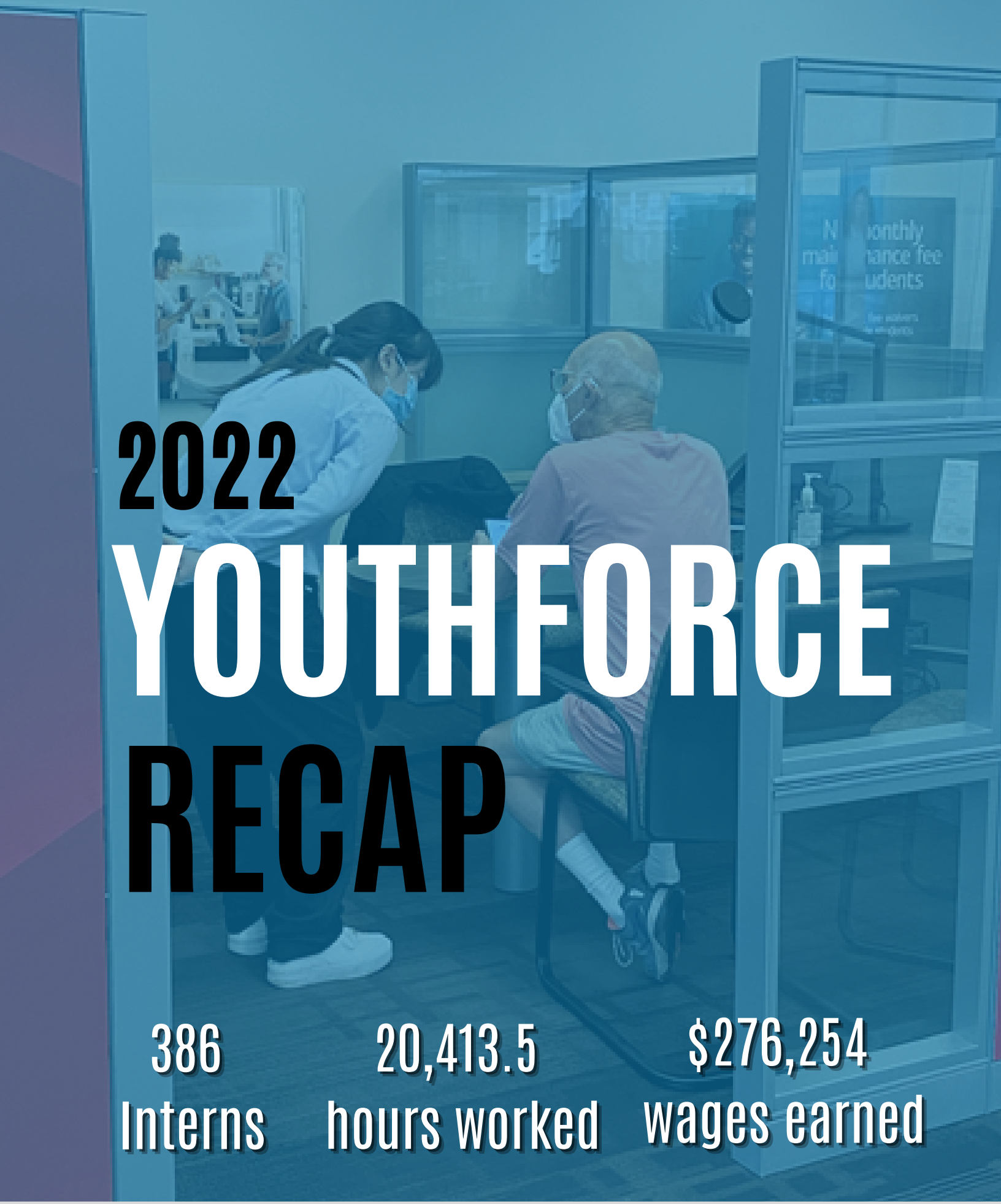

2022 YOUTHFORCE RECAP

386 Interns

20,413.5 hours worked

$276,254 wages earned

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF KING COUNTY

youthforce
dream · experience · achieve

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Introduction

YouthForce of Boys & Girls Clubs of King County's unique approach to workforce readiness prepares youth for success in their first jobs and creates a clear pathway to their chosen career goals.

YouthForce began serving the Seattle community in 1998, partnering with local schools and businesses to provide career counseling, trainings, and mentored internships. The mission was to engage and guide low-income and underserved teens, helping them achieve their personal, academic, and career potential.
In 2007, seeking to broaden its reach, YouthForce joined Boys & Girls Clubs of King County, which has placed a new emphasis on teen programming and outreach. To date, YouthForce has offered thousands of teens paid internship opportunities through partnerships with innovative Seattle-area employers.

Meet the staff!

