THE BIG PICTURE: Nationally, and particularly in Philadelphia, too many young people are out of work, making it harder for them to get ahead. In a city that struggles with persistent poverty and inequity, we know that preparing our young people to enter the workforce is good for our youth, for our communities, and for the economic growth of our city overall. We know that youth employment in Philadelphia lags behind the state and local rates, and given that today’s youth are tomorrow’s workforce, we must provide more opportunities to ensure they are trained and prepared for the world of work. Youth bring energy, creativity, comfort with technology and curiosity among other untapped talents. They just need an opportunity to learn.

SUMMER JOBS are a critical entry point for youth employment. For many young people, it’s their first job, teaching them the necessary 21st century skills they need to thrive. When more opportunities are available, and young people have access to employment, the impacts can be seen community-wide. Helping Philadelphia’s young people get ahead increases overall academic achievement, lifetime earnings, creates demand-driven employment pipelines and supports long-term economic growth and community development.

WORKREADY SUMMER JOBS

Summer employment models offer educationally-enriched work opportunities for youth and young adults 12-24. Participants complete a six-week (120 hour), paid work experience that fosters the acquisition of the 21st century skills through work-based learning. This continuum of models challenge youth to understand the correlations between work experience, skill attainment and high school completion, and how those variables impact their potential for college and career success.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The City of Philadelphia has set a goal to provide 16,000 jobs for youth by 2020, which helps not only our young people but our city overall. These young people are tomorrow’s workforce. We need to work together to scale WorkReady Summer and create more opportunities each year.

Support summer jobs in Philadelphia:
- Financially sponsor a work experience
- Hire a young person at your workplace
- Help us expand and innovate programs to reach more young people

Did you know your business can get EITC tax credits by supporting WorkReady? Contact us to learn more.