

“SHARED YOUTH VISION COLLABORATIVE: EXPANDING PARTNERS IN 2006” CONFERENCE CALL NOTES

**MAY 31, 2006
2:00 PM to 3:30 PM EDT**

Federal Partner Representatives

- Corporation for National Community Service: Barbara Wilson
- Social Security Administration: Mary Kelley
- U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services: Michael Slade and Donna Wiesner
- U.S. Department of Education, the Office of Vocational Adult Education, Division of Adult Education and Literacy: Dan Miller
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Children’s Bureau: Pamela Johnson
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Public Housing Investment, Public and Indian Housing: Ron Ashford
- U.S. Department of Labor, Division of Youth Services: Gregg Weltz
- U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Disability Employment Policy: Jennifer Kemp
- U.S. Department of Labor, Indian and Native American Programs: Craig Lewis
- U.S. Department of Labor, Region 6: Ingrid Nyberg

Participants

- Close to 300 participants on the call representing 44 states, the District of Columbia, and 12 tribal governments in Alaska Native communities.

Purpose of the Conference Call

- Engage state teams and provide an update regarding exciting information about upcoming initiatives: “The 2006 Advanced Level Forums” scheduled for this fall and “The Pilot Project” that is scheduled to commence in early 2007.

Objectives of the Conference Call

- Review progress made at the federal level over the last 16 months;
- Discuss the upcoming initiatives; and
- Provide clarification regarding questions, concerns, or issues to assist state teams in their collaborative efforts and to provide further updates.

Commitment from the Federal Partners

The following agencies provided comments on their commitment to the Shared Youth Vision Collaborative efforts:

- Corporation for National Community Service
- United States Social Security Administration
- U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services
- U.S. Department of Education, Office of Vocational Adult Education, Division of Adult Education and Literacy
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children Bureau
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Public Housing Investment, Public and Indian Housing
- U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)
- U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Workforce Investment, Division of Adult Services (DAS), Indian and Native American Programs (INAP)
- U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Workforce Investment, Division of Youth Programs (DYS)
- U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP)

State Updates from School & Main Institute, Inc. (Andy Beck and Al McMahill)

What are we currently hearing from the States?

- Virtually every state we've talked to is very interested in attending the advanced forums this fall and eventually becoming one of the pilots.
- Collaboration at the state level is not new; many states are building on historical efforts or taking the opportunity to integrate the New Youth Vision's principles and ideas into their current work or proposed future activities.
- There has been a great deal of Youth Vision work done which have focused on the neediest priority population groups, particularly those that some of the states framed as being in transition -- foster care youth and juvenile offenders in particular.
- States are very anxious to receive technical support facilitation.
- States seeking information about the New Youth Vision expect that its implementation be clearly stated, easy to understand, and doesn't change over time (other than change due to natural evolution).

What seems to be working at the state level?

- Team development and expansion. States are finding that as they reach out to others interested in the New Youth Vision, the ideas inherent in this initiative, and the collaboration to serve the neediest kids, these parties are really interested and ready to sign-on to be part of this collaborative effort to serve their neediest youth populations.
- Creation of formal written agreements such as Memorandums of Agreement/Understanding (new and historical).
- New communication patterns and processes are being invented amongst the partners including Web-based examples.
- States have found our youth funding resource mapping matrix an extremely valuable resource, not only regarding federal funds allocated to states, but also in their own state resource mapping efforts.
- The work states are doing around collaboration and developing partnerships are unfolding over time; the more partners meet, the more they come to the table to talk about these ideas, creating greater collaborative state initiatives.

What challenges and opportunities do the states face?

- Collaboration and support start at the top and needs to be modeled by Federal Partners.
- Team membership at the state level is shifting over time as new people are replacing those staff that has left over the last year and a half. Interagency collaboration has been difficult to maintain over time if your partnership is only one person deep.
- Consistent and timely communications are critical; on-going communication is really important.
- People in this field are being encouraged to experiment with new approaches to serve some of the youth that live in the toughest spots in our communities, and yet at the same time, they're being told that it is expected that specific performance outcomes be achieved for these difficult-to-serve youth populations.
- The issue of eligibility for services and documentation: It was noted by one state, for example, that offenders returning to their communities are not eligible for food stamps and housing assistance. These are two critical needs for this population that need to be met.

Time Line of Activities

- ***May 24 - Federal Partners' Advance:*** Federal Partners spent a day, including follow-up work, to get together and provide input in developing products for this initiative.

- **June 20- Dissemination of the application packages for the Advanced Level Forums via Youth Fed for all the teams:** The packet is being sent to the state agency leads with copies to governors and the National Association for American Indians. Federal Partners will be responsible for sending the application out to their state systems.
- **June 26- Advanced Level Forum Conference Call:** Facilitated by Federal Partners to give an overview of the Advanced Level Forums and the selection criteria to the teams.
- **July 11 through 13, Workforce Innovations Conference, Anaheim, CA:** School & Main will be facilitating one of the sessions, July 12 at 10:00 a.m. entitled "Federal Partners Uniting to Serve the Neediest Youths" specifically designed for representatives of the state teams or the Federally recognized tribal governments and Alaska Native entities. School & Main will engage participants in an exercise around developing cross-agency workforce solutions.
- **July 25 - Team Applications Due:** States will have five weeks to complete the applications. Those states selected will be notified in August, 2006.
- **September 20 and 21 & September 27 and 28 - Advanced Level Forums :** Location to be determined.

Describe "Advanced Level Forums"

- All State Teams and Federally Recognized Tribal Governments and Alaska Native teams may participate in the forums. The Federally Recognized Tribal Governments and Alaska Native teams will be allowed to apply as standalone entities or as part of a state team. A total of 16 teams will be selected to attend, eight at each forum, so that states can receive specialized individualized attention.
- If selected, at least one representative from each partner agency must attend, not to exceed 12 members on the team.
- The application must be signed by an authorized representative from each partner agency indicating that their agency will be responsible for the travel of the representative should their team be selected.
- Prior to the application being submitted, all travel must be tentatively cleared so you know you have a representative that will be able to attend.
- At the forums, School & Main will provide advanced technical guidance around topics such as: aligning resources, data analysis, networking with employers, staffing, barriers and

challenges, resource mapping, and the identification of specific outcomes and products or projects based upon state's goals

- Only those teams that have been chosen to participate in the Advanced Level Forums will be able to apply to be a pilot state in the next competition: The Pilot Project. Five to ten state teams will be competitively chosen as pilot teams to receive additional technical assistance. Those teams selected (states and federally recognized tribal governments, and Alaska Natives) will be given additional individualized advanced technical assistance designed to meet the specific needs of the team; access to additional resources which may include funding, and also maximizing flexibility in meeting performance.

Follow-up Activities

- **PRIORITY: Due Friday, June 16:** Reengage your state team; provide an updated list of team members, designating one team member as the lead or point of contact. Please e-mail your revised team list and team lead to youthfed.team@dol.gov. The Federal Partnership will use the information to update our e-mail list and listserve to ensure that every team receives information regarding the Forum activities.
- If you were on the call and did not RSVP using youthfed.team@dol.gov, please send us an e-mail via youthfed.team@dol.gov with your contact information.
- Qs & As and summary notes will be posted on the Web site, www.doleta.gov.ryf and at youthfed.team@dol.gov.
- Please e-mail us at youthfed.team@dol.gov regarding further communications, additional information, etc.

