



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Youth Applications for 6 Week Summer Work Experience Programs open on February 20th

February 17, 2017 - Rochester, NY - RochesterWorks! in collaboration with Monroe County and the City of Rochester, is pleased to announce that applications for the Summer Youth Employment and Summer of Opportunity Programs will be open on February 20th, 2017.

The Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) is a county wide, grant funded program, operated by RochesterWorks! in collaboration with the City of Rochester's Summer of Opportunity Program (SOOP), that provides youth with six weeks of paid work experience through work sites and programs across Monroe County. In 2016, about 800 young people participated in these programs.

"It's a massive undertaking. For a lot of our youth this is their first real-world experience with a job," **Antwan Williams** Director of Youth Services said. "Our program is crucial in the development of our young people and our workforce at large."

"The Summer Work Experience Program is a prime example of the opportunities we can create through collaboration with partners in local government," said County Executive **Cheryl Dinolfo**. "This program will to boost our local economy, enhance our quality of life, and help keep our young people staying local."

"Real world experience is key to establishing a rewarding career," said **Mayor Lovely Warren**. "The Summer of Opportunity and Summer Youth Employment programs allow young job seekers to gain the skills needed to be successful in a competitive job market. Maintaining a strong workforce is key to our efforts to create more jobs which leads to safer, more vibrant neighborhoods and better educational opportunities for our citizens."

All youth between the ages of 14 and 20 who live in Monroe County may apply. The deadline for online applications is March 24, 2017. Additional information for youth, parents, and employers can be found at www.summeryouthemployment.org.

About RochesterWorks!

RochesterWorks! has been designated by the County of Monroe and the City of Rochester to administer the workforce development funds targeted for Monroe County. As the County's largest employment and training initiative, RochesterWorks! is dedicated to developing a strong workforce, serving job seekers, youth and businesses in our community. For more information about the services we have to offer visit www.rochesterworks.org.

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