Summer Youth Employment Report
September 2010

Minneapolis Employment & Training Program and its partners provided 2,312 Minneapolis youth with summer employment opportunities via federal, state and city funding.

STEP-UP PROGRAM

STEP-UP is a City of Minneapolis program that provides a pathway to education and career success by offering quality employment experiences to Minneapolis youth, ages 14-21. STEP-UP works with the employer community to provide jobs in industry sectors from finance and law to healthcare and education.

STEP-UP Employment

- 4,000 youth applied for STEP-UP.
- 1,341 youth worked in private sector, non-profit and government jobs.
- 178 total employers included 40 non-profit agencies and 138 companies.
- The largest employers for 16-21 year-olds were Minneapolis Public Schools (122) Hennepin County (71), University of Minnesota (38), City of Minneapolis (27) and U.S. Bankcorp (23)

STEP-UP Kick Off

- Approximately 200 STEP-UP interns and supervisors attended the STEP-UP Kick Off at City Hall on June 14.
- The STEP-UP youth received words of encouragement from Mayor Rybak and STEP-UP interns Amanda Melvin and Muna Ahmed.

Kick Off participants Carolyn Roby, Chair, Minneapolis Workforce Council, STEP-UP interns Muna Ahmed and Amanda Melvin, Deb Bahr-Helgen, Director, METP and Harvey Rucker, member, Minneapolis Workforce Council.

STEP-UP Enhancements

- **1,255** youth completed work-readiness training. (**56** youth received specific health careers work readiness training.
- **350** youth attended class, operated by the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board, for three hours per week for eight weeks with the ability to earn a one-half high school credit. Classes were held at North High School and Richard Green Central School.
- **89** youth were paired 1:1 with mentors via the **Business Partners Mentoring Program** and 80 more youth benefited from other career exposure activities
- **43** STEP-UP youth worked at, or attended, YouthCARE Camp Sunrise, a weeklong camp experience where youth can earn wages while they work and learn outdoors.
- **70** youth attended “Golden Gopher Day” at the U of M to learn about college options.

STEP-UP Celebration

- August 11, nearly 500 STEP-UP youth, parents and supervisors celebrated the contributions of the 2010 STEP-UP interns and their employers at the Minneapolis Convention Center.
- Speakers included Master of Ceremonies Mayor R.T. Rybak, STEP-UP interns Alexis Harris and Derrick Charleston, Richard Davis, Chairman, President & CEO, US Bancorp and Dr. Robert Jones, Senior VP of System Academic Administration at the University of Minnesota.
- Employers Kaleidoscope and Health Partners received awards in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the STEP-UP Program.

SYI (SPECIAL YOUTH INITIATIVES) PROGRAM

Seven hundred and three youth found employment and training opportunities in a variety of projects with private and non-profit employers that offered community service and work-based learning.

- **African Community Services**: 26 youth worked at local, mostly East African, businesses
- **American Indian OIC**: 47 youth in health careers related education and employment opportunities
- **Asian Media Access**: 30 youth in work-based, service learning multi-media projects
- **EAC (Employment Action Center)**: 112 youth worked at private sector and non-profit worksites
- **East Side Neighborhood Services**: 14 youth in childcare and beautification at Northeast parks

YouthCARE Community Service Stars

- **Elpis Enterprises**: 10 precariously housed youth worked as screen printers and woodworkers and learned MN core academics
- **Emerge**: 164 youth in 3 projects; StreetWerks (132), Homegrown-14 and Partnership Sites (18)
- **HAMAA**: 51 youth in career and computer instruction, private and public sector employment
- **HIRED**: 21 youth in private and public sector jobs
- **Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board**: 66 youth total; 5 on Bike & Trail Team-bike trail maintenance and bike safety, 31on Green Team-conservation projects, 30 on Garden Team-gardening to feed MPRB crew members/families
- **Minneapolis Public Schools**: 25 Broadway High School Teenage Parenting & Pregnancy Prevention Program students worked in Child Development, Business, Culinary Arts and Health
- **Minneapolis Urban League/City Inc.**: 55 youth in construction and other employment
- **MN Transition Charter School**: 28 youth in health, construction and technology jobs
- **Pan African Community Organization**: 22 youth in senior services, healthcare and maintenance
- **Tree Trust**: 12 youth in "green" career work
- **Urban Arts Academy**: 6 youth employed as teaching assistants to pre-K – 5th graders
- **YouthCARE Community Service Stars**: 14 youth in "green" industry work via service learning projects

YEAR-ROUND WIA @ MINNEAPOLIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS (MPS)

The goal of the Year-Round WIA @ MPS program is to increase competencies of special needs youth in the areas of prevocational, vocational, communication, mobility, work related, academic and social skills.

2010 Year-Round WIA @ MPS Employment

- **197** youth worked part-time in July in the Life Skills (125), SILS (52) and School That Works (20) programs.
- Youth worked as merchandise handlers, child-care aides, teacher aides, landscapers, food assistants, recycling/stockers and laundry workers at parks, hotels, stores, restaurants, childcare centers and schools.
- MPS developed job sites and provided job coaching and supervision.
- METP provided wages ($7.25 per hour) and payroll services.

Luceeka Harvey, Ben Nebelung, Lannette Huberty (MPS Job Coach) and Donavan Knox at the Division of Indian Work food shelf.