



ARRA Summer Work Experience 2009

Demographics

Total Enrolled 1005
Applicants 2977

Male 526
Female 479

Age Group
14-15 243
16-17 318
18 136
19-21 220
22-24 88

Race/Ethnic Group
White 407
African American 638
American Ind/Alaskan 61
Asian 8
Hawaiian/Pacific Isl 5

Education
12th Grade and Below 708
Diploma or Equivalent 192
Above Diploma 101
Student, HS or Less/Alternative School 643
Student Attd Post Sec. 97
Out-of-School, HS Drop 64

Barriers
Single Parent 77
Limited English 19
Homeless 5
Runaway Youth 0
Offender 202
Foster Child 15
Preg/Parent Youth 76
Special Asst Youth 607
MWA Barrier 156
Behind A Grade Level 118



A Community Working Together

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act provided funding to offer 1,005 economically disadvantaged young people, ages 14-24, meaningful employment experiences and training to improve work readiness skills. Eligible youth were offered a wide variety of jobs at non-profit organizations throughout Kalamazoo and St. Joseph Counties.

A successful program relies on the local community. Y.O.U. is no exception. Serving and meeting the needs of our cus-

tomers requires a great deal of cooperation, flexibility, and dedication from numerous organizations and individuals. Without these collaborative efforts, the success of the program would not have been possible. We would like to



thank everyone who continues to support our programs. This list includes the schools and community agencies who identify and refer ap-

plicants, the non-profit organizations who help train workers, the Kalamazoo Community

and Irving S. Gilmore Foundations for sponsoring job site supervisor positions to enhance the program capacity, our Michigan Works! partners, local government agencies, the administrative team at the Upjohn Institute, the administrative team at KRESA, the KRESA Board of Education, government representatives, and the Workforce Development Board. Without all of you, this program would not have been successful. The wide variety of partners working collectively in this process is exciting. The community partnership was the key to the success of the program.

Thank you!

There are many positives that occurred because of the summer program.

Some youth were hired by the job site, youth were able to contribute to their family income, buy school

clothes, pay restitution and fees, find a place to live and buy food. In addition to employing 1005 youth, the pro-

gram also provided the funds to employ 60 adults to work in



the program for the summer. Not to mention renting unused space, renting office equipment which all contributed to the local economy. By the end

of the program, over 2 million dollars will be reinvested in Kalamazoo and St. Joseph Counties.