

## OYC Subcommittee Notes

11/4/2015

### Implementation/Data

- Include citywide and Connection Center data dashboard on OYC website with indicators (green, red and yellow)
- Build a data culture
- Institute program census
- Thought: merge with Connection Center group?

### Connection Center

#### ***What brought you here?***

- Build connections
- Have a referral resource
- Hub of resources
- Connector to quality programs
- Peer to peer support and connections
- Having a place to go for info about postsecondary, training services

#### ***Where are we now?***

- Flyers/street outreach by YVP
- All across Boston neighborhoods
- Mapping out hot “spots”
- Social media
- Warm handoffs
- Media outreach

#### ***Where do we want to go?***

- 100+ visits/month
- Including website and social media info on flyers
- Leveraging youth networks
- Field trips, presentations, visits
- YouTube videos
- Swag
- Incentives
- Mapping out hot “spots”
- Social media
- Warm handoffs
- Media outreach

#### ***Next steps/action steps***

- Leverage existing networks and youth events
  - Connection Center present via table, flyers, participants
  - Engage media
- Engage “champion” former OY
- Hub and spoke model
- “Pop-up”/ “flash mob” Connection Centers

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11/4/2015

### Community Colleges

#### **Challenges**

- Balancing work and school
- Work with relevancy to training/degree
- Dual enrollment not fully funded by the state
- How to pay for/fund
- Academic readiness for community colleges
- Readiness: financial aid/financial management
  - Application process
- Adult support – 2 generations
- Many partners – sometimes redundancy, territorial

#### **Solutions/opportunities**

- Supports/confidence
- Pipeline to careers/4 yr colleges
- Dual enrollment – high school or CBO's
  - Curriculum alignment, removing need for dev. ed.
- Market opportunities available – services/education
- Certifications, earning while going to school
- How to pay for/fund
- Academic readiness for community colleges
- BHCC coaches meetings, convenings of HS and CBO partners
  - CBO partners collaborate together more. What pathway? Steps that have to happen first?
- Adult support, coaches, advisors for students and families
- Advocate for more resources
- Learn and Earn
- Support groups for students (work readiness)

#### **How to help CBOs/Community College partner**

- Census: who's on campus? What do they do? Who are contacts on campus?
  - Google doc – easily accessible
  - Schedule
  - # of students served
- Meet and greet? Central location?
  - Name tags or something to identify affiliations

### Employer Cultivation

- Pathways → middle skill jobs
- Meet the employer first and find out their needs
- Develop the value prop for hiring OY
- Training programs
- Substantive employer conversations that focus past first impressions
- Now: job fairs initial interview successes

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- Use youth voice-alumni who can say “this was my pathway,” “this is what school did for me,” “this is what I wish I had done differently”

### HSE/Alternative Ed → College

- What does “plus” mean in HSE-plus (mentoring, youth supports)? What are they doing now?
- Starting with data/assessments
- Focus on reading, writing, math skills to avoid remediation
- Connectivity between OYC and traditional youth developmental programs
- Learning how to help students transition to other programs
- Sharing knowledge and best practices
- Workshops and tours from colleges – sitting in on classes
- Dual enrollment – access to college classes to ensure program fit
- Coaching/Intensive social-emotional supports/case management to address potential barriers, identify partners
- Setting expectations/shifting mindset about process and timeline
- Opportunity to participate in external engagement with other youth (e.g. BYSN, YVP)
- Exposure to what’s out there (college, employment opportunities, training programs)
- Counseling/support for identifying and addressing issues/needs (child care, homelessness, abuse, etc.) and supporting mental health needs as a first step
- Adult life skills – financial literacy, FAFSA
- Partnerships with college – e.g., mentorships with college students who have been through similar challenges
- Meeting language needs of diverse populations (bilingual/bicultural)

#### ***Where would we like to be?***

- Short-term job opportunities mixed with training (i.e. PD interspersed with work)
- Expanding “Learn & Earn” programs
- Address and remove stigma on who goes to college (pathways HSE to college) – college can be for everyone
- Better upfront evaluations to quickly assess fit of programs
- Certification/badging programs to demonstrate skill development
- Incentivizing education so students see school as their job (not letting jobs derail education – especially in workforce development context)
- Seeing pathway and offering chances to succeed at intermediate steps
- Open to different programs- expand and embrace other orgs (e.g. alt ed → Year Up)
- Accelerated postsecondary pathways
- Wraparound services available right on campus, including better provision of child care for parenting students (better incentives to access educational programs). E.g., early ed programs
- “School to life success” pipeline change deficit model to model of success (change the narrative)
- Guidebook for youth to access on their own (making resources more accessible)

#### ***What are concrete next steps?***

- Network around particular questions specific to best practices