The Youth Unemployment Crisis
Nationally, and particularly in Philadelphia, too many young people are out of work, making it harder for them to get ahead. We know more must be done to reform our educational supports, economic systems and federal policies so that our young people can meet the challenges of the 21st century. As the skills gap continues to grow, it is critical to remedy this challenge by providing high-quality opportunities for our young people to develop and perfect essential skills. Youth bring energy, creativity, comfort with technology and curiosity among other untapped talents. They just need an opportunity to learn.

When Youth Are Employed
When more opportunities are available, and young people have access to employment, the impacts can be seen community-wide. A few benefits include:

- Stimulated economy
- Valued diversity
- Safer communities
- Investment in the city’s future
- Demand-driven employment pipelines

The Reality of Youth Employment:
Nationally 27.6%
In Pennsylvania 30.3%
In Philadelphia 15.6%

The Impact of WorkReady Philadelphia:
2014 - 2015 Data
youth served 10,818 (unduplicated)
8,812 summer
2,021 year round

73% Skill Gain*
89% of summer participants were more interested in furthering their education as a result of their experience.

88% Credential Attainment*
Youth wages infused back into the local economy:
$6,631,137.61

*Data points refer to summer participants. Year round data will be published in the PYN Annual Report, coming soon.
A Collection of Programs

WorkReady Philadelphia operates year round and summer programming for youth and young adults ages 12-24. Each program is designed to challenge youth to understand the correlations between work experience, skill attainment and high school completion and how those variables impact their potential for college and career success.

These experiences include:
- Pre-employment training on workplace etiquette, appropriate behavior and keys to on-the-job success.
- Enhanced programming, which includes academic enrichment, project-based instruction, 21st century skills development, career exposure and exploration, and post-secondary education or training.
- Opportunities for in school and out of school youth are available for youth no matter their education or career trajectory. Each opportunity is designed with the individual youth in mind and focus on keeping them on a path to success.

YOUTH
10,818 youth served in 2014-2015

Youth involved with WorkReady are:
- Gaining professional skills and connections
- Learning fiscal responsibility and financial literacy
- Participating in early exposure to varied future and career opportunities

EMPLOYERS
1,043 worksites across 18 industries in 2014-2015

Employers can have a significant impact in shaping the future workforce of our region when they participate in WorkReady programming.

WorkReady Employers are:
- Hosting youth at their worksite
- Investing in their future of their organizations
- Building a targeted talent pipeline of youth

PROVIDERS
A network of 67 providers in 2014-2015

WorkReady Providers are youth-serving organizations that offer educationally-enriched, career-exposure opportunities.

WorkReady Providers are:
- Receiving built-in administrative support
- Given opportunities to expand scope and reach of programs through the access of various youth populations
- Utilizing tools to assess youth skill and ability in order to grow future programming

INVESTORS
$22+ million investment in 2014-2015 from public and private sectors

There are many ways to invest in the WorkReady system.

WorkReady Investors are:
- Financially supporting youth work experiences across Philadelphia
- Creating unique funding opportunities, including public and private partnerships

A Collaborative of Partners
It takes a citywide effort and cross-sector partnerships to connect our youth to opportunity. An investment in WorkReady is an investment not only in our young people, but in the future of Philadelphia.