

# THE SCOOP on YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

Seasonal Updates  
YMCA Youth Job Connection



## Summer 2021 Editorial

### Information Corner

**Maybe you know a youth or young adult (ages 15-29) struggling to find and keep a job?!!! We are here to help. This summer promises to be very exciting for YJC. We are partnering, once again, with the Karma Project Community Food Co-operative! Two of the 5 workshop days/ week (over 3 weeks), the participants will gain hands on experience developing a product from the garden to the table to share in the Family Food Boxes. What a great way to build camaraderie, team skills and gain practical employment experience while participating in YJC. AND the young person gets paid for completing the workshops.**

If you know someone between the ages of 15 to 29 who is struggling to find and keep employment, is currently not working and who experience multiple and/or complex barriers to employment, consider referring them to the YJC paid, pre-employment training program:  
Email: [midlanderc@sm.ymca.ca](mailto:midlanderc@sm.ymca.ca) or call or text (705) 427 4867

This newsletter, published on a quarterly basis, will provide up-to-date information on the YMCA YJC/YJCS paid pre-employment program and other initiatives. The program has successfully adapted to the covid pandemic by delivering virtually and outside "safely".

The YJC program builds the skills of youth and young adults, supports with employment opportunities and coaching and increases the capacity of the employers in the area to hire local youth who are skilled and motivated to work.

### Summer Dates \*

#### YJC Start Dates

May 31  
July 5  
August 3  
September 7

#### YJCS (Students)

June 7  
July 5  
August 9

\* Dates subject to change

### Story Corner – Fresh Start

When George started the YJC program, pre-covid, he struggled with many serious ramifications of past choices. He wanted to make a fresh start. Initially, George was quiet in workshops, but with time, he participated in discussions and shared valuable viewpoints. George demonstrated that he was responsible and reliable, being on time, participating and completing tasks. In workshops, he demonstrated respect, showing that he cared about other's opinions, listening attentively and giving others the opportunity to share. He opened up with the YJC Job Coaches about why he was making a "fresh start" and accepted support from staff as well as a referral to additional community resources. At first, he struggled with mock interviews, not knowing how to answer questions about past choices and lack of recent employment. However, with coaching, he developed a style of speaking and found the words to tell his story in a way that showed growth and a desire to learn. His story is a success story that goes all the way. He obtained employment that matched his goal of working in a restaurant. He found an environment that he felt supported in. His confidence grew and as a result, he started experimenting with different dishes in the restaurant. He was so proud of one of his dishes that he asked the manager to "try it". They did and they loved it so much that it went on the menu. His sense of pride and accomplishment grew and was evident to the YJC staff team. George continues to work at the same establishment. Now, over a year later, conversations with George focus on the positive; he speaks about the future more than the past. He feels positive about his journey moving forward.

**EMPLOYMENT  
ONTARIO**