



Boston and Summer Jobs A HUGE SUCCESS STORY

Boston has long been known for running one of the most successful Summer Youth Employment Programs in the country. According to former Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino, in addressing business leaders, "Boston offers the most summer jobs per capita of any major city in America." In Boston, in addition to the role of the Mayor, three sectors play a large part.

Most important is the role of the mayor. Former Boston Mayor Tom Menino was chief recruiter for obtaining paid internships for young people. Starting in January, the Mayor began making speeches to every business audience he encountered encouraging them to hire Boston youth and stressed that the City would send employers prepared candidates. Without having well-prepared youth to fill the jobs, marketing the program to the private sector can produce disappointing results and businesses only will participate in this type of program once if they don't have a good experience.

Private philanthropy plays a significant role in the Employment Program. Several millions of dollars for wages go to community-based organizations to hire teens who then supply additional workers for those agencies to expand their services during the summer. This effort is closely coordinated with the city's program. The John Hancock program which supports 674 youth jobs developed a job readiness skills workshop given every Friday during the summer. In addition, the Youth Violence Prevention collaborative, led by State Street Foundation, has organized over a dozen private foundations to work with youth who live in neighborhoods experiencing extreme street violence.

The Boston Private Industry Council works throughout the school year in public high schools to prepare students to compete for a high quality private sector internship. Their kick off to the *Boston continued inside*



2013 SUMMER JOBS REPORT CARD

"America's young people face record unemployment, and we need to do everything we can to make sure they've got the opportunity to earn the skills and a work ethic that come with a job. It's important for their future, and for America's."

-President Obama.

In April, President Obama issued a challenge to local elected officials and business and community leaders: work together to connect young people with summer and year-round job opportunities. Workforce Development Council Responses:

NATIONWIDE REPRESENTATION
48
LOCAL AREAS REPRESENTED

MAJOR CAPACITY/
INFRASTRUCTURE
84,684
SUMMER JOBS

RAISING AND COORDINATING RESOURCES
\$121,653,050
INVESTED

About The US Conference of Mayors Workforce Development Council

You are reading a publication of the US Conference of Mayors Workforce Development Council (WDC). The organization's members--including the nation's largest cities--manage federally funded employment and training programs and work closely with mayors and other local elected officials. The activities of WDC members are focused on meeting the human resource needs of American businesses and improving the economic status of jobseekers and their families.

The purpose of this publication and subsequent issues is to demonstrate the high value the nation's workforce system delivers to million of Americans every year.

For more information on the WDC or to become a member, please contact Kathy Wiggins at kwiggins@usmayors.org

WORKFORCE

The United States Conference of Mayors
Workforce Development Council



1620 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006
Tel: 202.293.7330
Fax: 202.293.2352
www.usmayors.org



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uscmwdc@usmayors.org