

# Metro North Regional Employment Board Youth Council

## *Forging Pathways to Sustainable Employment*

The Metro North Youth Council was established in 1998 by a mandate of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA). Its mission is to support the development and implementation of effective workforce training programs to help ensure that youth in the Metro North region experience a successful transition into a productive working adulthood. The Youth Council serves as a catalyst to bring together public and private leaders from the local community to inform workforce policy and funding decisions that support sustainable employment opportunities for area youth.

Additional Youth Council activities include:

- Developing portions of the local plan relating to eligible youth
- Recommending eligible providers of youth education and training services to be awarded contracts on a competitive basis
- Conducting oversight and evaluating the effectiveness of providers and programs
- Coordinating youth activities authorized under the Workforce Investment Act
- Networking and sharing best practices
- Raising community awareness of workforce issues within the public school systems, local agencies, community-based organizations, and the private sector
- Performing other duties as determined appropriate by the chairperson of the WIB/REB

### **Youth Council Membership:**

Members of the Youth Council represent a wide range of business, community, and public interests. Members include representatives from youth service agencies, public housing authorities and Job Corps; parents of eligible youth seeking services; voting members of the Metro North Regional Employment Board; and others, including area youth. Youth Council members serve for three-year staggered terms.

### **The cities and towns served by the Youth Council:**

- |              |                 |              |              |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
| • Arlington  | • Everett       | • Reading    | • Watertown  |
| • Belmont    | • Malden        | • Revere     | • Wilmington |
| • Burlington | • Medford       | • Somerville | • Winchester |
| • Cambridge  | • Melrose       | • Stoneham   | • Winthrop   |
| • Chelsea    | • North Reading | • Wakefield  | • Woburn     |

### **Examples of recent activities:**

- Presented a forum at Tufts University for Guidance Counselors on the Labor Market. Neeta Fogg, Senior Economist at Northeastern University, was the featured speaker.
- Co-sponsored the 2009 annual DOME symposium, in which leaders in business and academic discussed how to increase student interest in the Science, Technology, Mathematics, and Engineering (STEM) fields
- Produced and funded the production of Cable TV shows that emphasized math and science preparation for youth

The Youth Council meets every other month at Career Source in Cambridge. Meetings are open to the public and many nonmembers attend. If you are interested in attending, please contact Priscilla Golding, Associate Director, at 617-864-1524 or [pgolding@mnreb.org](mailto:pgolding@mnreb.org) for more information.