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YOUTH COMMITTEE

Special Meeting

Monday, December 12, 2022, 12:30 pm

www.work2future.org

COVID-19 NOTICE

Consistent with AB 361 and City of San Jose Resolution Numbers 80628, 80659, 80685, 80724 and 80758, this meeting will not be physically open to the public. Committee members will be teleconferencing from remote locations.

Members of the public can observe the meeting by computer, smartphone and smart tablet at https://zoom.us/j/92330645884?pwd=Q2ZVNlpxeHlxTDlzcVd1THhTbmhoQT09

To provide Spoken Public Comment *during* the meeting:

a) **Phone** (669) 900-9128, Meeting ID 923 3064 5884, Passcode: 045595. **Press *9** to Raise a Hand to let the Chair know that you'd like to speak. **Press *6** to Mute and Unmute yourself.

b) **Online** using the <u>Zoom link</u> above: 1) Use an up-to-date browser: Chrome 30+, Firefox 27+, Microsoft Edge 12+, Safari 7+. (Certain functionality may be disabled in older browsers including Internet Explorer.) Mute all other audio before speaking. Using multiple devices can cause audio feedback. 2) Enter an email address and name. The name will be visible online and will be used to notify you that it is your turn to speak. 3) When the Chair calls for the Agenda Item to which you wish to speak, click on the "Raise Hand" icon or command. Speakers will be notified shortly before they are called on to speak.

Please limit remarks to the time limit allotted by the meeting chair, usually two minutes.

To submit written Public Comment *before* the committee meeting: Send by e-mail to <u>Lawrence.Thoo@sanjoseca.gov</u> by 10:00 am the day of the meeting. The e-mails will be posted with the agenda as "Letters from the Public". Please identify the Agenda Item Number in the subject line of your email.

To submit written Public Comment *during* the meeting: Send e-mail during the meeting to <u>Deanna.Walter@sanjoseca.gov</u>, identifying the Agenda Item Number in the e-mail subject line, to have the comments verbally read into the record, with a maximum of 250 words, which corresponds to approximately 2 minutes per individual comment, subject to the Chair's discretion. Comments received after the agenda item is heard but before the close of the meeting will be included as a part of the meeting record but will not be read into the record.



YOUTH COMMITTEE

MEMBERS | 2023

Jack Estill,* Chair Pro Tempore Partner Coactify

Emily McGrath* Director of Workforce Development, Education and Training NextFlex

> Rafaela Perez* Employment Services Director Social Services Agency County of Santa Clara

Steve Preminger* Director, Office of Strategic & Intergovernmental Affairs County of Santa Clara

> Traci Williams* Co-chair South Bay Consortium for Adult Education Director East Side Adult Education

ex officio Susan Koepp-Baker,* Board Chair Principal Enviro-Tech Services

*work2future Board member



YOUTH COMMITTEE

December 12, 2022 12:30 pm

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA (corrected)

I.	CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL	5 min
	A. Roll Call	11:45 am end
	B. Introductions Introduction of committee members and key staff	
II.	OPEN FORUM Members of the public can address the committee on matters not on the agenda	5 min 11:50 am end
III.	BUSINESS	
	 A. Board Resolution Review {Discussion} Jack Estill, Chair Pro Tempore Review the Board resolution of November 17, 202-2, creating the Youth Committee and setting forth its duties, membership, and meetings 	10 min 12:00 pm end
	 B. Additional Members {Discussion} Jack Estill, Chair Pro Tempore Review and discuss the possible nomination of candidates who are not Board members for the consideration of the Executive Committee for appointment to the Youth Commit required by the Board resolution of November 17, 20232, establishing the Youth Commit 	
	 C. 2023 Schedule of Meetings {Discussion} Jack Estill, Chair Pro Tempore Discuss a possible schedule of meetings for 2023, to be confirmed at a special meeting following the appointment of additional members to the Youth Committee 	5 min 12:20 pm end
IV.	OTHER Announcements, committee housekeeping	5 min 12:25 pm end
V.	ADJOURNMENT	

V. ADJOURNMENT

Please note: Times to the right of agenda items are estimates only of the duration of the item and its approximate ending time. Actual times may vary, and items may be taken out of order at the discretion of the chair.

