

HUD's Youth Empowerment Support (YES) Commitment

A call to action for Public Housing Authorities (PHAs), EnVision Centers, and Community Partners to provide pathways to summer and year-round employment and empowerment opportunities for low-income youth.

What is a YES Commitment?

HUD's YES commitment is designed to empower, embrace, and encourage low-income youth to achieve their goals in life – starting with exposure to positive work experiences. A YES commitment is a pledge to provide a positive work/empowerment experience to low-income youth ages 14-21 in the following suggested ways:

Work Skills

Provide youth insight into the world of work to prepare for employment. This includes job shadow days and unpaid internships.

Life Skills

Provide youth work-related soft skills, such as communication, time management and teamwork, through coursework and/or experience. This includes resume writing or interview workshops and mentorship programs. For ways to create these experiences, visit <https://www.dol.gov/odep/topics/youth/softskills/>

Earn and Learn

Provide youth on-the-job skills in a learning environment while earning wages for their work.

YES Commitment Events

Work Skills: YES Job Shadow Week (June 15th-19th)

During the week of June 15th - the first full week of summer for most public schools and community colleges across the country, PHAs, EnVision Centers, and Community Partners, will host job shadow days. This is a wonderful opportunity for companies and organizations to provide a summer job opportunity for youth, engage interested staff in volunteering and professional development, and make a connection with youth living in low-income households, a local community college, or high school.

Life Skills: YES Second Saturdays (June 13th, July 11th and August 8th)

Second Saturdays is a way to professionally mentor youth once a month through different topics. Whether the same youth are involved in each Second Saturday or a new group is engaged each month, these opportunities provide youth with the foundational skills for the professional world. We suggest the following topics:

June 13th: Resume Writing and Interviewing Workshops

July 11th: Financial Literacy – Earn and Save, set-up bank accounts

August 8th: Workplace Etiquette and Networking Workshop

Accepting the YES Commitment

How Can PHAs, EnVision Centers, and Community Partners Get Involved?

1. For further inquiries and to acknowledge your YES commitment, send an email to:
YEScommitment@hud.gov
2. Launch a *YES* branding campaign in your local communities, and share your efforts using the above email address.
3. Host an on-site *YES* Jobs Fair or connect your youth to existing local job fairs. To access upcoming jobs fairs in your community, visit <https://www.careeronestop.org/GetMyFuture/Employment/find-job-openings.aspx>.
4. Include *YES* efforts in your social media messages, and public/resident-related events.
5. Partner with a local youth-serving entity to coordinate community *YES* activities/events.
6. Include your *YES* activities within your 2020 HUD Strong Families events.
7. Visit the below websites for additional resources to support your *YES* commitment:

www.youth.gov

<https://engage.youth.gov/career-pathways>

<https://youth.workforcegps.org/resources/2019/06/04/15/55/Summer-Youth-Employment-Resources>