

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

inside

Wyoming County Trehab,
P.2

Northern Tier Business–
Education Partnership, P.3

Bradford County
SLIP Intern, P.3

TANF Summer Youth
Spotlight, P.4

Summer Young Adult
Program 2020, P.5

Red Rock Job Corps, P.6

Susquehanna County
Trehab, P.7

**NORTHERN TIER
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

NTRPDC

312 Main Street

Towanda, PA 18848

1-888-868-8800

Contact: Jody McCarty

Workforce Program Manager

mccarty@northern-tier.org



Left: Kat in 2020, working at Laurel Health Center in Mansfield (Tioga County), through the State and Local Internship Program

“This is my year, even when everything [in the world] is falling apart!”

–Katherine Cleveland
WIOA Out-of-School Youth Participant/
SLIP intern

Tioga County Trehab Success Story: Katherine Cleveland

Trehab celebrates with our longtime client, Katherine Cleveland (Kat) of Tioga County, who after many years of hard work has earned her high school diploma and gained employment in her chosen field.

Katherine came to us as a depressed, anxious 14-year-old many years ago (in fact she was our last remaining WIA client, and was grandfathered into WIOA). Since the first time we spoke to her Katherine has dreamed about working in a doctor’s office, however with her depression attending school became extremely difficult. Katherine’s career advisor helped with the transition from traditional school to cyber school that was offered by her home district. Kat spent countless hours in the Trehab office with her career advisor trying to tackle the workload.

She eventually quit high school and entered the workforce, thereby gaining painful insight on just how important getting her diploma really was. After an intense heart-to-heart with her career advisor, talking about the reality of aging out of school at 21 years old, Katherine decided to give it one more try. This time with her eyes set on a goal, she enrolled in Agora Academy, and was put in a Paid Work Experience as a Trehab Influencer. Katherine pressed on with her goals, keeping the medical field on her mind and not wanting to ever go back to factory work.

We are very proud that Katherine is a 2020 High School Graduate. She is currently in the State and Local Internship Program (SLIP) working with Laurel Health, which will likely turn into an On-the-Job Training because she is an ideal fit with the group she has been working with this summer.



Above: Kat in 2014, working at Goodwill in Wellsboro (Tioga County) through a Summer Paid Work Experience

Below: Kat when she began her journey with Trehab



Wyoming County Trehab Success Story: Avery Hemme



In February 2020, the Trehab Workforce Department received a referral from Trehab's Drug and Alcohol program. They had a young man named Avery Hemme who had displayed a lot of growth and was ready to take the next step in reaching his educational goals. They felt that Trehab's Out-of-School Youth program would be an excellent option to guide him through this process.

Staff knew right away that with

Avery's positive attitude and TABE scores in the mid-600s, it would not take him long to obtain his High School Equivalency certificate. As staff went to work setting up Avery's tutoring schedule, the COVID-19 quarantine eliminated the possibility of traditional one-on-one instruction.

Fortunately, HiSET is an online platform so with daily e-mails, phone calls, and text messages from both the HiSET instructor and his career advisor offering guidance and support, Avery was ready to test in four months. He completed the fifth and final test on July 27 with a perfect score in Mathematics and a perfect score in Social Studies. Avery's total score was a 93, 48 points higher

than the standard passing score.

Avery is very proud of his accomplishments and is now more determined than ever to keep moving forward. His next goal is to continue with the steps necessary to possibly enlist in the United States Army. Avery feels it is a way he can not only give back but would also be an opportunity for him to do something honorable in his life, and a chance to make those who have supported and guided him on his new path proud of him.

We at Trehab are also proud to celebrate this great milestone in Avery's educational journey and are eager to guide him with his next chapter.

TANF Academic Enrichment Program Online

As the 2020 TANF program year began in July and coronavirus guidelines for gatherings remained in place, Trehab youth career advisors adapted to implement a "Virtual AE" (academic enrichment) program in collaboration with the four counties served: Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, and Wyoming. The program was well received by its 19 participants across the four coun-

ties. A few participants even commented that it was the most fun they'd had since the coronavirus shutdowns started.

As plans started to take shape for the virtual program, the team of youth career advisors researched technology platforms and decided to use Zoom and Google Classroom. Zoom allowed for a virtual meeting place and was familiar to a majority of

the youth clients. Google Classroom provided a central place for materials and assignments to be uploaded and for career advisors to track progress.

The Virtual AE program took place from July 13 to August 13. It consisted of 15 virtual sessions via Zoom covering topics including orientation, interviewing, resume writing, budgeting, job shadowing, and much more.

Each session lasted up to two hours. Sessions often concluded with a short assignment to recap the information discussed. The Zoom meetings were recorded and posted to Google Classroom for later viewing for anyone who was unable to participate in the live session.

