

Youth in the News

Workforce Investment Board of Southeast Missouri

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Next-Generation Jobs Team Update

The Next-Generation Jobs Team summer youth program has steadily moved along this summer. The Next- Generation Jobs Team summer youth program has a total of 566 enrollments which makes up 121% of the total enrollment goal of 468 for the Southeast Region. A total of 446 youth have been matched with summer jobs and working in the Southeast Region. There have been 15 EMAA youth and 10 MERS youth that have completed their summer work experience.

Along with learning valuable workplace skills, the youth are having wonderful experiences in their job placements. Employers have expressed how pleased they have been with the NGJT summer program and the youth employees.

In this issue, you will find more stories of summer youth work experiences and also letters from employers sharing their feelings about the NGJT summer program and the youth they have been working with.

Again, we wish to express how proud we are of the staff, youth , and employers who continue to work very hard to make this Next-Generation Jobs Team summer youth program successful.

Great teamwork everyone!



"People forget how fast you did a job- --but they remember how well you did it."

-Howard W. Newton

NGJT Youth Mentioned at Kennett City Council Meeting

According to article written in the Daily Dunklin Democrat by Joshua Payne, the NGJT summer youth program was mentioned at the Kennett City Council Meeting held in July.

The Dunklin County Street Commissioner, Randy Carter, noted at the meeting that his depart-

ment hired an employee through the NGJT summer youth program. According to Carter, the employee has had no individual training because of short staff, but has picked up abilities very quickly.

Fire Chief John Mallot also reported at the Kennett City Coun-

cil meeting that the fire department is using four summer interns through the NGJT summer youth program and one of the interns is looking to go into the Explorer Program and could become a part-time firefighter once he turns 18-years-old.

Great News in Dunklin County!

NGJT Youth Working in Bollinger County

Michael Havens is a 17-year-old young man working to obtain his GED, with a great passion for Literature. He is currently working at the Bollinger County Library as a Library/Writing Assistant. His goal is to become a writer, and has already been working on writing his own pieces.

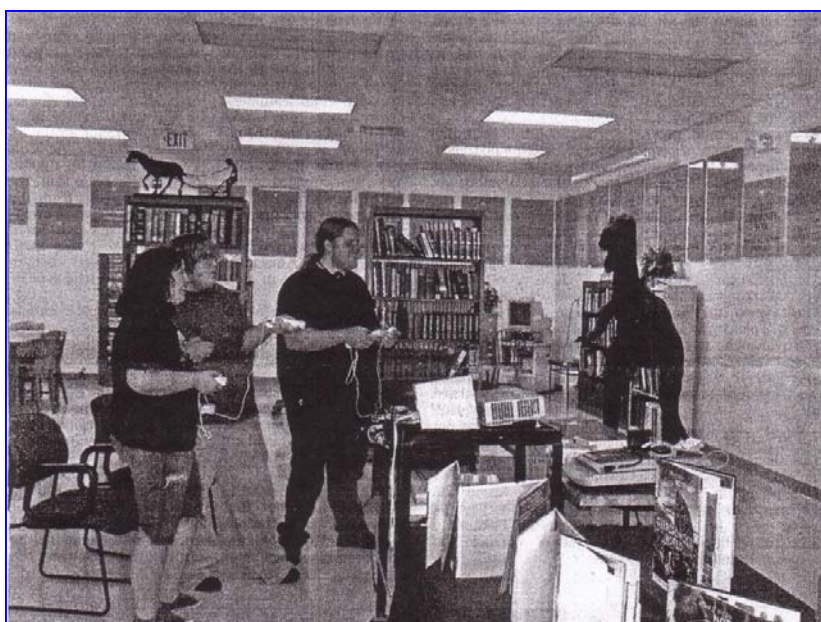
His supervisor has expressed her amazement at his talent for writing. With this opportunity in the summer youth program, he feels more confident in his ability to complete his education and has sparked further interest in pursuing a degree in the field of Language and Literature Education.

Best of luck Michael!



*Knowledge is power, but
enthusiasm pulls the
switch.*

-Ivern Ball



Justin Yount (center) and **Michael Havens** (right) playing a word game to challenge the brain on the Wii system recently acquired by the Bollinger County Library through a Missouri State Library grant program.



