



June 15, 2022

Dear Chair Koepp-Baker, Vice Chair Smith, and work2future board members,

I'm writing on behalf of Excite Credit Union, an organization that supports a number of youth and workforce programs in Santa Clara County. We are thrilled to see agenda item IV-E, Community Youth Forum Recommendations, before the board. I cannot encourage you strongly enough to approve this recommendation.

It is wonderful to see our local workforce development board considering a recommendation to stand up a Youth Committee. A committee with this dedicated focus will ensure that our local youth workforce ecosystem receives the attention needed to ensure it is robust and effective. Further, seeing that these recommendations include a call for young people with lived experience in the WIOA priority populations to be full members of the committee, as well as a recommendation to provide the training needed to ensure their full participation is quite incredible.

Young people of color were hurt worst by the Great Recession and again by the COVID recession. A Youth Committee creates the opportunity to bring together the broad array of stakeholders that make up our local youth-serving ecosystem in a coordinated and coherent manner with a clear focus to work collaboratively to strengthen this critically important workforce development system to make economic mobility a possibility for all young people in Santa Clara County.

I applaud the work that led to this recommendation and hope the board moves to adopt these recommendations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John J. Hogan", with a horizontal line extending from the end.

John J. Hogan
Vice President, Community Relations
jhogan@excitecu.org

Letters from the Public

Mayra Mejia <mmejia@sjcccs.org>

Wed 6/15/2022 10:12 AM

To: Thoo, Lawrence <Lawrence.Thoo@sanjoseca.gov>

You don't often get email from mmejia@sjcccs.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

[External Email]

Greetings Thoo Lawrence,

I'm reaching out today for agenda item IV. E: Community Youth Forum Recommendations that require action.

During a time when many voices go unheard, it's important to support and hear our young voices and support initiatives and actions that create a positive impact on their future. This creates the vehicle to move forward with a comprehensive youth workforce system in our community and to do so with the perspectives of young adults with lived experience embedded in our systems. We need to move the needle to have their embedded experiences be positive and collaborative. This way, we prevent more young adults from going through our systems of punishment, inequality, and lack of access to educational and vocational resources for economic development.

This work has been no small feat, it takes organizations collaborating, providing the platform for leadership development of our young adults with appropriate compensation, and valuing their voice to implement initiatives and programs that can positively impact their lives and that of their families.

Thank you for your time and remember that what we invest today will make a large wave of positive change for our community; you just need to invest in it.

In SJCC+CS Community Spirit,

Mayra Mejia

Director, CFET Youth Programs and Support Services

**SAN JOSE
CONSERVATION
CORPS+CHARTER
SCHOOL**

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The Honorable work2future Board Members
work2future Business and Administrative Services Center
5730 Chambertin Drive, San Jose

RE: Support for item IV-E, Community Youth Forum Recommendations

Dear Chair Koepp-Baker, Vice Chair Smith, and work2future board members,

I am thrilled to see agenda item IV-E, Community Youth Forum Recommendations, before the board. On behalf of the San Jose Conservation Corps and Charter School, I cannot encourage you strongly enough to approve this recommendation.

It is wonderful to see our local workforce development board considering a recommendation to establish a Youth Committee. A committee with this dedicated focus will ensure that our local youth workforce ecosystem receives the attention needed to ensure it is robust and effective. Further, seeing that these recommendations include a call for young people with lived experience in the WIOA priority populations to be full members of the committee, as well as a recommendation to provide the training needed to ensure their full participation is quite incredible.

Young people of color were hurt worst by the economic impacts of the COVID pandemic. A Youth Committee creates the opportunity to bring together the broad array of stakeholders that make up our local youth-serving ecosystem in a coordinated and coherent manner with a clear focus to work collaboratively to strengthen this critically important workforce development system to make economic mobility a possibility for all young people in Santa Clara County.

I applaud the work that led to this recommendation and hope the board moves to adopt these recommendations.

Sincerely,



Dorsey Moore

Executive Director

San Jose Conservation Corps + Charter School

408-439-6653 (cell)

dmoore@sjcccs.org



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Support Item E -- June 16, 2022 WDB meeting

Dana Bunnett <dbunnett@kidsincommon.org>

Wed 6/15/2022 1:49 PM

To: Thoo, Lawrence <Lawrence.Thoo@sanjoseca.gov>

[External Email]

Dear Work2Future Workforce Development Board:

Kids in Common supports the three recommendations in Item E – Community Youth Forum Recommendations:

1. The Board should re-establish an ongoing Youth Committee to help guide the delivery of WIOA youth services and to act as a community convenor of youth-supporting organizations throughout our community as outlined in current WIOA regulations.
2. The Youth Committee should include young people with the expertise of lived experience as full participating committee members.
3. The Board and its staff should provide the support and education that the engaged young leaders require to become fully participating, proficient members of the Youth Committee.

It is always important to remember the expression “nothing about us without us.” These programs, funded by our tax dollars, are critical to changing the trajectory of young people’s lives. And they are much more likely to be successful if the young people these programs are designed for, people with lived experience, are involved in their design and delivery.

Onward!



Dana Bunnett | Executive Director | we/she/hers

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Every child safe, healthy, successful in learning, successful in life.

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