U.S. Department of Labor
Summer Jobs and Beyond: Career Pathways for Youth
Highlights
Period of Performance: May 2016 – June 2019

Overview of the Program: The U.S. Department of Labor awarded approximately $21,000,000 in grant funds in 2016 to eleven local workforce boards to fund Career Pathways for Youth (CPY) grants. These grants focused on linking existing summer employment programs with re-engagement centers, employers, and other community partners to align resources and assist youth in preparing for successful entry into the workforce.

OUTCOMES

3139 in-school youth served
1962 out-of-school youth served
84% participants receiving work experience
1338 participants placed in unsubsidized employment
846 participants placed in post-secondary education/training
Program Highlights:

**Recruitment Strategies**

*The Promise Zone YES! Project (Hartford, CT)* recruited in-school and out-of-school youth for their four-phased model integrating education, youth development, health and social services, and workforce development. Their recruitment strategy included an online application through the Hartford public schools and no-cost radio, TV, and billboard ads.

*Franklin Hampshire Summer Jobs and Beyond (Greenfield, MA)* utilized counselors to work with school districts to refer youth. Counselors drew from collaborative relationships that had already been developed with REB School to Career and Franklin Hampshire One-Stop Career Center staff.

*The New Americans Career Pathways Project (Utica, NY)* project managers developed a media plan for recruiting youth using flyers and agency handouts. Youth referred for probation, foster care and community partner organizations were among those targeted for recruitment to the Career Pathways Project.

**Partnership Strategies**

*Santa Maria Summer Jobs and Beyond Project (Santa Barbara County, CA)* partnered with private and public sectors including the county workforce board, chamber of commerce, Santa Barbara County Education Office, and Center for Employment and Training to respond to the high levels of gang-related violence against youth. Local youth-serving organizations were also partners.

*California Indian Manpower Consortium (CIMC) (multiple tribal communities in 3 states)* partnered with community organizations and the Indian Education programs, Tribal high schools, public high schools, Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) organizations, and after-school programs throughout 41 California counties, the State of Illinois, and 3 counties in Iowa. CIMC leveraged support from NBC Universal Studios to provide a Web Site Development Coding Boot Camp to participants.

**Work Experience Activities**

*Beyond Summer Jobs Chicago (BSJC) (Chicago, IL)* provided program participants with job readiness training and pre-employment skills. In addition, youth were provided career exploration to help them transition to unsubsidized employment. BSJC engaged youth in a series of events, such as hosting employment hiring events, connecting youth with the Hospitality Hires Jobs Network. Youth were connected to local employers like Chipotle, UPS, Five Guys, Jewel-Osco, Walmart, and FedEx.

*Pathways to Sector Employment for Youth (Portland, OR)* placed and supported youth in paid internships and provided a single point of contact for employers to engage targeted youth. Youth were provided career coaching as well as work-readiness training prior to placement. Other efforts included screening and matching youth to positions based on the skills and preferences specified in the position description. Participants received ongoing job coaching to support the youth.

*EmployIndy: YouthWorks Indy (Indianapolis, IN)* helped disconnected youth connect to work experience opportunities in neighborhoods with high rates of youth who are homeless, in foster care, involved in the criminal justice system, or not employed nor enrolled in post-secondary training or education.

*Milwaukee Career Plus (Milwaukee, WI)* offered three career pathways including the summer youth program, Employ Milwaukee’s in-school youth program, and a Bridge to College program. Each pathway integrated apprenticeship programs offering opportunities for participants to learn skills in construction, manufacturing, and hospitality.

*PA CareerLink® Philadelphia: Youth & Young Adult Opportunity Hub (Philadelphia, PA)* connected to core community partners including the Philadelphia Youth Network (PYN), SER Metro, Drexel University, the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce, the School District of Philadelphia Re-Engagement Center, the Mayor’s Office of Community Empowerment and Opportunity, and the School District of Philadelphia, Office of Career and Technical Education.

*Grow Detroit’s Young Talent (GDYT) (Detroit, MI)* took steps to incorporate out-of-school youth by providing more comprehensive wrap-around services including dental and vision services, talent and college tours, as well as individual and group counseling services.