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Funding Opportunity for Tech and Healthcare Training Provider Partners Call for Proposals- DEADLINE EXTENDED

Philadelphia Youth Network (PYN), in partnership with youth workforce training providers, has launched a new effort to close the talent gap and increase young adult career advancement through the engagement of employers and training providers. PYN is working with JEVS Human Services, District 1199C Training and Upgrading Fund, Philadelphia Works, and the Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia to build pathways for Opportunity Youth (OY) to middle skills jobs (requiring more training than a high school diploma but less than a four-year degree) in the tech and health care industries. PYN aims to expand employers' view of collaborating with youth workforce training providers from a philanthropic investment to part of their longer-term talent pipeline and DEI strategy and ultimately create opportunity for more OY in living wage, middle skill jobs. The long-term goal is to scale this approach to other industries.

PYN has \$50,000 annually for two years to award programs through November 2022 to implement an employer-responsive approach to updating training curricula and placing opportunity youth in tech and healthcare jobs. Proposals will be reviewed and scored using a standard rubric across all applicants. While PYN has a limited amount of funding for this initial effort, the intent is to acquire additional funding to continue this work with more training programs and in additional industries in the future. Programs meeting the minimum criteria who are not selected in this round could be selected in the future and are welcome to participate in the learning community meetings.

This project is an opportunity to incorporate OY into Philadelphia's post-COVID workforce development plans. By creating a learning community of training programs who coordinate employer engagement messaging and strategy, align training curricula to employer talent needs, and deliver prepared, upskilled young candidates for their open positions, there is an opportunity to create systems-level change for OY youth across a variety of industries in Philadelphia.

Interested programs can find more information via this [funding webinar recording](#). All questions and responses will be shared on PYN's website in a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document. **The deadline for this application has been extended to May 10, 2021.** Applicants should send their responses to Julia Horn at jhorn@pyninc.org. PYN will notify programs of their awards by June 4, 2021.

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Proposal Questions

Describe in two pages or less your plan to participate in the work PYN is leading to close the talent gap and increase young adult career advancement as part of the learning community. Please include the following:

- An overview of your training program in the tech or healthcare sector. Must serve opportunity youth (Philadelphia youth ages 16-24 who are out of school or work). Please include specific program details:
 - Number of OY served annually
 - Number of OY placed in advanced training or employment annually
 - Industry-recognized credentials and power skills/ career readiness training that are included in the program and percentage of participants who obtain industry-recognized credentials
 - What is the duration of the program you plan to offer OY?
- What are your placement and retention strategies for program completers? How do you maintain contact with completers to support them and obtain this data? Organizations will be required to report placement and retention two quarters after placement.
- Employer Engagement: Participating organizations will be expected to add/ amend at least one training lesson or module based on employer feedback from this project and adopt a cycle of continuous improvement in this area.
 - How have you incorporated employer feedback into your training programs in the past?
 - How would you incorporate employer feedback from this group into your curricula?
- What is your plan to incorporate your employer network into this project? Priority will be given to organizations who encourage their employers' participation in employer assessment activities and hiring youth graduating from training programs.

Training programs who are chosen to participate will commit to and receive the following:

Tier	Commitment	Benefits
1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Join quarterly learning community meetings 2. Adopt/ adjust one aspect of your curriculum based on the employer assessment tool 3. Recruit 3 of your employer partners to complete the employer assessment tool 4. Report any placements of OY ages 16-24 in tech or healthcare middle skills jobs and 2nd quarter after placement retention 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. \$ 10,000 2. Access to collective employer network for placement 3. Participation in professional development opportunities in workforce development 4. Inclusion in marketed list of participating training providers 5. Access to the employer assessment tool and its results
2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Join quarterly learning community meetings 2. Adopt/ adjust one aspect of your curriculum based on the employer assessment tool 3. Recruit 2 of your employer partners to complete the employer assessment tool 4. Report any placements of OY ages 16-24 in tech or healthcare middle skills jobs and 2nd quarter after placement retention 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. \$5,000 2. Access to collective employer network for placement 3. Inclusion in marketed list of participating training providers 4. Access to results of employer assessment tool

If you cannot commit to either of the tiers above but would like to participate in the learning community and stay connected for potential future opportunities, please join us. You can e-mail Julia Horn, jhorn@pyninc.org to indicate your interest.

Commitment	Benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Join quarterly learning community meetings • Share program best practices/challenges as part of learning community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to results of employer assessment tool