

**Youth Services Conference**  
**February 16-17, 2011**  
**Embassy Suites Hotel, Little Rock, AR**

---

**Wednesday, February 16, 2011**

8:00 – 9:00 a.m. Registration, Breakfast and Networking

9:00 a.m. Welcome, Cindy Varner, Assistant Director

9:15 a.m. Artee Williams, Director

9:30 – 10:00 a.m. Cory S. Anderson, Vice President  
The Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation  
“Connecting Disconnected Youth: Opportunities and  
Challenges Locally and Statewide”

10:00 – 10:15 a.m. Break

10:15 – 11:30 a.m. Concurrent Sessions:

A. “Communicating With Youth: It’s all about your  
S.W.A.G.G.E.R.”

Using the language of the “hip hop” generation, this highly interactive workshop, where the audience is encouraged to participate, discusses fundamental steps towards college preparation and the importance of career planning. Also discussed are the importance of community service and various ways/means to self.

Presenter: Linnsey E. Sanders, TANF Administrative Analyst, ADWS

B. “Improving Education and Employment for Youth at Risk: Proven and Promising Strategies”

Identifies and explores evidence-based programs and strategies that seek to improve educational attainment and employment for in-school youth; and programs that try to “reconnect” those who are out of school and frequently out of work, including public employment programs.

Presenter: Toyce Newton, President and CEO  
Phoenix Youth and Family Services, Inc.

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch and Lunch Presentation  
“Building a Skilled and Educated Workforce: Exploring  
Multiple Pathways to Community College for  
Out-of-School Youth”  
Dr. Glen Fenter, President, Mid-South Community  
College, West Memphis, AR

1:00 – 2:15 p.m. Concurrent Sessions:

C. “Disability Employment Initiative: Making Employment  
Connections for Transitioning Youth with Disabilities”  
Highlights how the Disability Employment Initiative (DEI)  
blends and braids resources around youth with  
disabilities, to assist with transitioning individual  
customer with disabilities' employment needs across  
multiple systems to leverage resources, coordinate  
services/programs, and reduce duplication to better  
serve youth with disabilities the individual customer  
with a disability and/or multiple employment  
Presenters: Mary Agee, Disability Program Navigator,  
ADWS  
Pamela Banks, Disability Program Navigator, ADWS

D. “The Road to Self Sufficiency: Youth Entrepreneurship”  
A resource for those working with youth on career  
exploration and employment options. It will explore  
how education on entrepreneurship can be  
implemented in programs and offers suggestions on  
how to introduce self-employment as an option for all  
youth  
Presenter: Matthew Hampton, Founder, Elevate  
Entrepreneurship Systems

2:15 – 2:30 p.m. Break

2:30 – 4:00 p.m. Concurrent Sessions: Panel Discussions

E. "The Rockefeller Experience with the Arkansas Youth Development Collaborative"

The Arkansas Youth Development Collaborative (AYDC) is a partnership of local government agencies, businesses, and youth serving organizations that are tasked to assist youth to prepare for success in a global, demand-driven economy. This panel discussion has two objectives, to focus on the current state of the AYDC and to generate discussion on future direction  
Presenters: Toyce Newton, Facilitator; Cory S. Anderson, Vice President, The Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation; LaVennier Ferguson, Youth Coordinator, SWAPDD, Inc; Mike Fohner, President and CEO, Youth Strategies

"Summer Youth Employment"

Capacity building strategies for enhancing your summer youth employment program.

Facilitator, Vicki Jones, WIA Program Manager, Workforce Professional Services, Inc.

Presenters: Stacy Hagan, ADWS Operations Manager; Louise Harvey, ADWS Performance Specialist, Macq Golden, Programs Coordinator for the City of Little Rock Department of Community Programs; Tauheed Salaam, Program Specialist Capacity Building (awaiting confirmation from Tauheed)

***Thursday, February 17, 2011***

8:00 – 9:00 a.m. Breakfast and Networking

9:00 a.m. Welcome

9:00 – 10:00 a.m. Keith Jackson, founder, P.A.R.K. (Positive Atmosphere Reaches Kids)  
"Connecting Disconnected Youth: The P.A.R.K. Experience"

10:00 – 10:15 a.m. Break

10:15 – 11:30 a.m. Concurrent Sessions:

F. "The Road to Self-Sufficiency: Youth Apprenticeship Program"

A resource for those working with youth on career exploration and employment options. It will explore ways of how Apprenticeship education can be implemented in programs and offers suggestions on how to introduce self-employment as an option for all youth.

Presenter: Jonathan L. Bibb, Program Manager, Apprenticeship/Youth Apprenticeship, Department of Career Education

G. "Mentoring Youth: The OK Program"

The O.K. (Our Kids) Program is a mentoring endeavor that fosters partnerships between police agencies, schools, students, community members, and the business and faith community to provide positive guidance and support to African-American males 12-18 years old.

Presenter: LR Police Department Sergeant Willie Davis, Director, Little Rock OK Program

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Networking Lunch

12:30 – 1:45 p.m. "Expanding our Repertoire, Expanding our Partnerships"

This session will showcase a successful Arkansas partnership that is addressing the workforce needs of disconnected youth. Project Little Rock is a partnership between a local business, a two-year college and a youth-serving organizations whose task is to provide affordable "Green" housing in Little Rock's economically depressed central city area and exclusively employs disconnected youth.

Presenters: Mary Ann Shope, Vice President for Economic Development, Pulaski Technical College

Scott Reed, Principal Realtor, Reed Property Group 1, LLC

1:45 – 2:00 p.m. Closing Remarks, Cindy Varner