The last day of the Virtual AE ended with an in-person field trip for participants by county. Susquehanna County participants attended Rock Mountain Bible Camp's TEAM Adventure Activities, where they participated in zip-lining, laser tag, and other team-building activities. Sullivan County participants

volunteered at a CHOP Pop-Up Food Pantry where they helped pack and distribute food boxes to community members. They also had a lunch-and-learn session with the Sullivan County Conservation District, discussing their careers and doing a STEM activity focusing on clean water. Tioga County participants spent the day on the green in Wellsboro. Their activities included a walking tour of the town, interview question ball tag, and other team-building/STEM exercises. Wyoming County participants spent the day focusing on the arts, visiting Dietrich Theatre, Lizza Studios,

and meeting with an art therapist. It was wonderful to be able to have an in-person field trip to wrap up. All counties heard many positive comments from the youth participants, especially about being able to see people in person!

In a wrap-up question posted on the Google Classroom site, participants were asked to reflect on what they learned during the virtual AE session. Collin W., a Tioga County participant, said, "I think more than anything though, meeting new people during this whole program has given me more new outlooks on what kind of wonderful people I

can have the privilege of working with or for when I do finally get a job. I'm very grateful for this program, it will give me tons of opportunities when it comes to jobs. You can give a man a fish, he'll eat for a day, or you can teach the man to apply for a job and he'll have money so he can have better food than fish."

Bradford County SLIP Intern Learns the Value of Flexibility



Adeline Dygert (Addie) from Troy, PA, is an undergraduate at The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC, where she is majoring in marketing. She participated in Bradford County Ac-

tion's SLIP intern program this summer and was placed with the Troy Fair Board at Alparon Park in Troy. Addie initially assisted with the preparations for the Troy Fair which takes place at Alparon Park. When the fair had to be cancelled due to COVID-19, she learned a great deal about the value of flexibility when working with vendors and customers as well as the necessity of adapting to change. Addie assisted with alternative projects hosted at the Alparon Park site. Addie's advice to others considering a SLIP internship is, "An internship is a great opportunity to figure out what you want to do in your future career and it is good to gain any kind of experience." Many thanks go out to Cathy Jenkins (President of the Troy Fair Board of Directors and the Alparon Park Administrator) and all the fair and park staff as well as to Addie for the hard work this summer!



Lindsay Titus, 15, from Montrose, PA. Lindsay is making a batch of whipped icing for a wedding cake.

TANF Summer Youth Spotlight: Lindsay Titus

When Trehab's TANF Summer Youth Program was first mentioned to Lindsay, she was nervous but excited for the opportunity to learn about different types of careers. With a dream of being a doctor, she was hoping to be able to get a paid work experience in the medical field. However, COVID-19 made that impossible. After exploring her other interests and the employers that expressed interest in hosting a paid work experience, Lindsay was placed at the Montrose VFW as an assistant. She has been assisting with waitressing, setting up and working events, and baking and decorating cakes and cupcakes.

On her first day of work, Lindsay was very nervous to work with people she didn't know. Based on the comments from her worksite supervisor, any nervousness or apprehension has completely subsided. On a recent worksite visit, Stella, one of Lindsay's supervisors, stated, "She is

a great girl. She has really come out of her shell. I don't have to tell her to do anything anymore. She takes initiative and gets everything done. She is such a great girl."

Lindsay also participated in Trehab's TANF Summer Youth Program's Virtual Academic Enrichment program. Although she was reluctant about how the virtual aspect would impact her learning experience, she enjoyed participating in all of the AE activities in the comfort of her pajamas. When the time to attend the AE field trip came around, Lindsay was once again feeling nervous. It was the first time she would be meeting the other youth participants in person and she would be doing things she'd never done before. She asked her mom if she really had to go. Lindsay did go and she ended up having a great time—such a great time that when asked what her favorite part of the day was, she couldn't

choose between the team-building ropes course, kayaking, laser tag, or zip-lining. She said she had so much fun doing everything! She was also able to meet some people she will see at her new school.

Lindsay's family recently moved into the area from South Carolina. Although she has experience with moving and changing schools often because her dad is in the military, the nerves never get easier when having to start at a new school. Having met some people through both the Academic Enrichment Program and her paid work experience, she will now start school and recognize a few familiar faces. When asked how she thinks the program has impacted her life, Lindsay stated, "It has taught me new skills and allowed me to get work experience. I also learned how to come out of my comfort zone and try new things."

Northern Tier Business–Education Partnership

NTRPDC’s career coaches have been preparing for the start of the 2020-21 school year. It will look different than any other year, even though this is the sixth year for the program. Schools shut down in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Schools are starting the new school year with many different guidelines and changes in place for our students and faculty.