Justin Yount is a 16-year-old high school student employed in the NGJT summer youth program at the Bollinger County Library as a Recreation Worker. His goal is to work in video game technology.

Recently, the Bollinger County Library obtained a grant from the Missouri State Library grant program to buy a Wii system for

the public use. Justin has been able to give presentations on the system and made it easier for the patrons to utilize the system itself.

This opportunity has created increased interest for him in the field of Online Robotic systems. He has actually worked on developing online games through this opportunity.

The NGJT summer youth program has given Justin the opportunity he would not otherwise have to use his interest and skills in technology.

Way to go Justin!



Skills Being Learned by Perry County NGJT Youth

Perry County NGJT youth case manager, Debbie Wideman writes- Dillian Richardet is a 16-year-old dropout who had problems making a resume since he had never worked and did not feel he had any skills to put on a resume. Dillian had not been able to find a job until he became involved in the NGJT summer youth program.

He started his first job July 10, 2009 at Sutterer Oil and Service Station. The owner said he would teach Dillian skills that would be an asset to him. If the owner likes Dillian, he would like to keep Dillian on after the program ends since he has invested time and energy into Dillian's training. Skills Dillian is learning are basic

mechanical duties such as checking air pressure in tires, changing and rotating tires, performing minor repairs, checking and recharging batteries, cleaning the parking lot, customer service, cash register and working as part of a team.

Great job Dillian!



Perry County NGJT youth case manager, Debbie Wideman writes- Dylon Paul is a 19-year-old dropout who is the father of 3 children. He had no skills in construction, and very few skills of any other capacity, but was hired on at BBL in Biehle, building Pole-Barns and earning \$9.00 an hour. He is being mentored by an older supervisor, who is hard on him, but Dylon likes him a lot since he grew up without a father figure

in the home. The first day of work, Dylon threw up 4 times from the heat factor which was 109 the day that he started to work. When the supervisor called me with concern for Dylon, I went to the worksite to meet with him, along with the Human Resource Director. The first thing Dylon said to me was "I sure won't eat any more Vienna Sausages in this kind of heat!" He made it

to work the next day and has not missed a day since. The supervisor is hoping to keep him on after the NGJT summer program ends and they will raise his pay to \$9.50 an hour.

Dylon feels the NGJT summer program helped him find a job that he probably would not have found on his own.

Good luck Dylon!



Perry County NGJT youth case manager, Debbie Wideman writes- Nathan O'Harver is a 17-year-old dropout who had problems making a resume due to never having a job and lacking skills. Nathan is now working at the Perry County Memorial Hospital as a maintenance assistant. His supervisor is an older gentleman, who has been mentoring Nathan. Nathan's supervisor has commented he is working hard and picking up maintenance skills that he can use in future positions.

Nathan walks two miles, one way, to work every day and has to be at work by 7:00 a.m. His dad uses the car for his own

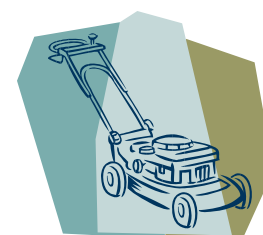
transportation, so that means Nathan has no way to work but to walk. His supervisor said that Nathan has not been late for work and some days he is able to give Nathan a ride home.

Nathan has been using the weed-eater, push-mower, learning the skills of proper painting and proper paint brush and roller use. He is learning customer service, since he is around patients and other co-workers. He is doing better at following directions and time-management; all essential skills to attain other positions and to receive a recommendation letter from the Human Resource

Department at the hospital, when the summer program ends.

Since Nathan has acquired some skills and has been patting-on-the-back a few times for doing good, his confidence has grown. When I see him now, he always has a smile on his face. When asked what he was going to do with his first pay check, his comment was "Help Mom and Dad pay a bill and take his family to a restaurant for supper since they never get to go out." Nathan is not only helping to support the family income but also helping the economy.

We're proud of you Nathan!



Letter from Employer of Stoddard County NGJT Youth

Melissa Woltkamp, Manager, Special Projects, wanted to share the letter below received from an employer of a NGJT summer youth in Stoddard County.



Dear Melissa,

I just wanted to tell you that I appreciate this Youth Work Program so much. I have a funding issue and working by myself to make ends meet.

So having an employee funded through the summer has been a blessing for me.

