

2013-14 ND COMMUNITIES TOPICAL CALL SERIES

CALL RECAP

PREPARING YOUTH FOR THE WORLD OF WORK: CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2014

- [CALL RECORDING](#) (ADOBE CONNECT)
- [CALL SLIDES](#) (PPTX)

While the first priority of programs for youth who are neglected or delinquent is to help them achieve academic outcomes similar to their non-N or D peers, this series of calls will explore the complimentary goal of preparing youth for meaningful employment. The [“Preparing Youth for the World of Work” topical call series](#) explores connecting N or D youth to two-year colleges, trade schools, and other vocational and career/technical (CTE) opportunities. The series addresses the national landscape of career/technical training, ways to enhance traditional CTE programs, and ways to connect youth to meaningful employment or further training after system involvement. This document provides a summary of the second topical call in this series.

OVERVIEW

This call focused on successful career technical education programs and their components. Deena Queer shared information about two certification programs at Community, Counseling, and Correctional Services, Inc. in Montana, Zane Shelfer discussed current career technical education programming in Georgia's Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education, Frank Martin talked about a variety of programs offered in Oregon Youth Authority. Through a rich discussion with participants and presenters themes of successful programming were highlighted.

TOOLS, TIPS AND TAKE-AWAYS

Certificate Trainings at Community, Counseling, and Correctional Services, Inc.

- Provides a 40-hour wild fire fighting service training certification program. The program was modified to be safely administered within the facility, mainly around tool use. Students take the certification test when they leave the facility.
- After doing an economic evaluation of viable jobs in the area for their population, the facility recently added construction flagger training, in cooperation with the Montana Department of Transportation. This program allows students to obtain an entry level job that has potential for growth through on the job training/apprenticeship.

- The population in this facility is mainly Native American; in order to have successful programming the facility has made a lot of efforts to build quality relationships with the tribal entities in the area. They have hosted cultural events on site, invited the agencies to visit the building without notice, and consulted regularly with their partners in needs sensing.

Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education in Georgia's Youth Detention Centers

- Through partnerships with four community colleges in the area the youth detention centers are able to offer them the following career, technical programs:
 - Microsoft Word Application Specialist TCC
 - Certified Construction Worker TCC
 - Basic Automotive Maintenance and Detailing TCC
 - Automotive Body Assistant
 - Nursery/Greenhouse Technician
 - Shampoo Assistant TCC
 - Licensed Cosmetology TCC
- Instructors within these programs are employed by the technical colleges, receive their salary through the Department of Juvenile Justice, and work full-time on the youth detention center campuses. High school students within these programs are dually enrolled and receiving high school course credits.
- Through Workforce Investment Act (WIA), the youth detention center provides GED training and transition, Reentry Skills Preparation & Educational Career Training, and ServSafe food handler certification. Since these programs are provided through WIA the students are registered with them and are able to receive vocational assistance at any WIA center after exit.

Oregon Youth Authority

- The goal of Oregon Youth Authority is that no matter the field of study or vocational interests a youth in OYA has, it is important to begin preparation for college and career studies while under OYA supervision. To be successful OYA links together all of the work done with the youth (i.e. education, vocational experience, treatment, and transition into the community).
- Successful concepts at OYA include graduated level system, staff development so staff can act as informal guidance career counselors, and segregation of older youth.
- While OYA provides a variety of career, technical training here is a sample of their programming:
 - Master Gardening—one small facility partnered with master gardeners in the community so the youth could have a formal class where they obtained master gardening certificate and provided food to local food share people, generating more community support.
 - Computer Refurbishing—staff and volunteers worked with youth to refurbish state surplus computers, use Lynx programs to install college programs donated from local community colleges, and distribute computers to other facilities in the state.
 - Online Courses—OYA has partnerships with community business. Some youth are studying broadcasting and working at local radio station while in the facility. Other

youth interested in construction are taking courses online learning basics of being a contractor and are connected to local construction work.

- Career Information System—this online system provides career exploration tools and planning components that are incorporated into the delivery systems, provides information about colleges, and gives the youth a reality check with information about cost of living/salary needs in different communities. This system is made available to youth, parole officers, and family after exit. System to assist the youth in transition.
- Success at smaller OYA facilities has come from focusing on older youth with vocational needs, building partnerships with colleges and businesses in the community, and targeting programs that would provide credentials, college credit, and/or work experience.

Common Themes among these Successful Career Technical Education

- Meaningful partnerships with colleges and community entities
- Significant community involvement, specifically bringing community members into the facilities
- Training that is geared towards career options that are viable in their communities
- Investment of staff at the facility by involving all staff in planning of programming
- Adaptations to the programs are made to make them safe within the facility (i.e. utilizing shadow boards, inventorying all potentially dangerous tools, and limiting access to dangerous tools in trainings)
- Youth focused programming that is designed as response to career interests expressed by youth through surveys or one-on-one coaching sessions
- A focus on transition by training youth in necessary soft skills, providing industry certifications, linking students to colleges or organizations outside the facility

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [ServSafe Food Safety Training Program](#) provides food safety training, exams and educational materials to foodservice managers. Students can earn the ServSafe Food Protection Manager Certification, accredited by the American National Standards Institute-Conference for Food Protection.
- [Workforce Investment Act](#) help Americans access the tools they need to manage their careers through information and high quality services, and to help U.S. companies find skilled workers