CITY OF SAN JOSE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Code of Conduct is intended to promote open meetings that welcome debate of public policy issues being discussed by the City Council, its Committees, and City Boards and Commissions in an atmosphere of fairness, courtesy, and respect for differing points of view.

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Precautions

Consistent with the California Governor's Executive Order No. N-29-20, Resolution No. 79450 from the City of San José and the Santa Clara County Health Officer's March 16, 2020 Shelter in Place Order, the meeting will not be physically open to the public. Instead, the meeting will be conducted via video teleconference open to the public. The Code of Conduct will apply to the extent possible in a video teleconference setting.

- 1. Public Meeting Decorum:
 - a. Persons in the audience will refrain from behavior which will disrupt the public meeting. This will include making loud noises, clapping, shouting, booing, hissing or engaging in any other activity in a manner that disturbs, disrupts or impedes the orderly conduct of the meeting.
 - b. Persons in the audience will refrain from creating, provoking or participating in any type of disturbance involving unwelcome physical contact.
 - c. Persons in the audience will refrain from using cellular phones and/or pagers while the meeting is in session.
 - d. Appropriate attire, including shoes and shirts are always required in the meeting room.
 - e. Persons in the audience will not place their feet on the seats in front of them.
 - f. No food, drink (other than bottled water with a cap) or chewing gum will be allowed in the meeting room, except as otherwise pre-approved by City staff.
 - g. All persons entering the meeting room, including their bags, purses, briefcases and similar belongings, may be subject to search for weapons and other dangerous materials.
- 2. Signs, Objects or Symbolic Material:
 - a. Objects and symbolic materials, such as signs or banners, will be allowed in the meeting room, with the following restrictions:
 - i. No objects will be larger than 2 feet by 3 feet.
 - ii. No sticks, posts, poles or other such items will be attached to the signs or other symbolic materials.
 - iii. The items cannot create a building maintenance problem or a fire or safety hazard.
 - b. Persons with objects and symbolic materials such as signs must remain seated when displaying them and must not raise the items above shoulder level, obstruct the view or passage of other attendees, or otherwise disturb the business of the meeting.
 - c. Objects that are deemed a threat to persons at the meeting or the facility infrastructure are not allowed. City staff is authorized to remove items and/or individuals from the meeting room if a threat exists or is perceived to exist. Prohibited items include, but are not limited to: firearms (including replicas and antiques), toy guns, explosive material, and ammunition; knives and other edged weapons; illegal drugs and drug paraphernalia; laser pointers, scissors, razors, scalpels, box cutting knives, and other cutting tools;

letter openers, corkscrews, can openers with points, knitting needles, and hooks; hairspray, pepper spray, and aerosol containers; tools; glass containers; and large backpacks and suitcases that contain items unrelated to the meeting.

- 3. Addressing the Board or Committee:
 - a. Persons wishing to speak on an agenda item or during open forum are requested to complete a speaker card and submit the card to the administrative staff at the meeting.
 - Meeting attendees are usually given two (2) minutes to speak on any agenda item and/or during open forum; the time limit is in the discretion of the Chair of the meeting and may be limited when appropriate. Applicants and appellants in land use matters are usually given more time to speak.
 - c. Speakers should discuss topics related to work2future business on the agenda, unless they are speaking during open forum.
 - d. Speakers' comments should be addressed to the full body. Requests to engage Board or Committee Members or Staff in conversation will not be honored. Abusive language is inappropriate.
 - e. Speakers will not bring to the podium any items other than a prepared written statement, writing materials, or objects that have been inspected by security staff.
 - f. If an individual wishes to submit written information, he or she may give it to the administrative staff at the meeting.
 - g. Speakers and any other members of the public will not approach the dais at any time without prior consent from the Chair of the meeting.

Failure to comply with this Code of Conduct which will disturb, disrupt or impede the orderly conduct of the meeting may result in removal from the meeting and/or possible arrest.

All public records relating to an open session item on this agenda, which are not exempt from disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act, that are distributed to a majority of the legislative body will be available for public inspection at work2future's Business and Administrative Services Center at the Almaden Winery Community Center, 5730 Chambertin Drive, San Jose, California at the same time that the public records are distributed or made available to the legislative body.