The career coaches will take on the same role for this school year, which is to connect students to local occupational opportunities and businesses as well as to increase career education and exploration activities. However, the way they do these things will

need to change as visitors are not allowed in schools and students cannot go on field trips. Some of the career coaches will



be doing their work virtually for their assigned schools. They will do this through virtual platforms such as Xello, Google

Meet/Classrooms, Zoom, and others. Other coaches will be working within the schools, seeing students in-person with safety precautions in place.

Everyone has had to make changes to accommodate new guidelines and practices. The career coaches are eager to initiate innovative techniques and approaches to career education and business engagement. Schools are under a great deal of pressure due to new guidelines and the career coaches are excited to be able to help.

One of the goals of the BEP/ Career Coach Program this school year is to connect more

parents to the project. Career coaches will invite parents to become involved in activities their children are participating in such as interest inventories and research. STEM career and in-demand occupation flyers for the Northern Tier region will also be developed and sent home with students to be reviewed with parents.

We look forward to another school year of serving students and helping our schools. For more information or questions about the Business Education Partnership feel free to e-mail Jody McCarty at mccarty@northerntier.org.

Bradford County Summer Young Adult Program 2020

The Bradford County Young Adult Summer Program 2020 had six participants. Students worked at Canton Area School District and Northeast Bradford School District. Students assisted with IT configurations and school cleaning responsibilities in preparation for school opening. Both worksites had wonderful supervisors helping students learn work ethics for their future.

All of the students participated in Academic Enrichment Days. Field trips included: Towanda Borough Police Department, Towanda Airport, Bradford County Courthouse, Animal Adventure Park, French Azilum, Bradford County Veterans Memorial Park, Wiggle 100 Radio Station, Stella’s Restaurant, Shores Sisters, and Wolf’s Wash and Repair. Student completed community service activities at Alparon Park in Troy. Due to the pandemic, a virtual tour of Mansfield University was provided so students could learn about the degrees available and the layout of the campus. The branch manager from Corporate America Family Credit Union met with students at a local park (to maintain social distance) and reviewed financial literacy information.



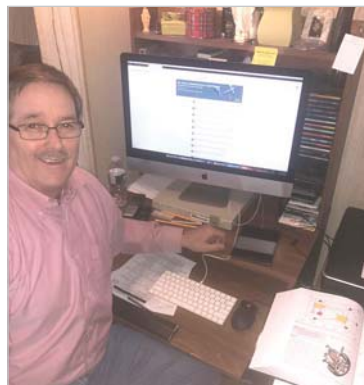
One participant will be a student at Mansfield University this fall and the other five are still attending high school.



Red Rock Job Corps Center Students Continue Learning through Pandemic

After an unanticipated “spring break” due to COVID-19, Job Corps knew it would be a while before the doors to its 120-plus centers across the U.S., Hawaii, and Puerto Rico would reopen. Not wanting students to miss their opportunities, the decision was made to tap into today’s technology and bring the students into virtual classrooms.

The staff at Red Rock Job Corps Center in Lopez, Sullivan County, PA, were eager to learn



Auto Technology instructor Gene Domulevicz instructs his students from his home computer.

how to teach their students through distance learning. Although students cannot physically learn how to change tires, frame a building, or install an electrical box, they can complete their orientation classes as well as academic and career technical training bookwork online.

Since May 11, 2020, the students have been working on the Google Classroom platform, in which staff were trained and certified in the weeks before the virtual rollout. Lessons are posted, and students have access to instructor office hours if assistance is needed.

Academic Manager Matt Waltman says instructors can teach live classes with live streaming if they wish, and submit the assignments to be accessible online. Also, Google Classroom enables instructors to provide feedback to students

and parents. Students access their classes with a unique code. He adds that Red Rock recently celebrated its first student completing an HSOL diploma during distance learning through the center’s online diploma program implemented through Penn Foster.

In June, Red Rock’s Social Development team, composed of residential and recreation staff, created virtual dorms so students could interact with their peers. Games, movie nights and chats are available to keep students engaged with staff and students. Recreation staff posted virtual workout routines and challenges, which are popular with students, says Social Development Director Cliff Miller.

In August, students elected new Student Government Association executive board officers through a virtual weeklong election. The candidates were cho-

For more information about Red Rock Job Corps Center or the Red Rock program, please call (570) 477-0206 or visit www.jobcorps.gov.

sen from a platform of interested students who submitted applications before the COVID-19 pandemic shutdown, says Wes King, Center Standards officer, who also oversees the SGA program. An online WebEx inauguration was held with the oaths of office delivered by the Center's U.S. Army recruiter in Towanda.

"Staff and students were eager to begin classes online, and this platform is an excellent way to do it. Google Classroom enables the interaction needed for the lessons, and instructors also are able to assign coursework, grade student assignments, and provide feedback all in one location," says Gerry McGroarty, Red Rock Center Director.

