

Over 1,000 Served

EnterpriseWorks for Youth marks the beginning of its eighth year with a service milestone. To date, over 1,000 Franklin County youth have benefited from EW for Youth after-school programs and summer camps. Started in 1999 as the Career Center for Girls, the youth division of EnterpriseWorks expanded in 2000 with support from the Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services. Our single after-school program has grown into a substantial offshoot of EnterpriseWorks. EnterpriseWorks for Youth now offers the Career Center for Youth after-school program to middle-school-aged students at eight sites. The Kids Environmental Education Program (KEEP) quickly grew from a pilot program introduced in January 2006 to a weekly after-school program also offered at eight sites. EW for Youth summer programs include the Summer Experience Day Camp, supported by the City of Columbus, and the Career Center on Campus and KEEP



EnterpriseWorks for Youth after-school program and summer camp alumni.

residential camps, both funded by Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services.

With the continued support of our funders, the community, our school partners and dedicated staff, EnterpriseWorks for Youth has grown significantly, so that we may now offer enriching, educational and recreational services to approximately 350 youth each year. Thank you to all those who have aided in our growth and progress throughout the past seven years.

Franklin County Sends Sixty Middle School Students to College

For the fourth consecutive year, the Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services supported EnterpriseWorks' Career Center on Campus. Sixty TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)-eligible children ages 10 to 13 were granted a valuable opportunity by Franklin County. Participants in Career Center on Campus enjoy three nights and four days living at Ohio



Campers gather at OSU stadium to kick off Career Center on Campus.

State University. While experiencing a taste of college dorm life, campers engage in classes and activities related to preparation for college as well as career exploration. Students learn the basic requirements for college admission, necessary steps to take in middle and high school for college preparation and information regarding college tuition and financial assistance. Campers explore a variety of careers and college majors through workshops, hands-on activities, field trips and guest speaker sessions. Career Center on Campus exposes students to the college milieu and enables them to see post-secondary education as a manageable and beneficial option. Most importantly, Career Center on Campus successfully stresses the connection between education and career fulfillment.

In addition to "College 101", as we call it, Career Center on Campus offers instruction in financial literacy and nutrition and fitness. With plenty of time and nice weather for recreational activities, campers thoroughly enjoy themselves swimming at the Worthington Parks and Recreation Center pool, competing in outdoor sports on campus, playing team games with camp staff and making one or two quick stops to the Dairy Queen for a cool treat.

As always, our community partners lend a hand in providing valuable experiences and instruction to our sixty campers. This year, we extend much deserved praise and appreciation to Shepherd's Farm, the Columbus Zoo, the Wexner Center for the Arts, the Ohio State University Athletic Department (stadium volunteers and staff), Columbus Crew, COSI and the Worthington Parks and Recreation Center Aquatics staff for their involvement in our 2007 Career Center on Campus.

City of Columbus Supports Career Center Exploration for Fifty City Youth

Our Week in the Woods

The Kids Environmental Education Program (KEEP) launched its first residential camp in July 2007. KEEP Camp offered a unique, outdoor educational experience to 52 TANF-eligible youth ages 10 to 13. Held at the YMCA's Camp Willson in Bellefontaine, Ohio, KEEP Camp taught



Going for a hike through the woods

boys and girls valuable information about Ohio wildlife and habitats. Campers enjoyed the wonder and beauty of nature first-hand while hiking through woods and fields, doing chores in the petting zoo, visiting the critter lab, roasting marshmallows at the campfire and participating in workshop instruction. During five days and four nights in a beautiful outdoor setting, KEEP kids learned to identify indigenous plants, insects and animals, tested health conditions

of local water sources and practiced methods of conserving resources and protecting wildlife habitats. Exercise and recreation were part of the daily routine. Campers enjoyed rock climbing, riding on the giant swing, horseback riding, lake swimming, archery, outdoor sports, group relays and teamwork activities. Cabin living and family-style meals in the dining hall made camp seem more like home and helped build friendships among our KEEP campers. We are already planning our KEEP Camp activities for summer 2008.

KEEP Camp is made possible by the support of Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services. We thank the county commissioners and FCDJFS staff for aiding us in our efforts to foster environmental responsibility and increase interest and performance in science among low-income youth in Franklin County.



Heading out for a swim

Since 2003, the City of Columbus has dedicated funds to support a valuable, educational summer camp experience to Columbus area youth. In June 2007, fifty children aged 10 to 13 attended the Summer Experience Day Camp. Students are recruited through neighborhood associations, recreation centers, the Community Bulletin Board aired on cable television, EnterpriseWorks' after-school programs and the distribution of flyers to Columbus Public elementary and middle schools. Summer Experience Day Camp is offered to each camper for one week at no cost. It is a week of fun and learning that children are sure to remember. Campers participate in workshops and hands-on activities related to specific careers such as engineering, nursing, fashion, law, and accounting. In addition to meeting and interviewing a variety of professional guest speakers, they take career-related field trips that demonstrate firsthand the typical work experience for a given career. Campers also participate in classroom instruction for rudimentary financial literacy. They



Summer Experience campers visit Columbus Mounted Police Stables.

learn the basics of budgeting, checking accounts, credit, savings and investing. Sounds like a lot for sixth and seventh graders but campers' ability to quickly grasp the ins and outs of money management is quite impressive. Taking advantage of warm summer weather and recreational activities, Summer Experience also provides instruction related to fitness and nutrition. Campers develop a healthy, five-day meal plan and are encouraged to increase their physical activity. Swimming, outdoor games and sports as well as a morning on the Camp Mary Orton ropes course are some of the entertaining physical and recreational activities offered at Summer Experience day camp.