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Call to Order & Roll Call

A. Roll Call

B. Introductions of committee members and key staff

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Open Forum

III.A

Board Resolution Review

{Discussion}



YOUTH CMTE: 12-12-22 AGENDA ITEM: III.A

BOARD RESOLUTION REVIEW

The Youth Committee will review the Board resolution of November 17, 2022, creating the Youth Committee and setting forth its duties, membership, and meetings:

RESOLVED that there shall be a Youth Committee as a standing committee of the work2future Board, including stipulated provisions for the membership and duties of such a committee, as follows:

a) Duties

- a. Review the WIOA Youth Program, including performance and outcomes, and any procurements related to the Program which would require a formal Request for Proposals, and make recommendations to staff, the Executive Committee, and the Board, as necessary and appropriate.
- b. Review discretionary grant-supported youth programs or projects and make recommendations to staff, the Executive Committee, and the Board, as necessary and appropriate.
- c. Assist in the recruitment of businesses for youth work experience opportunities.
- d. Act as a convener on behalf of the Board, as outlined in WIOA, of local youth service providers to facilitate the creation of a more coordinated and integrated delivery system that supports the Board's workforce development activities.

b) Membership

- a. The Youth Committee shall have a total of nine members, a majority of whom shall be serving members of the work2future Board, including representation of the Board's business members.
- b. The Board Chair shall appoint Board members to the Youth Committee.
- c. The Executive Committee, by majority vote, shall appoint as Committee members, qualified individuals who are not members of the work2future Board, including no fewer than two who are between the ages of 16 and 24 at the time of appointment.
- d. Committee members will serve staggered terms of two years, except that in the initial round of appointments one-half of the Board members or of the non-Board members, whichever is the even-numbered group, shall be appointed for a one-year term, and one less than half of the odd-numbered group shall be appointed to a one-year term

c) Meetings

- a. Committee meetings are covered by the Brown Act
- b. The Youth Committee shall hold four meetings a year, one of which may serve as the convening of a community youth forum

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III.B

Additional Materials

{Discussion}



YOUTH CMTE: 12-12-22 AGENDA ITEM: III.B

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS

The work2future Board's November 17, 2022, resolution establishing the Youth Committee, while Board members appointed by the Board chairperson shall comprise the majority of Youth Committee members stipulates, "The Executive Committee, by majority vote, shall appoint as Committee members, qualified individuals who are not members of the work2future Board, including no fewer than two who are between the ages of 16 and 24 at the time of appointment."

Nominations for 'non-Board' members of the Youth Committee can come from any source: Board members, staff, youth-serving and youth-advocacy organizations, other community-serving organizations— public and private—and any other member of the public.

Youth Committee Chair Pro Tempore Jack Estill will review with Youth Committee members the possible nomination of four individuals for the Executive Committee's consideration:

- Deryk Clark
- Joseph K. Herrity
- Sophia Jaquez
- Maria Vans

Biographies or resumes for each of the individuals are attached.

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Attached: Deryk Clark resume Joseph K. Herrity resume Sophia Jaquez bio Maria Vans bio

Deryk Clark

Phone (510)676-4686 • E-mail: dclark@bwcmail.org

SEASONED ADMINISTRATOR

- 30 years of distinguished leadership in non-profit management in developing, strategic planning, implementing, and overseeing a cumulative budget of 19M+ dollars for youth and family programs.
- Excellent relationship and team building accomplishments: ability to identify strategic partners to work collaboratively to develop and implement strategic initiatives.
- * Proven strong leadership and mentoring skills in having the highest employee retention rate
- Demonstrated effective communication skills to create inclusive environment and to communicate with all levels of external executive management.
- Established ability to obtain funding based on contract performances

