

Out of School Youth Program

Four County Area Vocational Cooperative

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Proposal of Needed Services

The Out of School Youth proposal's intent is to capture eligible youth (age 18 through 21) that have not earned a high school diploma or GED equivalent and out of school youth in this same age range that are unemployed or underemployed because of insufficient skills or training.

The proposal begins by providing an outreach coordinator in each of the four counties who will work with the high schools and Adult Education programs to identify individuals that have dropped out of school or did not earn a diploma. The outreach coordinator will individually contact each of the eligible out of school youth and share with them the value of an education and skills needed for today's workforce and how the WorkOne system can help them get the education and skills needed to compete in today's workforce. The coordinator will enroll out of school youth into the WorkOne System, enroll the out of school youth in the Four County Area Vocational Cooperative Adult Education Program, and connect the youth with the educational and/or workforce training partner. The Outreach Coordinator will track student progress in all the programs and maintain communication with the student until program completion.

The Objectives are:

- Identify qualified out of school youth
- Enroll qualified youth in the WorkOne system.
- Resume these young adults educational process and provide opportunities for them to earn a high school diploma or GED equivalent.
- Provide workforce development skills to qualified youth.
- Once students are enrolled through the WorkOne office, the outreach team member will continue to coordinate educational and work place training services for enrolled youth. The Outreach Team Specialist will monitor the student's progress and share all pertinent information weekly with WorkOne and the work place training provider.

Results and Outcomes

The goal is to launch this program with 40 students, 10 from each of our service counties Noble, LaGrange, Steuben, and DeKalb. An additional 5 out of school youth per county will be added each month following with the benchmark being 20 students per month, per county. Hiring, staff training, and program material development would be completed for a program launch date on or before February 15, 2010. Additional students will be enrolled in the program throughout the training period.