



MAYOR'S SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM



**SUMMER 2023
PROGRAM REPORT**

TRACK 1: **WORKPLACE DEVELOPMENT & LIFE SKILLS TRAINING**

104 hours of in-person learning over 4 weeks and the opportunity to earn up to a \$1350 educational scholarship



PROGRAM BREAK DOWN

10:00AM-4:30PM

**MONDAY-THURSDAY FOR
THE MONTH OF JULY**

1 ENRICHMENT TRIP PER WEEK

LUNCH AND SNACK PROVIDED DAILY

WEEKLY ENRICHMENT TRIPS

- **Grounds for Sculpture**
- **Princeton University**
- **The Watershed Institute**
- **Mercer Street Friends**

TRACK 2: **EMPLOYMENT TRACK**

A small cohort of 12 youth were placed at non-profits and made strong contributions over their 6-week internships. They each earned up to \$2,700.

9

Nonprofit Employers

30

**Hours Per Week
Work Experience**

1

Site Visit by Millhill Staff



**SUMMER WORK
HOURS**

DEMOGRAPHICS

Demographics for the 34 participants who completed the program

34

PARTICIPANTS
COMPLETED THE
PROGRAM

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TRACK: 22
EMPLOYMENT TRACK: 12

GENDER



21



12



1

(Female, Male, Non-Binary)

AGE RANGE

AGES 14-15

17

AGES
16 -17

10

AGES
18-21

7

RACE/ ETHNICITY

85%

OF YOUTH WHO
FINISHED THE
PROGRAM QUALIFIED
AS **LOW OR VERY LOW**
INCOME.

NATIVE HAWAIIAN/ PACIFIC
HIGHLANDER (3%)

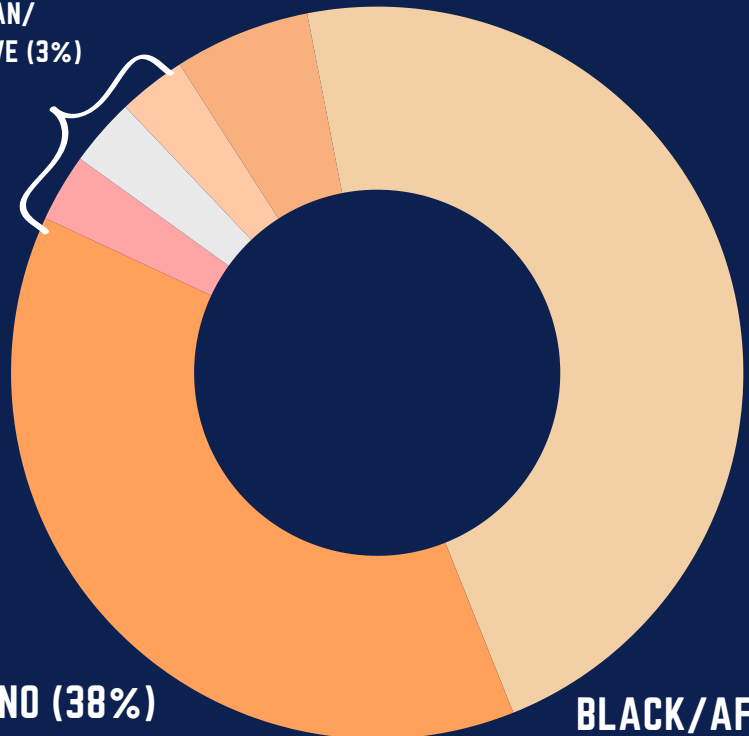
AMERICAN INDIAN/
ALASKAN NATIVE (3%)

WHITE (3%)

MULTIRACIAL (6%)

HISPANIC/ LATINO (38%)

BLACK/AFRICAN
AMERICAN (47%)



WEEK 1: SHAPING MY PROFESSIONAL IMAGE



PERSONALITY STYLES AND VALUES

Youth completed a personality style test and used it to find similarities within the group. They discussed positives and negatives about each style. Participants also identified their most important values.

PRONOUNS AND ANCESTRY

Youth were provided a session on pronouns led by Shayne Judge of Planned Parenthood. They also took time to explore their ancestry, continuing to look at who they are, where they come from, and where they are headed.



VISION BOARDS

Youth created posters evaluating who they currently are and their future goals. They also practiced public speaking skills by presenting their vision boards to the group.

YOUTH SAID...

"I learned **what type of leader I am** and what some of my abilities are."
-Lindalva

"Not only did I learn more about myself and personality **I got to reflect my future and what I want to be.** I also put thought into where I come from, what my morals are, and what events occurred earlier in my life that shaped the way I am now."
-Mariah

Additional Sessions

-  Perspectives
-  Strengths Chain
-  SEL Wheel
-  Self Tree

WEEK 2: TEAMWORK

PBC RETREAT

Princeton Blairstown Center staff led an engaging and eventful day. Participants worked together to overcome various challenges and puzzles and reflected on what made them a successful team.