Professional Experience

Bill Wilson CA

Division Director of Youth Development

2017-Present

- Administered over \$15M dollars in government contracts for youth and families programs
- Obtained 537,000 dollars through contract performance outcomes and pilot programs. Acquired 200,000 dollars in in-kind services.
- Developed, planned, implemented and raised \$36,000 a combination of in-kind services and cash for the Amity youth leadership summit.
- Created, implemented, and oversee the BWC Youth Advisory Council. Piloted program from 0 dollars to obtaining \$75,000 dollars.
- Supervise 120 employees which includes 12 program managers and 2 program supervisors.
- Developing a robust recruitment pool of mental health workers by connecting with Santa Clara County Behavioral Health Contractors Association.
- Developing a potential collaborative funding of \$190M over 10 year with Lighthouse of Silicon Valley Joint Venture for secure services for youth and families.
- Working with California Youth Leadership Corps for BWC to become potential major employment site for their project for youth to be community organizers, further their education, gain experience working at local nonprofits/community organizations, while earning a living which will be funded out of \$60M approved in state budget.
- Developed and implemented a new Host Home Program for LBTQ Youth and Transitional Living Program for LBTQ Youth,
- Developed and implemented Santa Clara County's (HUD) Homeless Management Information System for the agency's Drop in Center program for homeless youth
- Public Relations Liaison to assure BWC programs and services are promoted county wide.
- Manage employee recruitment and retention through trainings and mentorship.

Conduct annual performance reviews and initial 6 month reviews for new hires for managers & select staff Bill Wilson Center

Director of Youth Development Programs

- Administered over 2.8 million dollars in government contracts for youth programs and Contact Cares.
- Supervised 80 employees, 3 program managers, 2 program supervisors, 1 AmeriCorps intern.
- Obtained \$330,000 dollars in additional funding through contract performance outcomes.
- Co-Developed an employee mentor/mentee Leadership Development Program to increase employee retention.
- Created an innovative department employee training program: cross training.
- Public Relations Liaison to assure BWC programs and services are promoted county wide.

2000-2005 / 2013-2017

- Manage employee recruitment and retention through trainings and mentorship.
- Conduct annual performance reviews and initial 6 month reviews for new hires for managers & select staff
- Prepared reports to Chief Program Officer on the status of programs.

Contact Cares

- Assisted with the merger of Contact Cares
- Supervised, trained & scheduled a corps of 40 multi-cultural volunteers to ensure that the Contact phones will be answered 24/7 and appropriate support for the caller will be provided.
- Successfully Implemented a 24/7 Teen Help Line
- Managed a variety of help support lines that served a variety of callers in crisis, need of support, or are seeking information and referral.

Education and Prevention Department

- Developed six successful programs and improved two existing programs to increase education and job readiness for youth/young adults
- Doubled program goals and objectives by 50%.
- Planned and implemented an evaluation tool to monitor progress of programs.
- Rebranded the Peer Counselor certification training.
- Created a work environment that has nurtured employees' self-confidence, which has increased their skill level and productivity.

Bill Wilson Center

Program Manager of Youth Services

- Administered over \$460,000 dollars in government contracts for youth programs
- Supervised 5 employees, 420 youth volunteers, and 70 adult volunteers.
- Developed an award winning county wide revolutionary youth life skills/leadership training camp for High-Risk/Gang impacted that was featured local media outlets.
- Raised \$210,000 in-kind services over 5 years for the leadership training program.

Bill Wilson Center

Program Coordinator for Foster Care/Group Home Services

- Administered over \$275,000 in government contracts for youth programs.
- Researched and developed a proposal for Transitional Housing for Foster youth, which led to collaboration between Bill Wilson Center and Santa Clara County Social Services Agency
- Received \$200,000 dollars from Santa Clara County Social Services Agency for the Transitional Housing for Foster youth proposal.
- Supervised 6 Bachelor of Social Worker interns and 1 AmeriCorps intern.
- Site monitor for California Department of Health Services pregnancy prevention program at Community Solutions Counseling Agency.
- Started a college tour program for the Bill Wilson Community School.
- Created Career Day. Obtained \$5,000 dollars in in-kind services over two years.
- Coordinated the development of a Foster Care Youth Web Site for Santa Clara County Social Services Agency.

Bill Wilson Center

Independent Living Skills (ILP) Coordinator

- Tripled the recruitment of Foster Youth/Probation Youth to ILP at Bill Wilson Center.
- Developed Excellence in Project Developments.
- Expanded name recognition statewide of Santa Clara County's ILP program, which tripled funding for ILP program.
- Co-coordinated a state wide Foster Care Youth Conference in Santa Clara County and mentored the Santa Clara County Chapter of California Youth Connection with fellow adult supporters.

