

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**NYC WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**  
**QUARTERLY MEETING**

Thursday, June 7, 2023

9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

**Board Members Present:**

Maureen Anderson	David Bolotsky	Edwin Christian
Saudia Davis	Laura James	Eliana Palmay
Adria Powell	Joseph McDermott	

**Board Members Participating Remotely:**

Les Bluestone	Mark Elliot	George Ntim
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**Guests Present:**

Stephanie Birmingham	Michelle Clarke	Justin Gale
Florencia Giordano	Lamont Rivera Johnson	Bernadette Kelly
Greg Morris	Daphne Montanez	Shannon Rodney
Tammy Underwood	Mary Jo Zazueta	

**Staff Present:**

Tim Currier	Chris Neale	Abby Jo Sigal
Jayson Swain	Grant Yanney	

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Board Chair Adria Powell began the meeting by summarizing some housekeeping items and introducing the speakers and agenda items. A *special guest* in the role of “Commissioner for a Day” was also noted. NYC Service sponsored a citywide “Commissioner for a Day” program. There were over 70 Commissioners for a Day throughout city government, including at the Mayor’s Office of Talent and Workforce Development. High School student Mark Felter attended the Workforce Development Board meeting as the de facto Commissioner for a Day.

## Director's Report

WDB Director Chris Neale started his Board update speaking about the proposed funding transfer resolution. The Board did not have an in-person quorum, so was not able to vote on the resolution.

The summary of the resolution is to transfer \$8.8 million in Program Year 2022 WIOA Dislocated Worker funding to WIOA Adult funding. Proposed Resolution: Funding Transfer (Dislocated Worker to Adult).

The background for this resolution is two-fold:

- WIOA Flexibility: WIOA allows local areas to transfer up to 100% of funds from one category to another.
- Role of the Board: The full Board must approve any kind of WIOA funding transfers per NYSDOL Technical Advisory 17-06.

Definitions are defined below:

- An Adult is an individual at least 18 years old who is eligible for WIOA services.
- A Dislocated Worker is an adult who has lost their job or been notified of a layoff and is unlikely to return to their previous occupation or industry.
- Program Year 2022 is the current WIOA fiscal year we're in. This aligns with Fiscal Year 2023— which runs July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023

The second order of business in Director Neale's report was the new WIOA budget.

## WIOA Budget for Fiscal Year 2024 (FY2024)



**Rounded WIOA Funding Levels**

Funding Category	Upcoming Year: FY2024	Current Year: FY2023	Change Amount	Change Percentage
Adult	\$34,000,000	\$31,700,000	\$2,300,000	+7%
Dislocated Worker	\$32,400,000	\$23,600,000	\$8,800,000	+37%
Youth	\$33,500,000	\$31,200,000	\$2,300,000	+20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$99,900,000</b>	<b>\$86,600,000</b>	<b>\$13,300,000</b>	<b>+15%</b>

### **Background on Funding:**

- WIOA is formula-funded through the following steps:
  1. Congress and the President agree on the total budget.
  2. The funding is allocated to states based on a formula considering a variety of economic factors.
  3. New York State applies a similar formula to determine the annual allocations of WIOA to local areas like New York City.

Here is the total breakdown of the approximate annual budgets currently in FY2024 (technically federal Program Year 2023):

- Adult funding: \$66 million (\$34 million for Adult and \$32 million for Dislocated Workers, a subset of adults who were informed of an imminent layoff or lost their jobs)
- Youth funding: \$34 million
- **Total WIOA Budget: \$100 million (57% increase from Program Year 2021)**

### **Update on Youth Programs**

Daphne Montanez, Associate Commissioner of Youth Workforce Development, from the Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD), provided updates for youth workforce activities at DYCD.

The Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP), which DYCD administers, will be celebrating their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the program. This year, DYCD had a record-breaking number of over 174,800 applicants eclipsing last year's total of 165,000. The program served 100,000 young people for the second year in a row.

DYCD is also thrilled to be working with new partners like Louis Vuitton, ABC News, NYPD, and the Department of Corrections to provide new placements and enrichment activities. The expansion of "enrichment" experiences will continue into the Fall.

These events will include tours, career panels/fairs, cooking demonstrations, and other networking events. DYCD is also launching SYEP Pride, focusing on providing specific support to LGBTQ Youth.

DYCD plans to release a concept paper for their Train & Earn program soon. In addition, DYCD will be collecting feedback from the field and will continue receiving stakeholder feedback as well. The plan is to utilize this feedback so that it can be used for an RFP for the Learn & Earn program that will be released by the end of the year, according to Ms. Montanez.

### **Update on Adult WIOA Programs**

Je'Nean Jones, Assistant Commissioner of Workforce1 at the Department of Small Business Services (SBS) described SBS' strategy for the forthcoming Request for Proposals for the Workforce1 Career Center contracts, which SBS administers. She emphasized SBS's new focus on making contracts more accessible to service providers, stating that the average contract is around \$2.8 million and is reimbursement-based. They have broken the normal contract structure down into three different Requests for Proposals.

