

**PSAYDN Winter Virtual Meeting
January 12, 2012
End of Meeting Discussion: Barriers to Field**

What are the barriers that you have experienced and successful strategies that you have utilized?

1. Getting employers to participate

Text responses:

- *Lavel Claytor*: Barrier is competition with other organizations

Audio responses:

- *Jill Helme*: A good solution is to use webinars to connect with youth such as Skype. A barrier is that the adult staff is frequently uncomfortable using technology. The key is having access to technology as much as possible.

2. Establishing dealing with transportation issues

Text responses:

- *Gail Pippin*: Transportation is always an ongoing issue
- *Nancy Peter*: In my past life, we bought school tokens from SEPTA in bulk, created afterschool transportation passes, and created a "transportation" curriculum.
- *Jill Helme*: Can you please ask Jeanne Miller what kind of supports the school districts have been able to provide in rural area? What was in the "transportation curriculum?"

Audio responses:

- *Jill Helme*: Transportation is challenging in urban and rural areas. Two of the barriers are access and cost. Employers need to be near to youth which can be very difficult in rural areas. Success has occurred by utilizing church vans to transport youth. There are cases where churches have been subcontracted to transport youth.
- *Jeanne Miller*: One solution is to utilize school districts. They will enter transportation into their reimbursement system and cover up to 50% of the cost. Other organizations are turning to afterschool and superintendents for these kinds of programs. Programs should develop strong relationships with schools. At an Extended Learning Opportunities (ELO) Conference workshop, a practice was discussed about how a formula was needed for every business manager of a school district. The cost was put through the system to PDE and then the afterschool program gets billed. Key is building a relationship with the school district business manager.

3. Developing and maintaining sustainable funding

Text responses:

- *Laura Salamonsen*: Funding is vital for ongoing coordination of programming.
- *Lavel Claytor*: Barriers summer jobs vs. year round program. Summer job pay more however our students receive stipends year round. placement include Architecture, laboratory research, nursing, biomedical research, emergency room assistant, patient relations, software engineering, mechanical engineering, just to name a few

Audio responses:

- *Terri Henderson*: Programs need to consider working with other organizations and think about establishing a consortia effort to tackle barriers as a group. Make an effort to pursue solutions with partners.