But putting me aside, it's been a greater blessing for my employee. I knew there would be a learning curve, but I had no idea. We were reconciling the bank accounts one day and she asked me what we were doing. She didn't have a clue, never having a checking account. One day she said, oh I get why you file in alphabetical order, so you know where the files are. Those two things made me realize where she was at. I backed up and started teaching her the basics. This week I had her call all the banks in the area to ask them what their bank offered in checking & savings accounts. She will choose a bank from that list and I will take her to get her first checking account. She has learned how to answer the telephone, how to take a message, to use her time wisely, etc. She soaks up all the information you give her like a sponge. She is a great person and I know our time together has been essential for her future. She is a high school graduate.

This has been the greatest program from the government I have ever experienced. I know the students benefited from this stimulus package.

If there are any funds left for this year I would appreciate your consideration in extending the deadline and letting her work for a little while longer, for her sake.

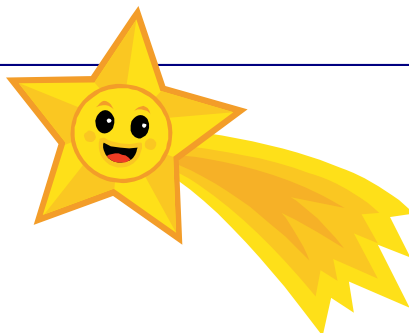
Best Regards,

Carol

Carol L. Moreland

Stoddard County 911 Services

911 Administrator



Stoddard County NGJT Employer Happy to Have NGJT Youth

NGJT summer youth case manager, Charlotte Vandiver, in Stoddard County received the letter below from a NGJT employer who is very happy with NGJT summer youth employee, Devon Reece.



D&S Drug and Soda Fountain
1226 West Business Hwy 60
P.O. Box 667
Dexter MO. 63841
Phone #: (573)614-4243
Fax #: (573)614-4292

July 24, 2009

Dear Mrs. Vandiver,

I would like to let you know how our summer youth employee, Devon Reece, is doing.

She is a joy to work with. She is very pleasant and polite. Our customers seem to really like her. She is quiet so we are encouraging her to speak to our customers so she will get more comfortable with that.

Devon seems to be very interested in pharmacy and wants to learn about reading and filling prescriptions. She is learning to identify drugs and what they are used for.

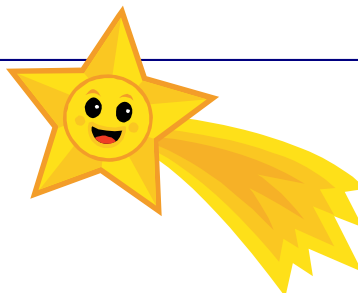
Because Devon is working out so well we have started the process to get her registered with the Board of Pharmacy in Missouri to be a registered technician. She will then be able to do even more in our pharmacy.

Devon always follows instructions and ask questions when she needs to. She is very quick to learn whatever it is we show her. We are very pleased with her work. Having her here has been very helpful.

.

Sue Schumer, RPh

Pharmacist in Charge





*“Always bear in mind
that your own resolution
to succeed is more
important than any
other.”*

-Abraham Lincoln

“St. Francois County Youth” Spotlight

St. Francois County youth case manager, Dale Sweet writes- Tabitha Tackett enrolled in WIA as a 19-year-old high school dropout and a single mother on August 21, 2008. She was looking for help finding employment and was also interested in getting her GED. She was placed in a work experience at a local nursing home doing housekeeping and completed the work experience. Tabitha was then hired by the company for full-time employment. She

continued to work full-time until March 2009 when the economy forced her hours to be cut to between 10 and 15 hours per week.

Tabitha, being under-employed, got a temporary job in the medical records department at a local hospital, through the Next-Generation Jobs Team summer jobs program, working 40 hours per week and is still keeping her other job working about 10 hours per week.

Tabitha relies on her mother for babysitting and has enrolled in GED but doesn't attend classes as often as she would like because she just can't find the time. She has a strong work ethic and a desire to make it on her own.

Way to go Tabitha!



“Pemiscot County Youth” Spotlight

Pemiscot County youth case manager, Shameica Hardimon writes- I am very proud to work with the Pemiscot County youth. I am happy to be the case manager. We have several youth that are currently participating in the summer employment opportunities (work experiences). The youth program has several individuals working on obtaining their GED. This year, we have had three youth to receive their CNA license. I am very happy to play a role in their accomplishments.