Sigrid Batara
Executive Director
sbatara@positiveplace.org

Jess Summerton-Moore
Program Director
jsmoore@positiveplace.org

Tobias Hauser
Program Director
thauser@positiveplace.org

Tim Batten-King
Outreach & Education Specialist
tking@positiveplace.org

Tierra Harris
Admin Assistant
tharris@positiveplace.org

Dimitri Viramontes
Program Manager
dviramontes@positiveplace.org

Shannon Kelly
WIOA Case Manager
skelly@positiveplace.org

Nyadeng Mal
Program Manager
nmal@positiveplace.org

Kayla Yamamoto
Program Manager
kyamamoto@positiveplace.org

Gloria Demissie
Events & Outreach Specialist
gdemissie@positiveplace.org

BGCA PROGRAMS

Money Matters

Money Matters promotes financial responsibility and independence among youth. Participants learn how to manage a checking account, create a budget, save and invest, start small businesses and pay for college.

diplomas2Degrees (d2D)

d2D is a college readiness program that provides a range of services to guide youth as they work toward high school graduation and prepare for post-secondary education and career success.

Career Launch

Career Launch encourages youth to assess their skills and interests, explore career options, make sound educated decisions and prepare to join the nation's work force

College & Career Readiness Workshops

Our educational arm, provides support through offering workshops and drop-in hours to prepare in their academic potential and their first jobs. The workshops we offer are: Basic Work Skills, Resume Writing, Interview Skills, Financial Literacy, College Exploration, College Application, and Financial Aid & Scholarship.

CONNECTION EVENTS

Youth Resource Fair

Students met with over 20 organizations using a virtual conference platform called “REMO”. Students are able to rotate to multiple organizations to network and learn about the resources their organization has to offer.

Teen Employment Fair

Students gained CPR/First Aid certifications and get their food handler's permits. Students were provided access to over 20 companies using a virtual conference platform called “REMO”. Youth were able to rotate to multiple employers to network and learn about their company or organization.

BAM, Blacks at Microsoft

YouthForce hosts a monthly mentor panel of Microsoft employees. BAM members share their journey taken to get where they are today. The experiences and wisdom of employees from throughout the nation is shared virtually with youth

CTE/TRADES

YouthForce works with local community training partners to provide student access to pre-apprenticeship training programs in partnership with the schools. Students who participate in the pre-apprenticeship programs earn credits towards graduation and can graduate high school with industry standard skills and credentials necessary to gain above living-wage employment and apprenticeship opportunities with retention support from YouthForce case managers.

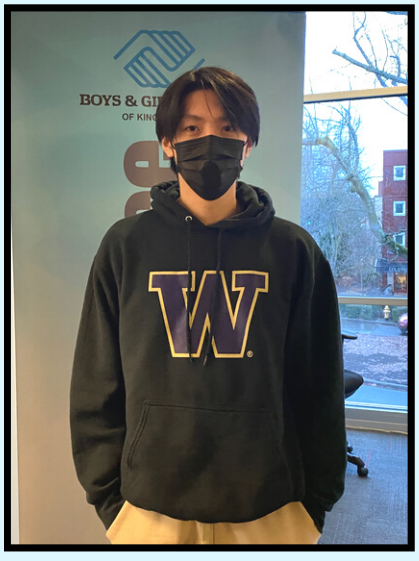
Youth Story

When Imani first joined the Advanced Manufacturing program, she was extremely shy and quiet. Now she's the most outgoing, almost like a class cheerleader. Every morning Imani comes to class with loads of energy. She instantly fills the room with laughter and positive vibes. Imani has a great relationship with every single classmate and is kind and helpful to her peers. When I asked Imani what she likes the most about the program, she said she enjoys the conversations it allows her to have with her father. Imani's father is an engineer, and before joining the manufacturing academy, she didn't understand his work much, but now they have something in common and a conversation piece for the dinner table. For her copper project assignment, she dedicated it to her father for his birthday. It's amazing to see the connections youth are able to build from the program and are able to share what they learn in class with community and with their families.

STEM

Youthforce host VR events at clubs and other locations to give the youth in the community a chance to experience virtual reality and learn about the resources that YouthForce has to offer. During the events, we have sixteen VR Oculus Quest 2 headsets set up simultaneously in a gym or open space. The youth play fun VR games, experience VR job tours, get free food, and enter a raffle to win their very own VR headset. They also gain access to our monthly newsletters and learn about our workshops and internships.

Youth Story



Darren has been an amazing Intern for YouthForce. He has proven himself to be a great leader by taking on the role of Project Lead for the YouthForce VR Application. He has adapted to the needs of the project and stayed consistent with his work ethic. He learned how to use Unity 3D Engine to create a virtual reality application from scratch. He takes feedback from the VR Advisors with grace and implements their wise advice into the project. He has worked great with his teammates and shared responsibilities extremely well. We are so thankful and proud of Darren for his hard work. The YouthForce VR Application would not exist without him.

