

Sent: Tue, Jun 9, 2015 8:27 pm
Subject: YDI's First Annual Job
Fair 2015

NEWS RELEASE:

Local non-profit Youth Development Initiatives (YDI) conducted its first annual *Summer Youth Employment Job Fair* on Saturday, June 6, 2015, at its Life skills Training Center, located off N. Tryon Street in Charlotte's University City area.



YDI, which operates a year-round life skills after school program for older youth, has successfully managed a summer jobs program for youth the past six years, says YDI CEO Darryl Bego.

"All of our students get pre-employment soft skills training and have in the past interviewed with prospective employers," Bego says. "This year we wanted to generate more excitement for both the students and our job partners and it turned out to be a tremendous event!"



Approximately forty CMS students took advantage of the opportunity to interview with about seventeen local businesses to earn paid internships/apprenticeships ranging from dry cleaning, restaurants, and summer day camps to dental offices, attorney's offices, a multi-media production company, and Wal-Mart.

All forty students -- who attend Vance, West Charlotte, Project L.I.F.T. Academy, Myers Park, and Mallard Creek high schools -- received job placements and will work beginning on Monday, June 15th through Friday, August 7th.

Job Fair Comments by Job Co-op Partners

"Overall, I thought this was a wonderful way of mentoring



the youth. All the children had great preparation for interviews and seem very enthusiastic about furthering their future.

- S. Wilson | Knowledge is Power Day Care Services

"This was conducted very well!"

- S. Byers | NFC Summer Day Camp

"The Job Fair was well put together. The students were prepared. Good job!"

- T. Sessions | Regina's College of Beauty

"I think you guys did an excellent job and I'm all for giving youth the opportunity to become productive members (of society)."

- S. Moss | Lakewood Cooperative



"Very organized – professional communication was great. Very nice facility and very good students who interviewed well. Very impressive!"

- S. Grier | Genesis Project 1

"Very well done! I think the kids were eager and know what they want."

- C. Clay | NuSoul Productions &



Multi-Media

"They were open to all opportunities. Students were well prepared."

- C. Reaves | Wal-Mart

"Excellent! Keep doing the same!"

- L. Bassett | Washboard Cleaners

