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**NORTHERN TIER
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

NTRPDC

312 Main Street

Towanda, PA 18848

1-888-868-8800

Contact: Jody McCarty

Workforce Program Manager

mccarty@northerntier.org

*Dakota Spencer speaks with
U.S. Rep. Tom Marino about
the carpentry vocation*



A newsletter
from the Northern Tier Youth Committee
on behalf of the Northern Tier
Workforce Development Board

Dakota Spencer Builds Success at Job Corps

Dakota Spencer of Monroeton needed a job that could help him become self-sufficient. However, he didn't have a high school diploma, and he needed to learn skills that would help him build a career.

Dakota contacted Job Corps, met with an admissions counselor, and in January 2016 entered the program at Red Rock Job Corps Center in Lopez, Sullivan County. His goals were to earn a GED and complete the carpentry program.

Dakota resided at the Job Corps Center and earned passes to return home to Bradford County on weekends. He progressed quickly through the high school equivalency program and earned his GED in February.

Dakota also worked hard at his trade. As part of his carpentry program he worked on a building project at Red Rock, completing renovations to a former shop that is being converted into an office building for the center's finance department. The project enabled Dakota to showcase the skills he learned, including measuring and cutting, the proper use and care of tools, framing, and hanging and finishing drywall.

Students in the construction trades are also certified in the OSHA-10 safety program.

Dakota successfully completed the Job Corps construction program in August. Days later, he began working for Middendorf Contracting, Inc., in Wysox.

Job Corps is a federally funded vocational-technical program for income-eligible students ages 16-24. Four of the nation's 128 Job Corps Centers are located in Pennsylvania.

For more information on the Job Corps Center at Red Rock, contact:

570-477-0265 or 570-477-0206

turretsky.abigail@jobcorps.org



Summer Youth Employment Program 2016

Real work experience, a paycheck, and a better understanding of opportunities and expectations in the workplace—all are benefits of the Summer Youth Program sponsored by the Northern Tier Regional Planning and Development Commission. The program is managed by Bradford County Action and Trehab, Inc., and is open to young adults in the five Northern Tier counties. In Summer 2016, approximately 45 young people participated in the program. They received a week of classroom sessions known as Academic Enrichment, with activities such as resume-writing and interview practice. Career exploration field trips introduced youth to a wide range of local employers. The core of the program was a hands-on work assignment at one of several participating employers, which served as an introduction to the working world. Following are highlights of the 2016 program.

“The struggle you’re in today is developing the strength you need for tomorrow.”

Author Unknown

Sullivan County Teen Learns Practical Work Skills

Trehab’s Summer Youth Employment Program is often the first meaningful, paid work experience (PWE) a participant receives. That was the case for Sullivan County participant Sarah Gibbs. Sarah began by attending Academic Enrichment, where she participated in Work Readiness Workshops and met her goal.

Sarah started her PWE at Tre-

hab, Inc., in Dushore. She learned basic office skills, prepared food orders, performed basic building maintenance duties, and enhanced her customer service and soft skills. Trehab staff offered support and guidance as Sarah learned new skills. She was even hired by the landlord to finish painting the building after her PWE was complete.



Sarah Gibbs learned office skills through employment at Trehab in Dushore.

Academic Enrichment Week Includes CMOG Field Trip

Trehab in Tioga County hosted six students for a week of academic enrichment during July 2016. The week was filled with activities ranging from soft skills to career exploration to resume writing. One highlight was a day of interview practice where students learned how to answer difficult interview questions.

Trehab staff organized a trip to

the Corning Museum of Glass, where the students saw live glass shows, had a guided tour, and made their own blown glass sculptures. The students also enjoyed an organized day in the park, where they played a game of capture the flag. The emphasis of the game was to practice both leadership and teambuilding skills. At the close of the week,

each student had a resume, cover letter, and three references along with increased knowledge in a variety of workforce topics.

Following Academic Enrichment Week the students began employment at the YMCA, Mansfield Borough, and Cowanesque Valley High School.



Tioga County youth enjoyed a hands-on field trip to the Corning Museum of Glass.

Youth Spruce up Wyoming County Despite Hot Summer



Youth completed painting, weeding, and other important maintenance tasks at various sites.

While working with career advisors, Trehab youth clients may be referred to workshops, career coaching, job referrals, employment preparation, and supportive services, which can sometimes include placement in paid work

mulching Riverside, Iroquois Trail, and Emergency Management Agency gardens, or sweeping, scrubbing, and painting the Riverside tunnel and caboose, Trehab's Summer Youth participants displayed exceptional dedi-

experiences. Trehab is proud to recognize the students who completed the 2016 Wyoming County Summer Youth Employment Program.

Whether weeding, trimming, and

cation and stamina. In spite of this summer's extremely hot and humid weather conditions, youth participants successfully completed a wide variety of rigorous work assignments, earning appreciation and recognition by local agency and government officials. Through mentoring and various hands-on employment opportunities, Trehab's Summer Youth program provides many occasions for participants to build their resumes through job readiness preparation and exposure to the world of work.

Youth Enjoy Hands-On Nature Instruction and More

Local youth in Susquehanna County were excited to take part in Trehab's Summer Youth Employment Program. This year's youth were able to develop an appreciation and understanding of how the workplace operates. One youth, interested in becoming a journalist, wrote an article on her experiences in the pro-

gram for the Susquehanna County Transcript—and it was published on the front page!

This year as part of Academic Enrichment, speakers discussed issues such as bullying, career choices, and drug and alcohol safety.

The youth were excited to return to Salt Springs State Park during Academic Enrichment Week to take part in fun and educational STEM activities and enjoy a picnic lunch with healthy foods they chose themselves after attending a nutrition workshop.

