



SNIPPET

Promoting Policies to Support Coordinated Services

Youth Council: City of Richmond Youth Council

Element: Comprehensive Approach

Function: Promoting Policies to Sustain Effective Practices, Coordinating Youth Services

Subject: Coordinating Youth Services

The Challenge: The Youth Council members wanted to make sure that they were carrying out their mission in the most effective way possible. In order to do so, they needed a good way to communicate the goals and purpose of WIA and of their programs to their service providers.

The Practice and Evidence: After attending the YCi “Road Trip” Institute in January, 2002, the City of Richmond Youth Council decided to develop a policy statement that would center on coordinating youth services and give new direction and purpose to the work of the Council within the larger community.

The policy statement for coordinating youth services reads “The City of Richmond’s Workforce Investment Board’s Youth Council is committed to improving and promoting collaboration of the various youth-serving programs in our community. Our intent is to create a coordinated, universally accessible youth-serving system to assist in acquiring educational, life and employment skills with priority given to Richmond youth.”

Although the policy was developed specifically for services coordination, it more finely tuned the direction of the entire Youth Council. The Council is now driven to have an impact on policy throughout the community for a comprehensive youth serving system.

The Details: The core group that attended the Institute received permission from the Youth Council to become an ad-hoc committee with the purpose of developing the policy statement. The committee presented the completed statement to the full Council, followed by the WIB’s Executive Committee, for full approval. The ad-hoc committee became a subcommittee of the Council to focus on the issues involved in coordinating services and to take them back to the larger Council body.

Where to Go for More Information

City of Richmond Youth Council

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