
The Youth Connection 2016 Programming Participation and Highlights

Direct Service Population: 3,469 people in 2016

The Youth Connection Substance Abuse Prevention Education Classes (Year-Round 2016)

The Youth Connection offers Substance Abuse Prevention Education classes to middle school, and older youth in Wayne County. Using an evidence-based prevention curriculum, The Youth Connection provides our youth with a fantastic educational experience to prevent substance abuse and promote positive self-image, conflict resolution skills and positive communication among our families in Detroit.

Total Participants: 216 City of Detroit youth

The Youth Connection Career Academies Tobacco Compliance Check Team (June 2016)

Youth that participated in TYCCA had an option to participate in tobacco retailer compliance checks. These youth were partnered with the Detroit Police Department and performed 43 SYNAR compliance checks on Detroit tobacco retailers to make sure the stores were not selling tobacco to minors. Youth reported their findings to the Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority and the State Dept. of Health and Human Services.

Total participants: 4 youth

The Youth Connection Strengthening Families Program (August – October 2016)

The Youth Connection, in partnership with the Love Detroit Prevention Coalition, hosted a Strengthening Families program for parents and youth in the Osborn neighborhood. This research-based program helps families reconnect and tackles tough issues such as family communication and respect, goal-setting and family values. This first-time training was a huge success for the families that participated in late summer/early fall.

Total participants: 43 participants

The Youth Connection Community Connection for Fit and Healthy Kids: Osborn (Year Round 2016)

The Youth Connection's "Community Connection for Fit and Healthy Kids" campaign, in partnership with the Michigan Fitness Foundation focuses on educating students ages 6-12 and their parents in Detroit about the values of healthy eating and active lifestyles.

Total participants: 409 Detroit Parents and Youth

The Youth Connection DNR Summer Program (June - September 2016)

The Youth Connection, in partnership with the Michigan Department of DNR and Economic Development Corporation, provided a summer internship and outdoor activities program from June through December of 2014. Youth explored the expectations and skills necessary to succeed by engaging in hands on training and

exercises directly related to careers. Youth helped to renovate a comfort station on Belle Isle in November and December. Participants also completed paid summer internships at various companies, agencies and departments.

Total Participants: 68 City of Detroit youth ages 16-19

The Youth Connection Ticket to Float Program (Summer 2016)

The Youth Connection partnered with the National Park Foundation and River Raisin National Battlefield Park to provide a one-day kayaking and environmental education experience for 1,016 youth on the Huron River in July and August of 2015. Youth learned how to kayak and the various issues surrounding water quality, Michigan's natural resources and the history of the Motor Cities National Heritage region.

Total Participants: 1,359 City of Detroit youth

The Youth Connection Grow Detroit's Young Talent Program (January - September 2016)

The Youth Connection, in partnership with City Connect, administered a work readiness and job placement program for 50 youth participants to receive 135-hour paid internship and work-readiness seminars. We also provided youth with academic remediation through our EBLLI tutoring program. This program focuses on increasing students reading skills and, in many cases, raised the reading grade level of students significantly.

Total Participants: 50 high-school aged youth

The Youth Connection 15th Annual After-School Fair (August 2016)

The Youth Connection After-School Fair is a one-stop experience to get Detroit youth ready to go back to school and back to after-school programs. This past year we included a 5K prevention walk to the Fair and had College vendors there ready to talk to students about attending their schools. We hosted hundreds of after-school programs, over 1,800 parents and youth, and a building full of student-led college groups, healthcare professionals and healthcare companies to provide free services to our youth. We had almost 100 volunteers and many partner agencies pitch in to provide a day of fun, information and education on Belle Isle on Saturday, August 29th, 2015.

Total participants: 1,050 Detroit Parents and Youth; 100 volunteers, 100 after-school programs

Comcast Internet Essentials Resume and Online Job Search Program (Fall 2016)

In partnership with Comcast, the Youth Connection provided computer literacy, resume, and online job-hunting seminars for parents and youth of the Osborn Community. The trainings were conducted the first week in September and gave over 30 people the chance to make/revise a resume and tips on using online job search sites. Comcast also promoted their \$9.95 per month high speed internet program.

Total Participants: 70 parents and young adults from Detroit