DISCUSSION: WHAT MAKES AN EFFECTIVE TEAM

Youth engaged in an interactive discussion on what effective teams look like and how to be the best teammate. Participants shared teams they identify as successful.



PARTY PLANNING

Participants worked in teams to plan a party following a rubric. Each group presented their party and staff voted on which team created the best party.



YOUTH SAID...

"I learned that there are **different kinds of leaders** and that not many people who lead the same way should be in the same group."
-Lindalva

"I learned how to be **open when it comes to working in a new environment.**"
-Cameron

Additional Sessions

Teambuilding Rotations

Table Topics

Healthy Relationships

Financial Literacy

WEEK 3: WORKPLACE PROFESSIONALISM



WORKPLACE PROFESSIONALISM

Participants led presentations they developed in groups about various components of workplace professionalism including dress, communication, and time management.

NETWORKING

Participants received a session on networking, focusing on the importance of starting to build their network early in their career. Youth and speakers shared tips on how to best network.



RESUMES

Youth were provided information and examples for creating a resume, delivered by Lisa Hamilton. Staff then reviewed their resumes with them and provided suggestions on what activities to become involved in to strengthen their resumes.

YOUTH SAID...

"Thank you so much for this opportunity. I will take everything you all have taught me and use it in my life."
-Crystal

"I found out how helpful the presentation for **professional outfits** was and how it could depend on how people view you."
-Kimberly

Additional Sessions

- Internet Safety
- Team Building
- O'Net Career Profiler
- SEL Activity: Rocks & Stones

WEEK 4: PUBLIC SPEAKING



SPEECHES

After receiving coaching and information on public speaking from Robin Muhammad, each participant prepared a speech of their own and delivered it in front of their peers. They then received feedback from Robin and program staff. The speeches were impressive and everyone was well prepared.

MOCK INTERVIEWS

Volunteers from the community and program funders provided 20-minute mock interviews for youth. The youth found this helpful, as most had not experienced an interview previously. They reported feeling more prepared for the process of interviewing for jobs next summer.



MENTAL WELLNESS

Shanika Dixon Glaze, MSW, conducted a session on mental wellness. Youth shared what they know about mental wellness and the stigma around mental health issues.

YOUTH SAID...

"Something I found helpful was **getting up in front of others and gaining experience in public speaking.**"

-Imelda

"The mock interview was really helpful because I've never done an interview before, and I feel like this has **prepared me especially at my age on how to perform during an interview.** It also prepared me on my response time."

-Mariah

Additional Sessions



Interviewing Skills

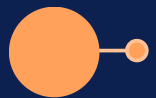


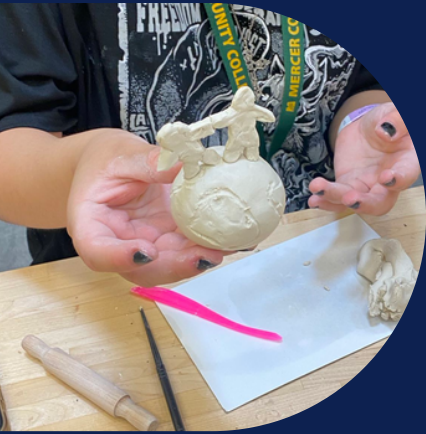
Table Topics Speeches



Tai Chi



College Panel



WEEK ONE GROUNDS FOR SCULPTURE

"I enjoyed the clay sculptures and how everyone could show what they imagined when speaking of unity and their own unique definitions and meanings."
-Kimberly

"The field trip was really fun and enjoyable. We got to interact as a group and I enjoyed trying new things such as catching butterflies. This field trip made me more comfortable around insects and nature."
-Mariah



WEEK THREE THE WATERSHED INSTITUTE

WEEK TWO PRINCETON UNIVERSITY



"I enjoyed walking around the campus & learning about the history of the university. I found it helpful to be able to talk to the lady who was guiding us who told us more about the lifestyle of going into college."
-Melanie

"I really loved working hard as a team. I am thankful that I was given this new experience, as well as a chance to give back to my community."
-Crystal

WEEK FOUR MERCER STREET FRIENDS



EMPLOYMENT TRACK

12 youth were placed with 9 non-profit organizations in and around Trenton for an in person work experience. On August 5th they presented highlights of their projects to each other and their supervisors at a Lunch & Learn.

