I was able to forge such meaningful connections with everyone I met throughout my work experience.

[Our intern] was on the top of all the projects assigned to him and met all the deadlines. [His] level of communication was outstanding.
A summer job is more than a paycheck. It is a place where youth learn valuable skills for the future and contribute to the community. Moreover, it is a key component to creating the pipeline of homegrown talent employers need. Missing out on these early work experiences can have long-term negative effects on future employment and lifetime earnings.

In the Portland metropolitan area, there are over 30,000 young adults who are neither working nor attending school.

SummerWorks program participants are more diverse, more likely to be economically disadvantaged, and less academically prepared than the broader population of youth in Multnomah and Washington counties.

Completers of the SummerWorks program had higher rates of educational engagement compared to those who did not complete the program.

Youth enrolled in 11th grade prior to participation were FIVE PERCENTAGE POINTS MORE LIKELY TO COMPLETE HIGH SCHOOL in the following year than predicted based on their demographic and academic characteristics.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT CRISIS

3.4 MILLION jobs deficit

Employment opportunities during the summer months – a time when most youth acquire their first job – have vanished in many communities.

NEARLY 40% DECLINE in summer youth employment over the past 12 years

ONLY 26% of teenagers held any paid jobs in 2011

In 2013, white male teens in high-income families were

five times MORE LIKELY to be employed than their black male peers living in a low-income family.

Teens from a family that earned less than $20,000 were nearly

20 percentage points LESS LIKELY to be employed than teens with a family income of $60,000 or more

JP Morgan Chase released a report in 2015 outlining the youth employment crisis in America. This report noted:

“While the economic recession over the last decade left many groups facing declining employment rates, teenagers and young adults have experienced the steepest drop of any age group.”

This summer was an amazing summer working with some of the best people I’ve ever met.

Missing out on early work experiences can have long-term negative effects on future employment and lifetime earnings.
THE MODEL | Learning & Earning

A JOB IS THE SOLUTION

- Leads to higher graduation rates and increased college entry
- Develops critical workplace skills and connections with employers
- Contributes to regional competitiveness in the global economy
- Boosts spending in the local economy
- Contributes to long-term successes and increases lifetime earnings
- Increases probability youth will have a job in subsequent years
- Reduces need to access other forms of public assistance

SummerWorks is a public/private partnership that supports youth through their first work experience. Youth need opportunities to learn critical workplace skills that can only come through real work experience.

Convenient & Cost Effective
SummerWorks does all the upfront training and screening. In addition, as employer-of-record, the risk and expense of hiring youth directly is significantly reduced.

Productivity
Youth come ready to do real work. All youth apply for the program and must complete a rigorous screening process, including 10 hours of work-readiness training.

Staff Development
Supervising a youth intern is an opportunity to develop the leadership and mentoring skills of frontline staff.

“SummerWorks was such a positive experience for our family! We are grateful for the opportunity to have our son participate in the program.”

“If there are ever any open positions available that match [our intern’s] school schedule, we would love to hire him on as a permanent staff member!”

“My experience was life changing! My employer was awesome, super supportive and I’m grateful for the opportunity.”
In 2018, SummerWorks youth: were placed in 1,045 DIFFERENT JOBS: worked a total of 162,823 HOURS: and earned a collective $212,320,866 wages:

**THE RESULTS**

**Post Program Plans**
- 40% returning to high school (including alternative HS)
- 37% pursuing post-secondary education
- 2% joining the workforce
- 21% no clear plans

**Youth Survey Results**
- 97% felt good or okay about their SummerWorks experience
- 91% would recommend SummerWorks to a friend
- 82% pleased with their worksite
- 86% agreed their supervisor created a supportive work environment
- 86% learned new skills

**Youth Profile**

**FUNDING SOURCES**

**ABOUT WORKSYSTEMS**

Worksystems, Inc. is an experienced non-profit that pursues and invest resources to improve the quality of the local workforce. Worksystems designs and coordinates workforce development programs and services delivered through a network of partners to help youth and adults get the skills training and education they need to go to work or advance in their careers.

Worksystems 1618 SW First Ave., Suite 450, Portland, OR 97201 | 503-478-7300 | www.worksystems.org

This program financed in part with funds provided through Worksystems from the U.S. Department of Labor. SummerWorks is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. To place a free relay call in Oregon, dial 711.

---

Black/African American 31%
Hispanic/Latino 27%
White 23%
Asian 14%
More than one race 8%
Not disclosed 4%
American Indian/Alaska Native 1%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander 1%

Black/African American 32%
Hispanic/Latino 28%
White 19%
Asian 12%
More than one race 7%
Not disclosed 3%
American Indian/Alaska Native 1%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander 1%

Boeing Portland
BOR
Bullivant Houser Bailey PC
City of Beaverton
City of Portland
Conservation Coatings
Elemental Technologies
Elite Plastics
Epson
Glendoveer Golf & Tennis
Hillsboro School District
KGW Channel 8
Lease Crutcher Lewis
Mahlum Architects
Metro
Micropip Technology Inc.
Motivate International Inc.
Multnomah County
Nortek Air Solutions
NW Natural
NW Regional Education Service District
Oh Planning & Design
Oregon BEST
Oregon Department of Education
Oregon Department of Human Services
Pacific Foods
Pacificmark Construction
Portland Community College
Planar Systems
Portland Public Schools
Providence Health & Services
Reynolds School District
Skanska USA
TriMet
Tripwire
Washington County

SummerWorks is made possible in part by the generosity of our sponsors: