

Transforming Youth Workforce Systems in Lake County IL

Presented By:

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Lake County Workforce Development Youth Task Force est. 2022

- Assess, plan, and align strategies to increase a sense of belonging and reduce the burden of navigation for youth.
- Reflect on current structures and practices within and across systems and settings.
- Develop action plans to ensure that systems within the youth development ecosystem work together to enhance youth belonging and opportunity.
- Foster strong peer-to-peer relationships and teamwork.
- Co-develop program expectations with young people.

Youth Taskforce Membership

- Education (e.g. schools, colleges)
- Juvenile justice
- Workforce development (e.g. Job Corps, WIOA programs)
- Community-based youth organizations
- Employers
- Local government (e.g. townships)
- Philanthropic Foundations



2022

The Following Slides are from our initial Youth Taskforce Meeting with partners and public. The meeting was a brainstorm session, but we've included these to share how we started the process.

One System – One Message

- Create a network with a common entry point for the youth to engage or place to investigate opportunities
- We need a shared "vision"
- Collective Impact
 - create KPIs, data collection
- Mobile bus
- Common message for all Lake County youth providers
- Youth kiosk stationed where the youth are
- Increase access throughout the county

Jobs/Careers

- Outreach: Economic Development, Employers, Job Seekers
- Need Employer and industry voices
- County Career Fairs & Local High School Job Fairs

Mentoring/Support

- Champions at key organizations
- Youth Mentors
- Combine with Non- profits for wrap around services

Training/Education

- Basic Education
- Youth Mentors
- Career Awareness Opportunities

Youth Systems Building Academy

In 2023, the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration (DOL-ETA) selected the first cohort of the Youth Systems Building Academy (YSB Academy) to enhance youth employment opportunities and outcomes nationwide. This training and technical assistance initiative aimed to strengthen communities' capacity to serve youth facing employment barriers, ensuring easy access to services through a "no wrong door" approach. The YSB Academy supported local workforce systems and partners in developing and implementing system-level strategies to engage and support young people in the workforce.



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We are youth passion and purpose for Lake County

Goal & Mission

Build a system where all youth, partners and stakeholders have a voice, And a no-wrong-door approach is created and sustained.

Vision Statement

Co-create a career and college readiness system with young adults and for all young adults.

Understanding the Challenge

Youth Action Plan Steps

Youth Voice

Engage youth in listening sessions

Asset Map

Inventory partners and stakeholders, youth serving organizations

Communication and Marketing Plan

Develop a single message, no-wrong-door approach

Career Awareness

Support career and college awareness expos, campaigns

Data Points

Utilize the data to inform strategic decisions

Data Points

01

Importance of Data

Utilizing data-driven insights to comprehend the existing challenges and opportunities is fundamental in creating a comprehensive action plan that addresses the multifaceted issues faced by the youth.

02

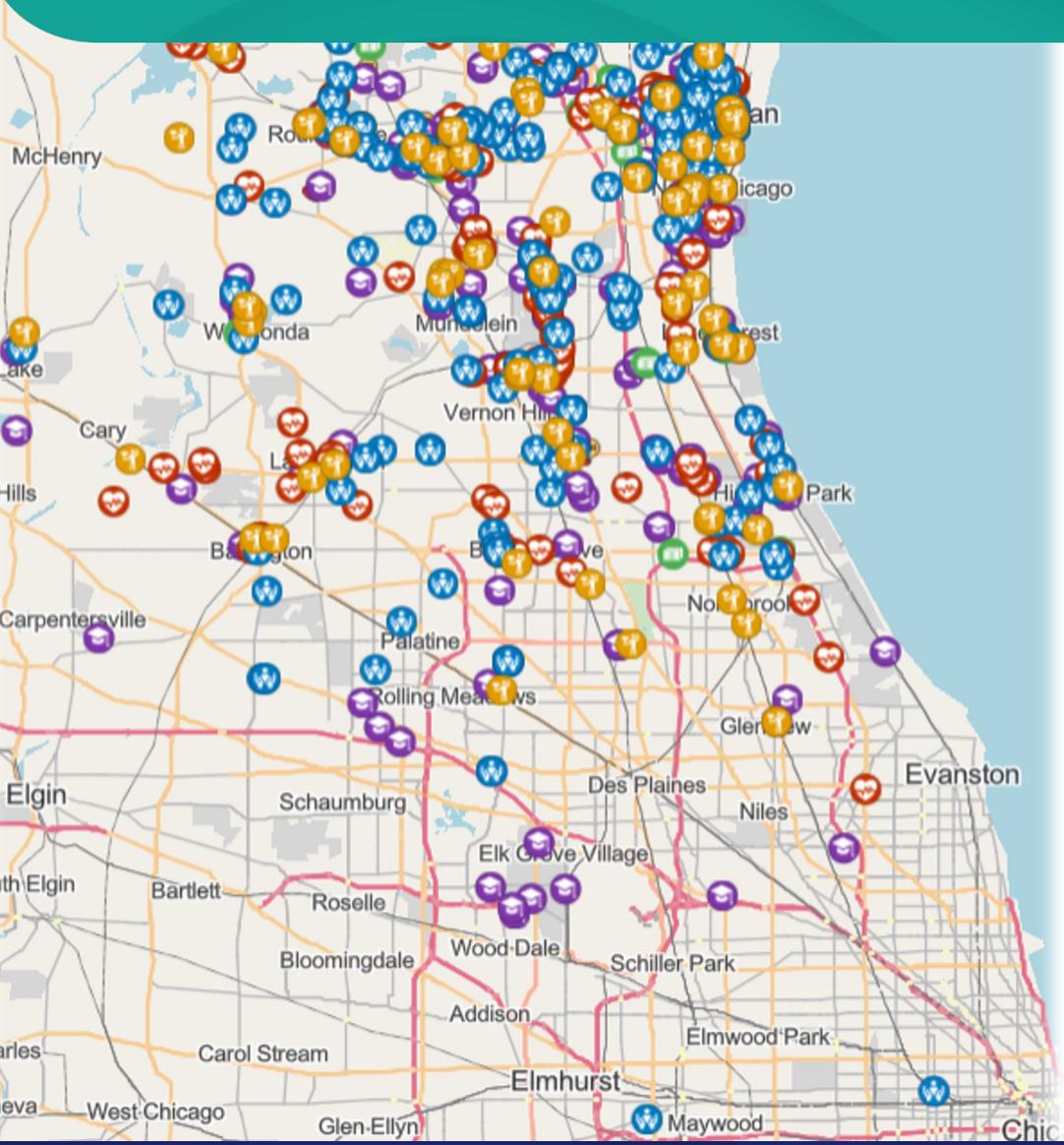
Barriers to Access

Identifying the barriers that hinder access to services, education, and quality job pathways is crucial for developing targeted strategies that cater to the diverse needs of the youth in Lake County.

03

Disconnection Rates

The disconnection rates among young adults, including opportunity youth and justice-involved youth, pose a significant challenge to the region's workforce development system. It is imperative to understand the root causes and address them effectively to create lasting impact.



Asset Mapping and Leveraging Resources

Identifying Assets

Conducting a thorough asset mapping to identify the existing resources, including educational institutions, community organizations, and businesses, that can contribute to the enhancement of the youth workforce development system.

Strategic Partnerships

Building strategic partnerships with diverse stakeholders to leverage resources and expertise, fostering a collaborative environment that maximizes the impact of the action plan.

Resource Optimization

Developing strategies to optimize the utilization of available resources, ensuring that they are channeled effectively to benefit the youth and create sustainable pathways to success.

Youth Voice

01

Youth-Centric Approach

Recognizing the importance of adopting a youth-centric approach that places the needs and aspirations of the youth at the forefront of all initiatives and programs.

02

Addressing Redundancies

Identifying and eliminating redundancies within the current system to streamline processes and improve the overall efficiency of service delivery.

03

Engaging Stakeholders

Engaging a diverse range of stakeholders, including community leaders, educators, employers, and the youth themselves, to gain insights and perspectives that drive meaningful change.



Strategies for Transformation



Capacity Building – Youth Development Practitioner’s Apprenticeship Program

Professional Development

Creating an apprenticeship program that provides hands-on experience and training for youth development practitioners, equipping them with the skills and knowledge to support the diverse needs of the youth.

Empowering Future Leaders

Empowering apprentices to become future leaders in youth development, contributing to the sustainability and effectiveness of the workforce development system.

Career Awareness Events and Integrated Business Services

01

Promoting Career Awareness

Organizing career awareness events and experiences with local high schools that expose youth to a diverse range of career opportunities, inspiring them to explore their potential and aspirations.

02

Integrated Business Services

Collaborating with businesses to integrate youth-centric services into their operations, creating a symbiotic relationship that benefits both the youth and the business community.

03

Apprenticeship and Internship Programs

Establishing mentorship and internship programs that provide practical exposure to the professional world, bridging the gap between education and employment.

Empower Through Education and Training

Tailored Educational Programs

Developing tailored educational programs that cater to the diverse needs and aspirations of the youth, ensuring that they have access to relevant and impactful learning opportunities.

Skills Development Initiatives

Implementing skills development initiatives that equip youth with the practical skills and competencies required to succeed in the evolving workforce landscape.

Quality Job Pathways

Creating pathways to quality jobs through targeted training and development programs, empowering youth to pursue meaningful and sustainable careers.





Vision for Transformation

Long-Term Impact

Envisioning the long-term impact of transforming the youth workforce development system, with a focus on creating sustainable pathways to success for the youth in Lake County.

Empowerment and Inclusion

Emphasizing the importance of empowerment and inclusion, ensuring that all youth, regardless of background or circumstances, have equal access to opportunities for growth and development.

Building a Resilient System

Developing a resilient and adaptable system that can evolve with the changing needs of the youth and the workforce landscape, fostering continuous improvement and innovation.

Impact and Vision

Collective Successes

Envisioning the Future

Painting a compelling vision of the future youth workforce development system in Lake County, emphasizing the collective success and prosperity of the youth and the community.

Celebrating Achievements

Celebrating the achievements and milestones of the transformation journey, acknowledging the contributions of partners, stakeholders, and the youth themselves.

Call to Action

Issuing a call to action for sustained commitment and support from all stakeholders, ensuring the enduring impact and success of the transformed youth workforce development system.

Job Center of Lake County Social Media Information

Like, subscribe, or follow us on social media to stay up to date on job search advice, resources, and job openings.

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Questions

Thank you!

