

Public Meeting to Review the Council’s Proposed Actions and Interim Recommendations to the President

Friday, July 15, 2011

3 p.m. – 4 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time

The Council will meet via phone conference call. The meeting will be open to the public in Listen-Only mode and it will be recorded. To dial in, please call 1-866-525-0652.

The White House Council for Community Solutions was created by President Obama in December 2010 to highlight the work of communities making needle-moving progress on national priorities, to help other communities learn from those successes, and to provide recommendations to the President on how to drive the critical goal of “all citizens, all sectors, working together.” The Council has chosen to focus on community solutions addressing the needs of youth who are disconnected from both education and employment. To this end, the Council has a two-fold vision:

- Every American community will have the knowledge and tools at hand to create successful local “collaboratives” that are designed to catalyze large scale change and address their most pressing community challenges, and
- Every American community understands the urgency, has the tools, and is building the process and capacity to move (their) disconnected youth along critical pathways to education, employment and ongoing civic participation.

Coming out of the inaugural meeting in February 2011, the Council conducted broad stakeholder outreach to inform and shape its recommendations to the President. During that time, the Council engaged more than 250 stakeholders, including leaders of nonprofit youth-serving organizations, businesses, government officials, colleges and universities, philanthropies and young people themselves.

INTERIM RECOMMENDATIONS

Using lessons learned from stakeholders and research, the Council seeks to catalyze community solutions by identifying and providing incentives for collaborative approaches within communities, focusing on those collaborations serving disconnected youth. Moreover, the Council has identified two key levers to which Council members can apply their existing resources to inspire communities to take on this challenge: 1) Empowering youth to become catalysts for change in addressing their own barriers and 2) Engaging the business sector to create multiple pathways to connect youth to training and employment.

The following are draft interim recommendations for consideration by the White House:

1. Honorary Co-Chair, First Lady Michelle Obama, highlights the availability of tools and resources to support community collaboration
2. Host a White House “Youth Opportunity” Summit
3. Issue an “Youth Opportunity Challenge” to engage all American communities
4. Issue a Call to Action for all American employers

The Council is also recommending the White House authorize the following steps be taken to support and bolster the work of the Administration:

1. Identify and disseminate “proof points” for community solutions
2. Develop new and/or ‘bundle’ existing resources to serve disconnected youth
3. Create avenues for communication among communities, youth and the sectors that serve them
4. Highlight ways federal, state and local policies can better support collaborative efforts