At the park the youth took part in hands-on activities including

hiking and learning about nature's producers, consumers, and decomposers, as well as macro-invertebrates found in streams. After learning about all these parts of nature, the youth were able to go out and identify them themselves.

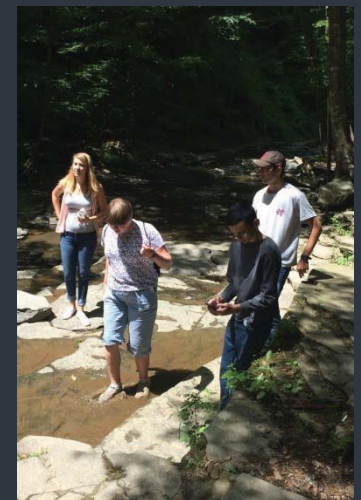
Upon successful completion of Academic Enrichment Week, youth begin hands-on learning at their designated workplaces. Trehab thanks Susquehanna County School District, Susquehanna Tri-Boro Municipal Authority, and Susquehanna Transcript for giving the future workers of their community this opportunity.



Recent Northern Tier Career Center student Philip Kneller placed fourth in Building Construction in the SkillsUSA National Competition in Louisville, Kentucky, in June 2016. Philip is pictured with his instructor, Darren Howell. Philip is currently a student at Penn College of Technology in Williamsport.



Students worked on resumes and learned job search skills.



Youth studied science and explored nature on a field trip to Salt Springs State Park.

Strong Work Ethic Pays off for Canton Student



Logan Route thanks staff on his last day at the PA CareerLink®. He is pictured in the back row, second from left, with some of the Bradford County Action and PA CareerLink® staff.

summer through 2015. During his summer employment Logan developed essential work readiness skills and was mentored by supervisors on positive work habits. He took pride in his work accomplishments and in accu-

mulating new skills. Logan participated in career exploration by attending field trips to employers and businesses in Bradford County and the surrounding areas. In addition, he earned certification in Servsafe® (Food Handler Certificate), National Retail Federation (Customer Service Certificate), WIN, and WorkKeys. In 2016, Logan applied for a state summer intern position at the PA CareerLink® in Towanda. Because of his exemplary work history and supervisor recommendation, he was hired for the Pennsylvania Summer Internship Program for Youth Participants (PA SIP). This program is designed to teach workplace employability/soft skills, provide a pathway to post-high school education and/or training, expose young people to career possibilities, show a pathway to a career in state government, and connect local students to state government in a meaningful way. Logan's supervisor at the PA CareerLink® stated, "In every aspect of personal conduct and professional competence, Mr. Route has been superb."

Logan graduated from Canton High School in June 2016 and is now attending Millersville University for Music Business Technology.

Logan Route of Canton diligently built work experience throughout his high school career, living up to his motto: "Seize every opportunity!"

He first participated in Bradford County Action's Summer Youth Employment Program in 2012, serving at Canton Area School District as a laborer. He enjoyed the experience and demonstrated a positive work ethic and attitude, returning each

summer through 2015. During his summer employment Logan developed essential work readiness skills and was mentored by supervisors on positive work habits. He took pride in his work accomplishments and in accu-

mulating new skills. Logan participated in career exploration by attending field trips to employers and businesses in Bradford County and the surrounding areas. In addition, he earned certification in Servsafe® (Food Handler Certificate), National Retail Federation (Customer Service Certificate), WIN, and WorkKeys. In 2016, Logan applied for a state summer intern position at the PA

Northern Tier Youth Committee

Mission

A system that provides all youth with the skills and opportunities to achieve self-sufficiency, encourages life-long learning, and ensures the region a skilled workforce.

As a subcommittee of the Northern Tier Workforce Development Board, the Youth Committee is comprised of members with a special interest or expertise in youth policy. The Youth Committee is responsible for:

- Recommending eligible providers of youth activities to the Workforce Development Board to be awarded grants or contracts on a competitive basis;
- Providing oversight to the eligible providers of youth services in the Northern Tier;
- Coordinating youth activities and leveraging resources to effectively serve the youth residents of the region;
- Developing portions of the local plan related to eligible youth, as determined by the Workforce Development Board;
- Coordinating youth activities in the Northern Tier; and
- Performing other duties determined to be appropriate by the Workforce Development Board.

Members

- Chair: Jackie Johnson
- Krista Davidson
 - Annette Donovan
 - Charity Field
 - Tara LaFrance
 - Kim Mapes
 - Lori Rahn
 - Kelly Silver
 - Gary Martell
 - Phil Smiley
 - Theresa Steele
 - Penne Watkins
 - Debra Wivell

The Northern Tier Youth Committee meets quarterly at the PA CareerLink® offices, 312 Main Street, Suite 1, Towanda.

Northern Tier Workforce Development Board

Youth Service Providers

PA CareerLink® and Affiliate Sites

Bradford County

Bradford County Action

500 William Street
Towanda, PA 18848
Contact:

Nicole Heyer
Career Advisor
570-265-4434
nheyer@bradfordcountyaction.org

Sullivan County

Trehab, Inc.

210 Center Street
Dushore, PA 18614
Contact:

Susan Kinsey
Career Advisor
570-928-2126
skinsey@trehab.org

Susquehanna County

Trehab, Inc.

1302 Main Street
Susquehanna, PA 18847
Contact:

570-853-1106
jmazikewich@trehab.org

Tioga County

Trehab, Inc.

14 South Main Street,
Suite 202
Mansfield, PA 16933
Contact:

Cassandra Massaro
Career Advisor
570-662-8113
cmassaro@trehab.org

Wyoming County

Trehab, Inc.

1 Kim Avenue, Suite 10
Tunkhannock, PA 18657
Contact:

Kathleen Remington
Career Advisor
570-996-2448
kremington@trehab.org