Professional Involvement

Review panelist for First Five of Santa Clara County's Grant Proposals	1998
Board of Directors for Lighthouse of Hope Counseling Center	2008 - present
Juvenile Justice Santa Clara Prevention & Programs Workgroup	2015 - present
Opportunity Youth Partnership (OYP): Design, Implementation, Steering Committee	2015 – 2021

2005-2013

1998-2000

1992-1998

Opportunity Youth Academy Advisory Committee	2018 - 2021
Created a network/partnership group Silicon Valley	2019 - 2020
Opportunity Youth Academy (OYA) Governance Board Member	2020 – present
Board of Directors San Jose Conservation & Charter School	2021

Education

B.A Business University of Notre Dame De Namur Belmont, CA

Masters of Counseling Psychology program completion University of Notre Dame De Namur Belmont, CA

JOSEPH K. HERRITY

joe.herrity@uwalumni.com | 408.387.0253 | linkedin.com/in/joeherrity | 1324 Randol Ave., San Jose, CA

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Groundwork Social Sector Consulting - San Jose, CA Principal

Own and operate a boutique social sector consultancy that helps organizations focus on what's right, so they can do more of it. Groundwork cares about the organizational development work that forms the bedrock of all successful organizations: routines and processes of good management and governance, the ability to listen deeply to beneficiaries and stakeholders, and the practices of culture creation and maintenance which sustain the team.

CLIENTS & PROJECTS

LEADERSHIP ENGAGEMENTS California Opportunity Youth Network (COYN) Co-Founder turned Convenor

July 2021 - Current

June 2020 – Current

COYN works to transform systems, policies, investments, and narratives to ensure all youth and young adults in California have the opportunity to flourish in adulthood.

- As a volunteer, co-founded a statewide practice-to-policy network in 2014 to improve the workforce development systems for system impacted youth. Now serving as co-convener.
- Grew from an all-volunteer group to a \$1M organization with a policy presence in Sacramento that has successfully moved regulatory reform and sponsored legislation.
- Co-convener tasked with network development, including outreach to and engagement of new communities and members to grow collaborative sites by 50% by end of 2023.

Society for the Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science Managing Director (Interim Executive Director) June 2020 – November 2022

SACNAS is an inclusive organization dedicated to fostering the success of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans, from college students to professionals, in attaining advanced degrees, careers, and positions of leadership in STEM. SACNAS hosts the largest multicultural multidisciplinary STEM diversity event in the country, the National Diversity in STEM conference.

- Oversee all administration and operations for a \$6M national nonprofit; lead a team of 19 staff and nearly \$1M in contractors to serve more than 8,500 members and 133 chapters. Lead all operations, fund development, and board engagement.
- Increased revenue by 35% by diversifying sources, including a 6x increase in private industry partnerships, designing and launching the organization's inaugural private industry talent development event.
- Engage a national Board of Directors to navigate through total staff leadership transition and the pandemic while developing an ambitious new 5-year strategic plan; partner with the past and current president to move the Board toward "Governance as Leadership" model and realign all committees, while slimming down and optimizing structure.

DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT ENGAGEMENTS

San Jose Conservation Corps & Charter School Organizational Design Consultant

- ∉ Partnered with the leadership team to conduct an organizational assessment of the Back on Track model and Positive Youth Development framework implementation.
- ∉ Partner with leadership team and the Board of Directors to explore mission critical questions and priorities in support of the development of a new strategic plan.

Side by Side Organizational Design Consultant

- \notin Designed an employment program for non-minor dependent foster youth.
- ∉ Partnered with the development team to incorporate into existing pitches and funding strategies.

Opportunity Youth Partnership – San Jose, CA *Director*

The Opportunity Youth Partnership is a cross-sector collective impact partnership committed to building a seamlessly integrated opportunity ecosystem that ensures young people can easily get from wherever they are to wherever they want to be.

