Youth Employment Academy

Education  |  Employment  |  Empowerment

Denver Housing Authority Board Update
October 14, 2021
Youth Employment Academy

Mission
The Youth Employment Academy’s mission is to serve young adults in breaking the cycle of generational poverty in Denver communities by gaining personal and economic stability through education, arts and technology, and employment training.

Vision
Every youth shall have a stable environment offering empowerment through education and economic opportunities in order to grow and become positive members of a vibrant living community.
2007
**YEA is formed as a 501(c)3 non-profit** supporting youth education and employment in the City of Denver.

2012
DHA assumes management of YEA to support ongoing youth programming under the WIWOA funding.

2015
YEA acquires Art Street, a non-profit in Mariposa. Arts Street becomes a program under YEA providing education and employment in the creative arts.

2012
YEA opens Osage Café, a social enterprise to support the HOPE VI initiative to bring affordable and healthy food to Mariposa.

2018
YEA enters in the NMTC with DHA to support the development of 1035 Osage. YEA takes over Mercado space in 1035.

2021
YEA opens Decatur Fresh, a small marketplace in Sun Valley to support DHA's CNI.
Youth Employment Academy

Objectives Overview

1. Train youth in industry-specific and soft skills that lead to a sustainable career or education path.

2. Help youth attain certifications necessary for careers in their chosen industries.

3. Provide mentorship and connect youth to wraparound supports including housing, food, healthcare and mental health support, and childcare.

4. Offer paid internships that teach concrete skills and professionalism in an on-the-job setting.
Youth Employment Academy

Arts Street

Arts Street uses the creative arts to empower youth to pursue future education and employment opportunities. It harnesses their talents, provides them with real-world experience in creative industries, and helps them build valuable skills for the future through our arts-based programming.

Objectives

1. Offer youth the foundational knowledge and skills required to succeed in the creative industry.

2. Provide supplemental income to youth in the internship program.

3. Offer a safe, supportive, cohort-based environment for youth to explore their professional interests and plan their next career steps.

4. Create public art installations and murals in low-income communities.

5. Empower cohorts of youth to find their voice, become leaders, and advocate for social change in their communities.
**Arts Street Logic Model**

**Short Term Outcomes**
Youth receive supportive services in managing personal, employment, economic stability, and housing stability
Youth gain job knowledge of the creative industries

**Long Term Outcomes**
Youth obtain entry level job placement
Youth graduate from high school

**Impact and Vision**
Youth are empowered to participate in their communities
Youth obtain long-term employment opportunities
Osage Cafe

The Osage Café is a social enterprise café and training program for underserved youth interested in careers in the culinary industry. The Osage Café is a program of Youth Employment Academy (YEA), a nonprofit dedicated to serving young adults in breaking the cycle of generational poverty in Denver by gaining stability through education, arts and technology, and employment training.

Objectives

1. Offer youth the foundational knowledge and certification required to succeed in the culinary industry.
2. Offer a safe and supportive environment for youth to explore their professional interests and plan their next career steps.
3. Provide supplemental income to youth in the internship program.
4. Operate a financially and environmentally sustainable café with high-quality and nutritious food offerings.
5. Offer cooking and nutrition classes to the Mariposa community.
Osage Café Logic Model

Short Term Outcomes
Mariposa residents (including youth) increase job skills
Mariposa is no longer a food desert

Long Term Outcomes
Mariposa residents are matched with long term career opportunities
Mariposa residents increase healthy eating and cooking behaviors

Impact and Vision
Economic Mobility
Osage Café is a self-sustaining Social Enterprise rooted in the community benefitting current and future residents.
Decatur Fresh

Decatur Fresh is a grocery market, workforce training program, and community space. The 1,800 square space offers local residents affordable, nutritious options in what is now a food desert, with no grocery stores within 2.5 miles. The grocery market serves almost 5,000 Sun Valley residents, local nonprofits, and the broader Denver community, especially those with a passion for food justice and who seek international food options.

Objectives

1. Provide affordable, healthy, culturally inclusive food.
2. Train low-income residents in market operations, including superior customer service.
3. Create community space.
4. Become a cultural destination that celebrates and preserves Sun Valley’s diversity and unique fabric.
Decatur Fresh Logic Model

**Short Term Outcomes**
Sun Valley residents increase job skills
Sun Valley is no longer a food desert

**Long Term Outcomes**
Sun Valley residents are matched with long term career opportunities
Sun Valley residents have access to healthy, culturally relevant affordable food

**Impact and Vision**
Economic Mobility
Decatur Fresh is a self-sustaining Social Enterprise rooted in the community benefitting current and future residents
2021 Enrollment

**Arts Street @ YEA**
- 9 Enrolled
- 100% Completion Rate

**Creative Industries**
- 91 Enrolled
- 93% Completion
- 100% Remained in School or Returned to GED Program.

**Osage Cafe**
- 12 Enrolled
- 90% Completion Rate

**Culinary Industries**
- 19 Enrolled
- 95% Completion Rate
- 100% Remained in School or Returned to GED Program.

**Youth Mentees**
- 21 Enrolled
- 100% Remained in School or Returned to GED Program.
Youth Employment Academy – Financials

2020 Funding Sources

- Sales
- Fee for Service
- Grants
- Donations

Revenue

- Youth Employment Academy (YEA)
- Osage
- Arts Street

Annual Review

October 21, 2021
Youth Employment Academy – Financials

Annual Net Assets

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Questions