This month the spotlight goes to **Danielle Shaver**. Danielle is a very intelligent, helpful, hard-working person. Ms. Shaver is

a leader. She participates in the events that are scheduled for the youth program. Throughout this year, she has been a role model for the youth in the community. Danielle is an active participant in her youth church group. She sets goals and works hard to achieve them. Her first goal of the summer was to obtain her Missouri Driver's License. I am pleased to say that she has obtained her license. She also completed 10 Modules of the Career Readiness Class. Her next step is to become an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). I have no doubt in my mind that she will accomplish this goal.

Danielle has decided to attend Excelsior Springs Job Corps. She is very excited. This is a huge step for Danielle. She has the support of family, friends, and the youth program.

We wish her the best in the future. I know that she will be a good asset to a school or employer.

GOOD LUCK DANIELLE!!!!



Watch for spotlight stories in the August 2009 issue that will be featuring **Dunklin County and Madison County!**



COUNTY	CASELOAD	# OF ACTIVITIES	D.O. PREVENTION/ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL	WORKSITE LEARNING	OCCUPATIONAL SKILLS TRAINING	LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	ATTAINMENT
BOLLINGER	1 IS 11 OS	14	3 ALT. SCHOOL	0	0	1	2 EMPLOYED
CAPE	0 IS 18 OS	10	7 ALT. SCHOOL	4	0	9	2 EMPLOYED
DUNKLIN	16 IS 10 OS	4	1/5 DO PREVENTION & ALT. SCHOOL	0	0	0	2 EMPLOYED
IRON	2 IS 18 OS	2	3 DO PREVENTION	0	0	2	0
MADISON	3 IS 13 OS	4	2 DO PREVENTION	0	0	1	0
MISSISSIPPI	3 IS 16 OS	2	11 ALT. SCHOOL	0	0	0	0
NEW MADRID	5 IS 7 OS	2	2 ALT. SCHOOL	0	0	0	1 EMPLOYED
PEMISCOT	10 IS 12 OS	4	6 ALT. SCHOOL	0	1	3	2 EMPLOYED
PERRY	2 IS 15 OS	4	7 ALT. SCHOOL	3	1	6	4 EMPLOYED
SCOTT	1 IS 16 OS	11	15 ALT. SCHOOL	1	1	11	4 EMPLOYED
ST. FRANCOIS	4 IS 15 OS	1	0	4	0	8	2 POST SECONDARY
STE. GENEVIEVE	11 IS 14 OS	5	1 DO PREVENTION	2	2	4	1 H.S. DIPLOMA
STODDARD	0 IS 23 OS	5	11 ALT. SCHOOL	0	1	3	2 EMPLOYED

DO: Drop Out

IS: In School

OS: Out of School

County	Activities
Bollinger	Monthly Youth Meeting, Work Readiness Classes, and workshop on "Finding a Job"
Cape	Monthly Youth Meeting, Work Readiness Classes, workshop on "Managing Your Checking Account", and Adult Education & Literacy Center Tour
Dunklin	Workshops on "Your Success" and "Next Step GED"
Iron	Workshop on "Summer Goals" and Youth monthly "Group Counseling" workshop
Madison	Workshops on "Job Searching Using MissouriCareerSource.com", and "Youth Survey"
Mississippi	Monthly Youth Meeting and workshop on "Budgeting"
New Madrid	Monthly Youth Meeting and workshop on "Budgeting"
Pemiscot	Monthly Youth Meeting, Work Readiness Classes, and workshop on "Should I Be Working"
Perry	Monthly Youth Meeting, workshops on "Ladies, We Can Do It"(empowering women to be independent and successful), "How to Have a Yard Sale", "How to Bass Fish" (positive leisure activities excellent opportunities for mentoring and networking), and Youth Suicide Awareness Seminar
Scott	Monthly Youth Meeting, Work Readiness Classes, Extra Study Time (GED), and workshop on "Poverty Simulation"
St. Francois	Workshop on "Getting Along With Coworkers"
Ste. Genevieve	Workshops on "Percentages", "Interviewing", "Budgeting II", "Metric System", and "Setting Goals"
Stoddard	Monthly Youth Meeting, Work Readiness Classes, and workshop on "Every day Life, Helpful Hints"



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