- Facilitated and guided a county-wide, cross-sector collective impact partnership; shaped strategic dialogue with executive-level leaders in public systems, secondary and postsecondary education, workforce development entities, nonprofits, social enterprises, and policy organizations; drove tactical dialogue with management teams and direct service staff across diverse partners with unique interests.
- Developed and secured annual budget. Leveraged initial three-year Aspen Institute investment of \$130K/year to secure more than \$3M, including \$810K federal Social Innovation Fund sub-award, \$700k in county contracts, and \$1M in philanthropic resources.
- Developed and implemented a three-year Social Innovation Fund pilot program, including conducting a quasi-experimental analysis, and established evidence-based proof points for our homegrown model that achieved 3x impact over a comparison group.
- Managed three project staff and four contract positions, including data evaluation services and multiple consultant engagements; negotiated and monitored contracts with partners and vendors.

Venture Leadership Consulting – Mountain View, CA Consultant

VLC specializes in serving human service nonprofits through interim executive services, theory of change development and implementation, and executive search.

PROJECTS

Pivotal Theory of Change Implementation Consultant

Supported Pivotal through programmatic elements of the Theory of Change process. Supported program department in redesign of primary assessment tools, process, and evaluation and learning systems.

July 2020 - February 2021

June 2018 - Feb 2021

Sept 2014 - June 2020

July 2021 - December 2021

December 2021 - March 2022

Venture Search Executive Search Lead

∉ Created and launched the Venture Leadership Consulting executive search business line and executed successful search for the Executive Director of Redwood City 2020.

National Mentoring Partnership MENTOR CA Launch Consultant

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Supported the development and launch of the statewide MENTOR CA affiliate; built and seated the Program Leadership Council (the organization's key advisory group representative of the constituency) with diverse membership representing all regions of California.

Educare California at Silicon Valley Interim Executive Director

Stewarded a \$7.5M+ organization with 64 team members, serving more than 1,100 children and families via 12 classrooms and a Family Resource Center through a period of leadership and operational change.

Fresh Lifelines for Youth (FLY) – San Jose, CAMarch 2008 - May 2014Mentor Programs Manager (previously Lead Case Manager and Case Manager)

FLY's mission is to prevent juvenile crime and incarceration through legal education, leadership training, and one-on-one mentoring.

- Created and managed services across Santa Clara and San Mateo counties serving over 1,100 youth.
- Led a team of eight FTEs and 120 highly engaged volunteers and managed a budget of \$650,000.
- Cultivated and managed stakeholder relationships with judges, public defenders, district attorneys, probation managers, and school principals.
- Developed and implemented program theory of change and performance measurement system.
- Developed an expansive annual volunteer recruitment strategy capable of annually yielding 150 volunteers.

AmeriCorps – Madison, WI & San Jose, CA Corps Member

Sept 2004 - August 2006

The mission of AmeriCorps is to improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster civic engagement through service and volunteering.

• Successfully completed two terms of service in the AmeriCorps program for national and community service.

Sept 2019 - March 2020

June 2018 - August 2019

EDUCATION

San Jose State University

Master of Public Administration

University of Wisconsin - Madison

Bachelor of Arts Political Science and History

CERTIFICATIONS / CONTINUING EDUCATION

- Project Management certification Coursera + Google Current
- Foundations of Human Centered Design | IDEO U | July 2022
- Mobilizing Your Board | Harvard Kennedy School Executive Education | May 2022
- Certified Nonprofit Board Consultant | BoardSource | March 2022
- Certified CliftonStrengths Coach | Gallup | February 2022
- Foundations for Systems Leadership: complexity, compassion, and collective well-being Center for System Awareness November 2018 & March 2020
- Human Centered Design bootcamp | General Assembly | May 2016
- Design Kit, The Course for Human Centered Design Acumen + IDEO April 2016
- Essentials of Nonprofit Strategy Philanthropy University + UC Berkeley Haas School Dec 2015
- Summer Institute on Positive Community Norms | Montana State University | July 2014
- Certified Mediator | SCC Office of Human Relations Dispute Resolution Program | March 2013
- Summer Institute on Youth Mentoring Portland State University July 2012

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Member, Board of Directors | School for Integrated Academics & Technology | September 2022 Current
- Member, Citizens Bond Oversight Committee | San Jose Evergreen Community College District | October 2021 - Current
- Founding Chair, Ally Advisory Council | Youth Liberation Movement | May 2021 Current
- Member, Steering Committee & Co-Chair, Employer Engagement Work Group | Bridge to Recovery, Joint Venture Silicon Valley | May 2020 October 2021
- Member, Community Advisory Committee | Santa Clara County Office of Education, Opportunity Youth Academy | September 2015 - December 2019
- Co-Founder & Chair | South Bay Mentoring Coalition | 2012 2016