EMPLOYMENT PARTNERS



GROUNDS FOR SCULPTURE



1719 William Trent House Museum



YOUTH AND SUPERVISORS AT THE LUNCH & LEARN



"I learned a lot this summer, like new skills, communication, and team work. I also learned more about myself and my strengths and weaknesses. Things that will help me in the future by making me more well-rounded, effective person, and employee. -Elizar

"My summer internship has impacted me greatly. Not only did it teach me new things, but it also helped me bond and meet new people. Working at Princeton University allowed me to collaborate with others and discover my passions in architecture." - Jadyn

WORKPLACE SKILLS

WEEK ONE KNOWING YOURSELF

"I learned about the different types of leaders and I have discovered things i have not really thought about myself in the paper chain project."
-Kimberly

WEEK TWO TEAMWORK

"This summer internship positively impacted me by teaching me how it feels to be in the workforce and how to better work with others."
-Gavin

WEEK THREE WORKPLACE PROFESSIONALISM

"I learned that appearance matters when your trying to get a job."
-Jordan

WEEK FOUR PUBLIC SPEAKING

"Don't be afraid to shine."
-Malanue

A large graphic showing the number 95% in a bold, sans-serif font. The numbers are filled with a cityscape image, showing buildings and streets. The percentage sign is a solid dark color.

of youth reported that they **learned about themselves and others** in the program through structured activities.

A large graphic showing the number 94% in a bold, sans-serif font. The numbers are filled with a cityscape image, showing buildings and streets. The percentage sign is a solid dark color.

of youth reported they **learned about the importance of teamwork** and improved on their skills working as a team.

A large graphic showing the number 100% in a bold, sans-serif font. The numbers are filled with a cityscape image, showing buildings and streets. The percentage sign is a solid dark color.

of youth felt that they learned about what professionalism is and **how to conduct themselves in a workplace**.

A large graphic showing the number 90% in a bold, sans-serif font. The numbers are filled with a cityscape image, showing buildings and streets. The percentage sign is a solid dark color.

of youth felt they gained new **skills in the area of public speaking that they will continue to use**.

YOUTH FEEDBACK ON OVERALL PROGRAM

Youth who participated in the program had an opportunity to give us overall feedback on the the program.

100%

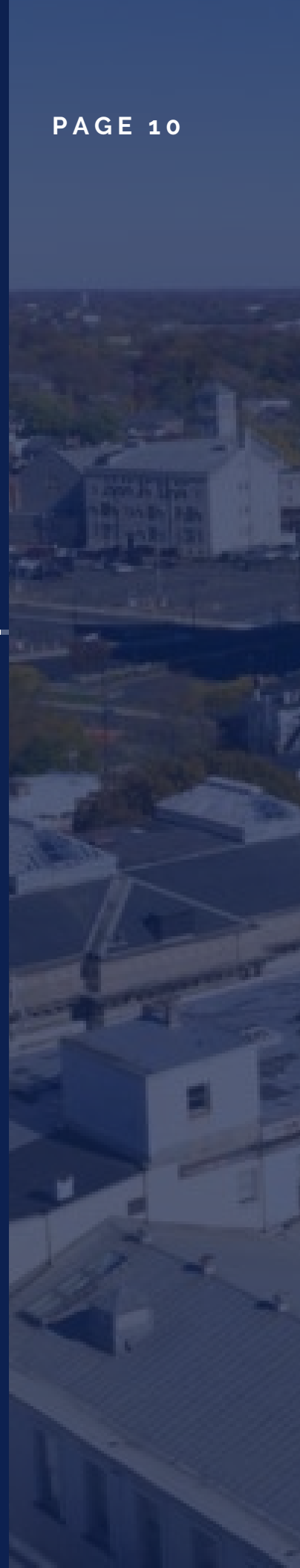
of youth expressed feeling more confident in their ability to perform well in the workforce.

100%

of youth reported feeling more confident in their ability to do well in school.

91%

said the activities, speakers, and trips were purposeful and engaging.



We asked program participants ...

**WHAT DID YOU
LEARN THIS
SUMMER?**

**AND HOW WILL
IT HELP YOU
IN SCHOOL
AND/OR YOUR
FUTURE
CAREER?**

“I have learned that confidence, kindness, and a strong sense of self will take me a long way when it comes to future job interviews and future opportunities.”

-Nina

“I learned how to budget, work in teams, and express my opinions. These are all things that I will take with me throughout my future that will help me and make a better person.”

-Nala

“I learned how to network, it will help me by meeting new people from many different background and skills in specific areas. ”

-Kimberly



We asked program participants ...

WHAT WOULD YOU TELL OTHER YOUTH ABOUT THIS PROGRAM?

"I would tell them that it is a once in a life time opportunity and that they will learn and meet many new things and people."

-Nala

"I would tell them to absolutely take this opportunity. This program truly helps you improve in whatever you are working on and can inspire you to be the best version of yourself. Take advantage of this new experience that will give you so much wisdom that you WILL need in your future. "

-Crystal

"It's a good opportunity to learn new skills, meet new people, and gain valuable knowledge. It's also a change to challenge yourself and grow both professionally and personally. "

-Elizar



THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS!

From Millhill Child and Family Development, we thank you for supporting the success of this program!

