

Western Virginia Workforce Development Board
Youth Contract Recommendation
Project Discovery KYE/July 1st, 2004 to June 30th, 2005
Total Action Against Poverty This Valley Works

Presented to the WDB for consideration June 11, 2004

Contract Recommendation July 1st, 2004 to June 30th, 2005

I. Scope of Services

TAP hereby agrees to provide the following services to WIA eligible youth in the County of Franklin and the City of Roanoke as detailed in Addendums A through C and summarized herein:

- A. Project Discovery (KYE) Keeping Youth Educated is a post secondary graduation program provided to low-income first-generation students living in the Roanoke Valley and Franklin County aimed at helping students stay in and graduate from school, as well as enroll in post secondary programs after high school graduation. Project Discovery (KYE) program activities include workshops on how to improve study habits, how to set professional, academic, and personal goals, how to choose post secondary studies, how to find financial aid, and what courses to take in junior and senior high school to ensure eligibility for post secondary studies.

The expansion and improvement of Project Discovery into Project Discovery (KYE) provides for tutoring in a classroom setting for targeted at-risk youth in Roanoke City and Franklin County. Students served by Project Discovery (KYE) will be those who are at-risk of dropping out of school due to low grade point averages and low self-esteem. This project will be a partnership between TAP Project Discovery, Support of Eliminate Poverty (STEP), Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority (RRHA), and TAP Community & Outreach (SOAR & UMPH). TAP will serve residents of Lansdowne and the Village at Lincoln. STEP will provide space, tutoring, transportation, counseling, and case management for Franklin County students. RRHA will provide space for workshops at Lansdowne and the Village in Lincoln. TAP Community and Outreach (SOAR & UMPH) will provide counseling, and case management referrals. TAP will be responsible for eligibility determination and data entry into WIA MIS system. The goals and objectives of this project are:

- 40 students will participate in the program (20 from Roanoke Valley and 20 in Franklin County).
 - 4 cultural enrichment activities will be completed. These activities will consist of visits to locations such as the Smithsonian Institute and the Martin Luther King Memorial.
 - 30 Middle and High School students will be remedially tutored in weak subject areas.
 - 40 students will engage in Community Improvement Projects. Students will gain leadership skills by determining the types of community projects they will be involved in.
 - 85% of enrolled students will not drop out of school.
- B. **TAP** further agrees to provide the following mandated WIA services to eligible youth in the County of Franklin and the City of Roanoke:
1. Tutoring, study skills training, and instruction, leading to completion of secondary school, including dropout prevention strategies;
 2. Alternative secondary school services, as appropriate;

3. Summer employment opportunities that are directly linked to academic and occupational learning;
4. As appropriate, paid and unpaid work experiences, including internships and job shadowing;
5. Occupational skill training, as appropriate;
6. Leadership development opportunities, which may include community service and peer-centered activities encouraging responsibility and other positive social behaviors during non-school hours, as appropriate;
7. Supportive services;
8. Adult mentoring for the period of participation and a subsequent period, for a total of not less than 12 months;
9. Follow-up services for not less than 12 months after the completion of participation, as appropriate; and
10. Comprehensive guidance and counseling, which may include drug and alcohol abuse counseling and referral, as appropriate.

C. Strategies to improve marketing and community outreach efforts

1. Network with all youth programs in Roanoke City and Franklin County.
2. Flyers and local newspaper ads will be used in Franklin County.
3. Continue established relationships with local school systems, Department of Social Services, the West End Center, Roanoke City Office on Youth, Gift of Hope, and the Maternal Infant and Educational Center.

D. Strategies to enhance efforts in addressing employer needs

1. Assess Youth for employment interests to assist them in identifying the applicable career track.
2. Train Youth in job readiness skills
3. Place youth in summer jobs with employers

Current:

PY03 Program funding: \$86,307

Committed to serve: 60 participants

Status: 32 participants enrolled

Average cost per participant: \$1,696

PY03 Accomplishments;

- All services described in PY03 contract are currently being carried out.
- Partnerships have been established with Gift of Hope and West End Center.
- Program monitoring found that Project Discovery KYE is being operated in accordance with required regulations, policies, and procedures.

Recommended:

PY04 Program funding: \$80,977

Committed to serve: 40 participants

Additional commitments:

- Before July 1, 2004, meet with each Chief Local Elected Official to specifically outline TAP This Valley Works Plan of Operation for the municipalities being served.
- Monthly reporting to WDB Staff tied directly to contract requirements and VWN system, to include reporting of PY03 Carryover Expenditures
- Bi-Monthly Reporting to WDB at Board Meetings