**Opportunity Youth Workgroup meeting 5/3/24**

Antonio introduced the first topic of discussion surrounding Dena Giacometti’s Trauma Informed presentation during the April meeting. The goal to discuss Mental Health topics to continue discussing Dena’s initial presentation and follow the workplan on ongoing Mental Health concerns among adolescents.

Elizabeth opened the floor to the group to discuss varying topics within Mental Health and adolescents.

* Kraig spoke on absenteeism among the workplace and wanting to look at a correlation vs causation among younger workers
* Also emphasized this within the educational setting and how the workgroup can address this
* Mental wellness centers and access to these centers throughout the day and evenings alongside reducing the stigma when using them was also presented as a potential conversation moving forward
  + This topic will be research by ICSPS as a potential resource guide topic in the future
* Mental Health topics among 16–24-year-old individuals will be an ongoing conversation among the workgroup in relation to the CPTP resource list

Antonio transitioned the conversation to the Resource list with emphasis on adding transportation resources as we move forward.

* Antonio shared the Illinois Workforce Academy website for demonstration purpose to show an idea of how the resource guide will look once it is approved and uploaded
* Explanation surrounding why ICSPS will be utilizing the Illinois Workforce Academy website was given – utilizing this website will allow autonomy and access to immediate edits when resources are updated or changed
* Participants discussed the design of how the resources will be displayed
  + An agreement was made that the resources will look similarly to how the website is currently laid out
    - There will be a purpose statement – who and what the resource guide is for
    - There will be larger categories along the lefthand side of the site that will direct you to a detailed list of the resources
    - A description of the corresponding category will be present for further clarification
    - Kraig asked for subcategories to be added within the larger categories in order for community agencies to identify their roles
  + Any further comments or thoughts on the website design will be addressed by Antonio
* The following link can be added for MH
  + <https://www.cambridge.org/core/services/aop-cambridge-core/content/view/AC94C89CBBD4E99C6FBAF8F088A932EB/S092493382000070Xa.pdf/associations_between_childhood_trauma_and_work_functioning_in_adult_workers_with_and_without_depressive_and_anxiety_disorders.pdf>
  + Additional MH resources will be added with links indicating who individuals, especially youth, can go to for services
  + Prioritize no cost and/or low cost services and community referral systems
    - IRIS as an example of a referral service among community resources and educational setting within Central IL
* The April Resource guide template was brought up for discussion and shared with participants in order to identify jargon and discuss renaming of areas that may not be as inclusive as they should be
  + Kraig identified changing Opportunity Youth to Out of School Youth
  + Antonio asked that participants identify local transportation concerns and resources and to send that information to him moving forward
  + “Targeted Population” will be renamed by identifying specifics under the umbrella
    - No specific name identified at the time of meeting
    - *Illinois Career Pathways Resource Guide* or *Illinois Career Pathways Resource Library*
    - Erik from Homework Hangout in Decatur IL suggested Illinois Career Pathways Map
      * To make the website a more visual list rather than an uploaded list of resources
  + Hopeful mockup of the resource guide will be available at the May quarterly meeting
    - Antonio will meet with ICSPS’s Kiersten, Assistant Director of Communication, to identify and determine logistics of edits to the website and timeframe of getting a mockup by May 23.
    - Tentatively, there will be a list format
  + Tentative name - *Illinois Career Pathways Resource Guide*
* Antonio addressed the expansion plan for the Resource Guide to be included on additional websites to reach a wider range of individuals
  + Should the link be added to ISBE or ICCB sites similarly to how Apprenticeship marketing has done
    - Antionette would be able to link the guide on her website
    - Erik suggested AJC
    - WIOA partner sites, ISAC and DRS were also suggested as potential expansion sites to link the resource guide
* Looking toward the next meeting:
  + Kraig would like to include additional internal PD to have PACE return or have an UBER Teen representative speak
  + Regional opportunities would like to be added to the next agenda
  + Transportation barriers for youth will be added to the upcoming agenda