

SHARED YOUTH VISION PILOT PROJECTS

STATE: ALABAMA

PROJECT TITLE: Alabama Youth Career Advancement Network (CAN)

TARGET POPULATION: Youth in and aging out of foster care, youth involved in the juvenile justice system, youth with disabilities, out-of-school youth and dropouts, youth living in poverty

GEOGRAPHIC AREA: Southeast Alabama (8 Counties) – Barbour County, Coffee County, Covington County, Dale County, Geneva County, Henry County, Houston County, Pike County

FUNDING: \$116,000

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT: Alabama's youth system seeks to promote and facilitate the transition of the neediest youth from school to work. With a focus on local control, Alabama is building a decentralized youth system covering both rural and urban areas. The Governor appointed the commissioners of state agencies, the Superintendent of Education, the Chancellor of Postsecondary Education, and business leaders to form a partnership to guide and oversee system development and implementation of the Shared Youth Vision. High-level professional staff, representing each of the partners, meets regularly to address historic inter-agency frictions, budget cuts, and turf battles. The Department of Economic and Community Affairs Office of Workforce Development will lead Alabama's Youth Career Advancement Network (CAN). The targeted counties for the pilot regional system development initiative comprise Alabama's Region 10. Four Alabama Career (One-Stop) Centers in this region will lead the initiative at the local level. The partners' staff will assist the CAN Team by helping them reach consensus on their priorities, identify outcomes that define success in addressing these priorities, formulate a sustainable plan to achieve those outcomes, begin implementing the plan, and develop ways to measure progress towards achieving the outcomes.

LIST OF PARTNER AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS: Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs, Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education, Housing and Urban Development, Alabama Department of Human Resources, Alabama Department of Education, Alabama Department of Vocational and Rehabilitation Services, Alabama Department of Youth Services, Social Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor/Bureau of Apprenticeship Training, Alabama Department of Corrections, businesses and industries, faith-based and community-based organizations

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