassHire Greater Brockton Youth Program Updates**
 - Youth Services – *Mr. David Vincent*
 - Summer Jobs
 - Successful Summer Jobs Program
 - ➔ 900 applications
 - ➔ Served 130 youth throughout the summer.
 - WAVE [Work. Achieve. Volunteer. Educate.] Program for 14–15-year-olds
 - ➔ Young people visited the BU Cybersecurity (New Partner) and worked in the Frederick Douglas Gardens in Brockton.
 - ➔ Thanks to the job Coaches – Tyra Fernandes, Jayden Shell, Victoria Delannoy, Good job.
 - Showcased orientation/Summer Jobs video.
 - REP Your Org Resource Fair Event 2nd week on November 13, 2024 @ the Brockton High School – A resource fair for young people and employment for them as well.
 - Network with other youth.
 - Civic engagement

- ITA Program – Kelly Lopes KLopes@MassHireGBWB.org
 - Do you know places that are hiring?
 - 18-24 employment- reaching out to employers.
 - Career Counselor, Ms. Hirondina Barbosa, is not present at meeting today.
- Mr. David Edwards – Connecting Activities Coordinator
 - 14 school partners – First meeting September 25, 2024; partnering with BSU again this year.
 - September 21st – work with BSU
 - Fall, Spring STEM exploration events!
 - 1st one October 24th and another one in the spring.
 - To expand school participation.
 - STEM week in MA hosted by partners and Governor's office at Bridgewater State University (BSU).
 - Very exciting – 120 students from 14 schools (240 students' participation).
 - BSU cybersecurity will be one of our vendors along with others.
 - 2 Events – MIT Lincoln Lab – will be with us again this year.

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

- **DARE TO BE GREAT** – Mr. George H. Brickhouse, Jr.
 - ➔ Will conversing with the Mayor of Brockton and Superintendent of Schools soon regarding Youth Cadet 11-12 graders, law enforcement.
 - ➔ ??? Classroom curriculum???
- **JobCorp-Grafton, Amber Polisher**
 - ➔ Program – more info to come.
- **Bridgewater State University** – Ms. Ellie Cooper e1cooper@bridgew.edu
 - ➔ Wrapping up summer youth programming in conjunction with MassHire
- **Father Bills/MainSpring** – **Cassandra Brown / Jacklyn Mallory, Family Sufficiency Coordinator**
 - ➔ October 2nd event – Partnering /English as a Second Language (ESOL) event.
- **Brockton Public Schools (BPS), Solange Alves** solangealves@bpsma.org
 - ➔ Summer – 12 students just finished up Home Health Aide and CNA classes.
 - ✓ Anyone hiring, please let BPS know.
 - ➔ Open for guest speakers
- **Brockton Public Schools (BPS), Terry Finegan** terryfinnegan@bpsma.org /Lori Ann DeResendes (worked with Shanna Gray)
 - ➔ More to come next meeting.
- **Massasoit Community College** – Dr. Carine Savignon csauvigno@massasoit.mass.edu
 - ➔ Tech Rise program starts January 2025
- **Bri Nichols, Resilient Rose Respite** info@resilientrosesrespice.org
 - ➔ Continuing partnership with Brockton Public Schools providing vocational training/classroom curriculum- Professional development for their students.

8. **CLOSING REMARKS**

The MassHireGBWB Executive Director, Mr. Jason Hunter thanked the group for their efforts and programming in strengthening relationships through the summer 2024 and thereafter.

- ➔ Mr. David Vincent, Director of Youth Programs added – Thank you, participants and gave a shout-out to MassHireGBWB Board member, Ms. Mary Waldron for her assistance in making the young people Ms. Varela and Mr. Bellevue being appointed as co-chairs of this MassHireGBWB YAIC – This is a prodigious event for our organization that will be remembered years from now.
- ➔ Congratulations to Mary for the birth of her grandson!

9. **ADJOURNMENT** – No business conducted; the meeting adjourned at 2:01 PM

NEXT MEETING
Time: November 13, 2024