



Transforming lives.
Strengthening communities.

Provide a Job and Transform a Life

The City of Milwaukee's Earn & Learn Summer Job Program provides opportunities for qualified high school students to gain valuable workplace experience, and puts a few dollars in some empty pockets. By breaking the cycle of joblessness and exposing young adults to the culture of work, Earn & Learn:

- Lays the foundation for a trained workforce
- Provides job readiness skills
- Offers real work experiences and a variety of career possibilities
- Allows experienced employees to participate in positive change in their community

The Greater Milwaukee Committee and Southeastern Wisconsin Common Ground, a broad-based citizen organization, have supported the expansion of the Earn & Learn program and are now helping to recruit businesses and area foundations involvement. The goal of this effort is to increase the number of summer jobs from about 1300 last summer to 3000 in the summer of 2009.

Earn & Learn Program Information

Earn & Learn is a collaborative partnership of the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board (MAWIB), the City of Milwaukee, businesses, and community based organizations. Its mission is to assist young people from Milwaukee to make a successful transition from adolescence to productive adulthood. The MAWIB staff works with employers to place students in meaningful work and ensures the program's effectiveness. In return business professionals are offered the opportunity to mentor young people in their profession.

All youth participating in private sector Earn and Learn jobs have at least one previous job experience and receive job readiness training prior to starting the job. MAWIB staff provides support and service for the employer throughout the duration of the youth's employment. At the end of their job, students go through an evaluation that determines what they have learned and what they need to do improve their work performance.

Participating employers are asked to provide summer jobs which:

- Provide student workers with a written job description
- Provide short or long term, part time or full time employment
- Pay at least minimum wage
- Are located in the Milwaukee County area for youth accessibility to the job location

After positions are posted MAWIB staff will assess the request, prescreen applicants and then recommend one or more youth that meet employer requirements to fill the position.

Interested businesses can attain more information about the program and post a youth job opportunity by contacting

Bill Malone, Youth Jobs Coordinator, at 414.286.5894 or william.malone@milwaukee.gov , or
On line at www.mkedcd.org/earnlearn/JobConnection.html

More Information on the Earn & Learn Program

City Offers Options for Jobless Teens – December 2008:

<http://www.jsonline.com/business/36770639.html>

Hope in the Lives of Young People: 1500 gain experience through Earn and Learn – July 2008:

<http://www.jsonline.com/news/29411434.html>

Youth to Get a Slice of the Pie: Palermo Villa a Leader in City's Summer Jobs Program – April 2008:

<http://www.jsonline.com/business/29588764.html>

Open Letter from Earn & Learn Co-Chairs Mayor Tom Barrett and Giacomo Fallucca, President/CEO of Palermo's Pizza. – March 2008: <http://www.mkedcd.org/earnlearn/pdf/Letter031408.pdf>

The mayor talks about the importance of the Youth Jobs program in his Feb 13th E-Newsletter:

<http://www.city.milwaukee.gov/thebarrettreportarchives/Feb.06.09NewsFromTheMayor.htm>

Earn & Learn Website www.earnandlearnmke.com

Area employers who've shown their commitment to tomorrow's workforce by hiring a teen in the summer of 2008:

Palermo's Pizza
Johnson Controls
Foley & Lardner LLP
Interiorscapes
The Sigma Group
World Festivals, Inc.
(Summerfest)

SEEK, Inc.
Quarles & Brady
Lehigh-Milwaukee
Hellermann-Tyton
Associated Springs
Reinhart, Boerner, Van Dueren
Miller Brewing Company

M&I Bank
Wisconsin State Fair
Imperial Parking
Roundy's (Pick 'n Save)
The Pfister Hotel
Godfrey & Kahn

Southeastern Wisconsin Common Ground Involvement

Common Ground exists to build and support an organization which addresses Greater Milwaukee's critical social issues in an effective, non-partisan way. Leaders and members come from diverse racial, ethnic, religious, cultural and political backgrounds who share a desire to achieve positive changes in our community.

At Common Ground we believe that improving job opportunities for Milwaukee youth will improve the economic and social well-being of the area. Given the current crisis it is even more critical that opportunities are provided to our youth so they may participate in the economic recovery. On behalf of Milwaukee youth, common ground is asking Milwaukee area businesses and foundations to participate in this program by providing jobs and/or by making grants to assure that Earn and Learn has adequate resources.

For more information on how you can provide valuable support to the future workforce of Milwaukee please contact Denise Fried at 414.333.0709 or Debra Schneider at 414.550.2167

For more information about Common Ground contact Mark Fraley, Lead Organizer, at 414.517.3379 or mark.fraley@commongroundwi.org or Bob Connolly, the President of Common Ground, at 414.272.0101 or bob.connolly@commongroundwi.org.

Visit the Common Ground website for updated to key dates and information at www.commongroundwi.org