2018

2004

Sofia Jaquez

Sofia attended James Lick High school freshman and sophomore year, after becoming pregnant she switched schools and started going to Foothill Continuation School that provided onsite child care for student parents. She had to move out of San Jose in 2017 because she and her partner were renting a room in someone's home, but the tenant was evicted. She was then forced to move to Coalinga, California near Fresno with her grandparents rather than become homeless since neither her nor her partner's parents were able to house them. This kept her from school until she was seventeen. Instead, she got a job at the local McDonalds in order to pay rent. In 2018 she and her partner finally found another place to live in San Jose. Sofia re-enrolled in Foothill but she was unable to complete her diploma due to an abusive relationship and postpartum depression. This meant she was unable to finish her academic work within the 5 years required by the high school district, so she was forced to find another way to finish. The San Jose Conservation Corps was her final resort. Conservation Corps provided her the opportunity to graduate. She became valedictorian in 2019. She then enrolled into Mission College to study Sociology. She is currently applying to transfer to a university to earn her Bachelor's Degree in Sociology.

There is more to Sophia' story, though. She has not only experienced teen pregnancy and an abusive relationship, she has also experienced multiple episodes of bullying that made it difficult to stay in school. These dramatically affected her mental health and lead to postpartum depression, substance abuse, and attempted suicide. She found it hard to bond with her child because she was going through so much of her own pain and trauma. This made her initial relationship with her daughter dysfunctional. She had lost hope until one day at Foothill child care center there were two advocates from a program called Teen Success Inc. This is when her life really began to change. She finally found friends, other teen moms who understood her and a safe place to just talk and let things out. She no longer felt alone and started to become more grateful after hearing stories from other moms who were going through much worse. She became an ambassador for the program, speaking and advocating for her community such as speaking at board meetings to save the child care program at her continuation school. She earned scholarships and was publicly recognized by many adult allies, as well as featured in newspaper articles for her advocacy and academic achievement. She had finally found herself and her purpose.

Her goal for participating in w2f is to advocate for young people, especially other opportunity youth by sharing her insights and lived experiences to help the w2f programs increase its success for the next generation. She is passionate about serving her community. Education and career pathways for youth is her main focus. She believes she will be a perfect fit to the committee and a valuable asset who is ready to participate in any way!

Maria Vans

Born and raised in Nicaragua, Maria migrated to Sunnyvale when she was 12 years old and has lived in Santa Clara County since. She attended Fremont High School in Sunnyvale, but was unable to continue with college due to the high cost of housing. She has worked two jobs to try to make ends meet, but struggles with housing security. Maria wishes to pursue a degree in Sociology and Criminal Justice in order to become a lawyer.

Maria is currently a Fellow with the Youth Liberation Movement interning with Lighthouse. She has been a leader with the Youth Forum over the last two years. Her responsibilities with the Youth Forum included leading focused discussion in the bi-monthly meetings, recruiting additional lived-experience youth to participate, working with other young leaders running interviews and surveys about youth concerns and needs, as well as Forum goal-setting.

Maria loves to work with others by connecting them to resources that will help them thrive. When she is passionate about something, she gives 100%. That includes making her community better by using her voice and personal experiences to represent those who cannot represent themselves. She is particularly interested in serving on the work2future Youth Committee because she wants to ensure that youth and young adults in San Jose and Santa Clara County have equitable access to good jobs and have the income and resources needed for stable housing and food security that allow them to thrive.

III.C

2023 Schedule of Meetings

{Discussion}



YOUTH CMTE: 12-12-22 AGENDA ITEM: III.C

2023 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

The work2future Board's November 17, 2022, resolution establishing the Youth Committee stipulates, "The Youth Committee shall hold four meetings a year, one of which may serve as the convening of a community youth forum."

The inaugural members of the Youth Committee will discuss a possible schedule of meetings for 2023, to be confirmed at a special meeting following the appointment of additional members to the Youth Committee.

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IV

Other

V

Adjournment