TEAMWORK

Our TeamWork program is an unique partnership between YouthForce and First & Goal Inc., Climate Pledge Arena and Delaware North, and Sodexo Live! offering youth meaningful entry-level work experiences during Mariners, Seahawks, and Kraken games. Interns are supported by adult mentors, positive peer and professional networks, and receive on the job training working with stadium staff.

Youth Story

Ella became part of the YouthForce program in April 2022 as a Teamwork intern working the Seattle Mariners games. Shortly into the Mariners season she was promoted to a lead position and has never looked back. After successfully running the Ice Cream stand and exceeding expectations, she was an instant lock-in for a lead position for the Seattle Seahawks internship. Her role was to assist the suite runners at the stadium in the Suites at Lumen Field. Only a few games in, the suite runners let her do tasks on her own. She built great relationships with the 1st & Goal staff at Lumen Field. During the middle of the Seahawks season, she took on the role of being the lead for the Seattle Kraken games as well. At the Kraken games, she is in charge of an ice cream stand. The Kraken internship is still ongoing and she is excelling! Ella is a crucial piece of TeamWork and we appreciate all her hard work.

BANK OF AMERICA INTERNSHIP

Bank of America's Financial Center Apprenticeship program focuses on building technology knowledge while also offering an opportunity to further develop business skills and confidence through mentoring by Bank of America teammates. Students served as Digital Ambassadors in financial centers across King County, bringing their own passion and know-how to the workplace. In addition to getting job experience, the apprenticeship participants also gain a better understanding of personal finances through Better Money Habits®, Bank of America's financial literacy program

Youth Story

Spencer joined YouthForce through the Bank of America Apprenticeship program. From the first interview, Spencer brought a contagious upbeat energy to the room. He is incredibly reliable, thoughtful, and an incredibly hard worker. A few weeks into the internship over the summer, Spencer had sustained an injury while walking to work and that was the only day he missed. I offered more time off for recovery, but he was back in the financial center the next day, with the YouthForce staff more concerned about him than he was.

ADVOCACY/ COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Teen Advisory Board

The Teen Advisory Board is an opportunity that provides teens with a unique leadership opportunity to authentically shape the future of Boys & Girls Clubs of King County programing.TAB provides CLUB youth to have a voice in programming and issues that concern youth. Top issues of concern this last year was civil rights/Race & Social Justice, mental health, and Environment/Global warming. Members come from our 12 Teen Programs.

Moving in Solidarity

Through the Moving In Solidary Youth Coalition, we are supporting youth in analyzing systemic injustices with the primary focus being on racial injustice. The youth work on analyzing and providing potential solutions to the inequities found. The coalition gives youth a safe space to discuss anything that is on their mind, learning how to advocate for themselves

Youth Story

"The Boys & Girls Club means a lot to me because it gave me my first opportunity for employment and I've made some good friends here. The first internship I had was through YouthForce at Lowell Elementary. That internship helped me develop job skills that I didn't have before, it was a good experience for me. Through YouthForce I am currently doing multiple internships. I am working at T-Mobile stadium for the Seattle Mariners games, a part of the Moving in Solidarity Youth Coalition, as well as a part of Teen Advisory Board. I've also been apart of the Peace Circle program with the Southeast Network. The Boys & Girls club is a place I can go to have fun and clear my mind whenever I need to. It's a is positive place, full of laughs and smiles. When I need to talk someone, I know I can talk to my peers and staff like Ms. Kayla, Ms. Sigrid, Ms. Carissa, Joe, and Kingsley. They motivate me and give me confidence in my self"

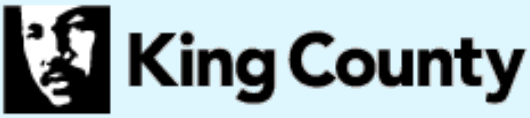
-Chris T, Youth of the Quarter

Work-based learning

The Work-Based Learning model allows youth to learn in a variety of ways, such as the classroom, on the job, or through other avenues, gaining critical experience while having the opportunity to earn money.

The **Counselors in Training (CIT)** program gives our older club youth an opportunity to learn how to work with younger youth. The site director works with the CITs in organizing special events, teaches the CITs important aspects of team building, work ethic, policies, procedures, safety, and leadership all while gaining experience through increasing responsibility over the summer.Last Summer YouthForce gave stipends to 147 youth in King County.

Seattle Diversity in Design (SDID) was a pilot program intended to expose BIPOC youth to learning about the Design industry and address the lack of representation of Black & Brown creatives in design in the United States and increase design career opportunities for Black youth. Youth received career readiness trainings and what it takes to be a "designer" in the following fields; Landscape, Interior, Furniture, and Architectural Design

Our **Barbering Program** is an 80-hour introduction to barbering class taught by a state licensed barber. Youth learned the basics of using clippers and shears, client customer service, and entrepreneurship.

YOUTHFORCE PARTNERS