As of now, Job Corps has made no decision on a reopening date, however, interested students are still being recruited and attend virtual information and engagement meetings.

For more information about Red Rock Job Corps Center or the Red Rock program, please call (570) 477-0206 or visit www.jobcorps.gov.

Red Rock Success Story: Cameron Swain



Auto Technology and Collision Repair and Paint graduate Cameron Swain has been employed

with Waste Management of PA in Wellsboro since October 2019. Having graduated last August, Cameron has been working as a roustabout with the company, which is based in Houston, TX.

Carly Vough, Red Rock Career Transition Services specialist, says Cameron often travels for his job and enjoys it tremen-

dously. She adds he earned an hourly wage of \$18.05, and recently received a raise.

He attributes his success to his training at Red Rock Job Corps Center. While at Red Rock, Cameron completed two Career Technical Training programs and earned his HSOL diploma. He also participated in community service trips. Congratulations to Cameron!

jobcorps.gov

800-733-JOBS

Susquehanna County Trehab Success Story: Brittany Osborn

Brittany Osborn enrolled in the WIOA Out-of-School Youth Program through Trehab, Inc., in Susquehanna County in September 2018. She is a single mom with two kids and was interested in finding a career to better provide for her family. After meeting with her WIOA case manager and discussing career options, she decided to pursue training for electrical, plumbing, and heating at the Susquehanna County Career and Technology Center. She completed her training in June 2019. Since graduation, Brittany has tested for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW). She recently interviewed and is awaiting word from the Scranton Electricians Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee about a potential apprenticeship opportunity.

PennDOT Innovations Challenge

Northern Tier Workforce Development Board Youth Service Providers PA CareerLink® and Affiliate Sites

Bradford County
Bradford County Action
500 William Street
Towanda, PA 18848
570-265-4434
nheyer@bradfordcountyaction.org
bradfordcountyaction.org

Sullivan County
Trehab, Inc.
210 Center Street
Dushore, PA 18614
570-928-2127
theess@trehab.org
trehab.org

Susquehanna County
Trehab, Inc.
1302 Main Street
Susquehanna, PA 18847
570-853-1103
14 Public Avenue
Montrose, PA 18801
570-278-5201
bmiller@trehab.org
trehab.org

Tioga County
Trehab, Inc.
42 Plaza Lane,
Wellsboro, PA 16901
570-662-8112
cmassaro@trehab.org
trehab.org

Wyoming County
Trehab, Inc.
1 Kim Avenue, Suite 10
Tunkhannock, PA 18657
570-996-2448
ashaffer@trehab.org
trehab.org

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) recently announced that students in grades 9-12 are invited to participate in the fourth [PennDOT Innovations Challenge](#), which encourages students to use their problem-solving, creative, and strategic-thinking abilities to solve real-world transportation challenges in a competition among their peers.

This year's Innovations Challenge asks students to develop an innovative and implementable solution that helps address Pennsylvania's transportation

revenue shortfall by identifying potential new funding streams, aside from additional gas taxes, tolls, or mileage-based user fees, to help ensure adequate transportation funding for the future.

The Transportation Policy and Education Foundation, an educational arm of the [Associated Pennsylvania Constructors](#) (APC), the [American Council of Engineering Companies of PA](#) (ACEC/PA), and the [Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Traffic Safety Services Association](#) (ATSSA) are providing a

combined total award of \$5,500 to be divided among the first, second, and third place statewide winning teams.

For complete PennDOT Innovations Challenge information, including the online submission form, visit www.penndot.gov/innovation. Scroll down and select the blue "Innovations Challenge" box.

The deadline for submission is 12/18/2020.

For questions or more information, email PennDOT's Bureau of Innovations at DOTInnovations@pa.gov

Northern Tier Youth Committee

Mission

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

Members

Chair: Jackie Johnson, Business and Community Liaison, Red Rock Job Corps; Youth Committee Chair

Brooke Beiter, Coordinator of Design & Development, BLAST IU17-Williamsport

Krista Davidson, Intellectual Disabilities Quality Manager, Bradford County Human Services

Alice Davis, Ph.D., Executive Director, Susquehanna County Career & Technology Center

Annette Donovan, Former WIA Youth Participant

Jennifer Farley, Administrator of Educational Services, Northern Tier Career Center

Charity Field, Branch Executive Director, Bradford County Branch YMCA

Gary Martell, Director, Northern Tier Career Center

Christine Martin, Continuing Education Coordinator, Lackawanna College, Towanda Center

Lori Rahn, Juvenile Probation Officer, Bradford County

Breanna Repard, Workforce Development Director, The Trehab Center

Theresa Steele, Parent of WIA Youth Participant

Penne Watkins, Executive Director, Bradford County Action

Debra Wivell, Administrator, UPMC Susquehanna

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