- Specific to their borough approach and that will be the bulk of SBS' system (10-11 of their centers with an opportunity to bid on specific boroughs, including one large "hub" center and potentially additional "satellites" within that borough).
- Specific to "sector centers" like healthcare, industrial and transportations systems.
- Target population focus with Out-of-School, Out-of-Work youth, foreign-born New Yorkers, and justice-involved for the third RFP.

## **Findings from Landscape Analysis of Apprenticeships in NYC**

Accenture consultant Rachel Van Tosh reviewed the landscape analysis of apprenticeships in NYC. Accenture developed a set of threshold criteria that a program would have to meet to be an apprenticeship, including them being direct lines to full time employment. According to Accenture's analysis, New York City has one of the lowest concentrations of apprenticeships, compared to other major cities. Most of the apprenticeships are in trades. Unique to NYC is that the third largest number of apprenticeships are School Safety Agents, a program run by NYPD, making it a "public sector" apprenticeship. The nationally fastest-growing apprenticeship areas outside of construction trades are in home healthcare as well as professional services.

Accenture provided five recommendations as part of the landscape analysis.

1. Leverage untapped resources.
2. Rebrand the idea of an apprenticeship to uplift their value as a family-sustaining career option.
3. Center justice, equity, and inclusion in a scaled program.
4. Align and improve the infrastructure that already exists.
5. Track, report, and optimize outcomes.

Board Member questions included metrics tracking outcomes on pre-apprenticeships, selection criteria, hiring trends amongst Black people in the construction industry and manufacturing trades, and targeting individuals by race and ethnicity.

## **Black Unemployment in NYC: A Presentation from James Parrott**

James Parrott, Director of Economic and Fiscal Policies at the Center for New York City Affairs at The New School, reviewed his startling research on the rising Black unemployment rate in NYC.

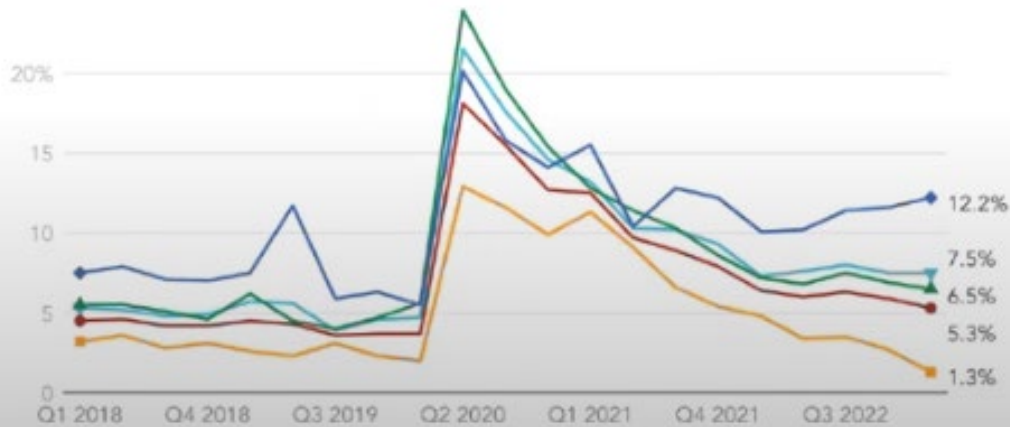
Parrot mentioned the Black unemployment rate in New York City rose to over 12% while the rate among White New Yorkers was just over 1%. This disparity, according to Dr. Parrott, is alarming because it appears to be unique to NYC and is not reflected in national trends.

## New School Analysis of Unemployment Rates in NYC by Race and Ethnicity

### Unemployment fell sharply for NYC White workers in 2022, receded slightly for Hispanic workers, and rose for Black workers

Seasonally-adjusted unemployment rates (U3) by race/ethnicity, Q1 2018–Q1 2023

— Total — White non-Hisp. — Black non-Hisp. — Hispanic/Latinx — BIPOC



Note: CNYCA analysis of Current Population Survey data, seasonally adjusted

According to Parrot’s research, Black New Yorkers make up about 16% of the NYC workforce, but comprise a disproportionate share of unemployment beneficiaries (32%). He also said that Black people are three times more likely not to have a college degree, which he said contributes to them being less likely to have the social network and skill certifications needed to get a job. He suggested this may point to a problem in NYC’s education pipeline.

When a Board member suggested that Black people may be increasingly migrating from the city, Mr. Parrot said he has considered that, but hasn’t observed a substantial population decline among Black New Yorkers, per Census data.

#### **Closing**

Board Chair Adria Powell called for a motion to close the meeting. Board Member David Bolotsky motioned, and Board Member Eliana Palmay seconded. This meeting ended at around 11:05am.