Our lively and enriching program would not be possible without continued support from the City of Columbus and the community partners who volunteer time and services to the Summer Experience Day Camp. EnterpriseWorks appreciates the participation of the Columbus Police Department Mounted Police, Ohio State University Flight School, Columbus Police Department K-9 Unit, COSI, Worthington Parks and Recreation Center Aquatics Department, Hilliard YMCA, Eldon Ward YMCA, YWCA Columbus, Frank Wisheart, CPA, Camp Mary Orton and the Pepsi Bottling Company in Summer Experience 2007.

Career Center for Youth Begins Eighth Year at Area Schools

As of October 8, 2007, EnterpriseWorks' Career Center for Youth is underway at eight local school sites. The Career Center for Youth, offered to sixth and seventh-grade students, offers career exploration and instruction in skills leading to self-sufficiency. In addition to self-assessment, CCFY students explore careers through hands-on activities, group instruction and discussion, guest speaker sessions and career-related field trips. Participants learn the basics of financial literacy, job



Students gather for their first day of Career Center activities.

readiness for the youth employment experience, entrepreneurship, life skills and public service. These after-school programs run once per week from October through May, with some special activities occurring on Saturdays throughout the school year. The Career Center for Youth is offered at no cost to participants. Current school partners for the 2007-08 school year include: Arts Impact, Beery, Indianola, Medina, Starling, and Westmoor Middle Schools, and Galloway Ridge Intermediate School (held twice a week to accommodate high enrollment). Though the Career Center for Youth is an inclusive program, EnterpriseWorks does seek out high free-lunch populations in an effort to engage low-income students in need of enriching, non-academic services. Career Center school partners generously provide meeting rooms, computer labs, storage space and additional support needed to successfully recruit students and provide programming. The 2007-08 school year begins the Career Center for Youth's eighth year of operation. This program is funded by the Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services (TANF).

Kids Environmental Education Program Expands to Eight Sites for 2007-08 School Year

The Kids Environmental Education Program (KEEP) takes a great leap this school year. Started as a pilot program in January 2006 at one school, KEEP is now offered weekly at eight after-school sites. KEEP provides environmental education in an effort to foster environmental responsibility among youth, encourage interest and performance in science and expose youth to careers relating to environmental science. Each week at KEEP, students engage in classroom instruction, hands-on experiments and activities, guest speaker visits or science field trips. KEEP students are expected to "get their hands dirty" while learning about challenges to the environment and ways to preserve our planet. The KEEP curriculum, developed by EnterpriseWorks' staff and a fifth-grade science teacher from the South Western City School District, directs students through four major components of environmental study: Pollution, Conservation, Agriculture, and Wildlife. The program operates from October through May and is held weekly at Arts Impact, Beery, Indianola, Starling, and Westmoor Middle Schools, Leawood Elementary School, and twice weekly at Galloway Ridge Intermediate School to accommodate their high enrollment. KEEP is funded by the Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services and the Ohio EPA Ohio Environmental Education Fund.



Participants in KEEP after-school examine animal life at Battelle Darby Creek.

Ohio EPA Onboard to Support Environmental Education for Youth

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency Ohio Environmental Education Fund has honored EnterpriseWorks with a grant for the Kids Environmental Education Program (KEEP) school year project. The OEEF award is used to fund KEEP after-school services for the 2007-08 school year. This grant has enabled EnterpriseWorks to expand its range of service to include eight after-school sites in Columbus and Franklin County. We are sincerely grateful to the Ohio EPA OEEF for this opportunity and measure of support.



EnterpriseWorks for Youth

Pitty Jennings, *Program Director*
 pjennings@enterpriseworks.biz

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EnterpriseWorks for Youth would like to thank the following organizations for their generous support of our programs:

- City of Columbus**
- Fifth Third Bank**
- Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services**
- Jefferson Center**
- Ohio EPA/Ohio Environmental Education Fund**
- Time Warner Cable**

Lend us a hand in extending our services to more deserving youth in Ohio!

Your generous donation assists us in offering our summer camp scholarships, expanding our after-school services and developing new programs.

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Checks should be made payable to *EnterpriseWorks for Youth*, and be mailed to EnterpriseWorks, 100 E. Broad Street, Suite 2460, Columbus, OH 43215. If you do not wish to be recognized for your contribution in future EnterpriseWorks for Youth publications, please indicate so with your contribution. Thank you for your generous support.

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