



RACINE COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CENTER OFFERS EXCITING CAREER AND JOB SUPPORT SERVICES FOR YOUTH

by Mark Gesner, Racine County Workforce Development Center, Youth Team Leader

Are you a young person looking for a job or trying to figure out what sort of career to pursue? Are you a parent who wants your teenager to develop work skills or to get help creating a resume? Are you a youth program leader or school teacher who would like to offer a career exploration workshop to your group or class? If you fall into any of these categories, the Youth Team at the Racine County Workforce Development Center (WDC) may provide the resources you are looking for.

The Youth Team at the WDC offers a variety of services and resources to help youth reach their educational and career development goals.

- Workshops

Our workshops range from learning about “soft skills” like teamwork and communicating well in an interview, to specific instruction about how to fill out job applications and how to maintain a job.

This winter, the Youth Team will be offering a workshop series that will teach young people about general work related skills and provide detailed information about youth-related jobs in retail, food service, helping professions, and community service.

- Individual Counseling

Career Youth Counselor Maria Nabors also meets with young people 21 years of age and younger to help them with their individual needs, such as writing cover letters or conducting a job search.

- Computer-assisted programs

The Career Development Center (CDC) is a computer lab where young people can access WISCareers (a comprehensive career development and exploration site), and also benefit from a variety of work skills aptitude and assessment tools.

- Workforce Investment Act Program

The Youth Team also runs the Workforce Investment Act Program for young people ages 14-21. This program primarily serves young people from low income families who are looking for a leg up with developing job skills and pursuing their education.

- Other Programs

The Youth Team supports the Mayor’s Summer Jobs Program, Mentor Kenosha & Racine and school-based programs such as Parents Educating Parent Students (PEPS).

The team also works with the University of Wisconsin – Parkside’s Center for Community Partnerships to conduct educational attainment, mentoring, and workforce development-related research. The team is currently conducting an evaluation of Work Skills Assessment tools through a Department of Labor WIRED grant.

If you would like more information please visit the WDC web site at <http://www.wdc.racineco.com/> or call Maria Nabors at (262) 638-6351 or maria.nabors@goracine.org.