

*Youth Empowered to Succeed*

**GRANTEE:** Central States SER-Jobs for Progress

**LOCATION OF GRANT ACTIVITIES:** Chicago, Illinois

**AMOUNT:** \$2,000,000

**VALUE OF MATCH AND OTHER LEVERAGED RESOURCES:** \$230,700

**POPULATION SERVED:** Youth ages 14-17 that have been involved in the juvenile justice system.

**KEY PARTNERSHIPS:** Youth Connections Charter Schools, Youth Career Development Centers, Pilsen Little Village Mental Health Center

**KEY STRATEGIES:** Central States SER-Jobs in Progress proposes to replicate their current effective youth development programs through the Youth Full Offender Project Expansion Initiative. SER will create the first project expansion at the Ford City Mall in the Westlawn neighborhood of Chicago. The second expansion site will be established at a faith-based organization in the Archer Heights community. In each of these communities, a Youth Career Development Center (YDC) will be established. The Westlawn community is made up of both of African-Americans and Latinos. The Archer Heights community is made up of Mexicans and Mexican-Americans. The Archer Heights and South Lawndale communities are part of an extended 30 mile square of adjoining neighborhoods. Through the Youth Development Centers, SER will structure activity into three development areas: Educational Opportunities, Career Services and Leadership Development.

Model features of the program include:

- Integrated learning and training strategies
- Caring adults
- Youth Development Center with online credit recovery
- A partnerships with Youth Connections Charter school to grant state recognized diplomas
- A job readiness training and career works program
- Internships, transitional employment, and placement into unsubsidized jobs

**PROPOSED OUTCOMES:**

- Number of youth anticipated that will participate in GED classes 70
- Percentage of youth that will attain GED credential 80%
- Number of youth anticipated that will participate in on-line diploma recovery program 30
- Percentage of youth that will earn credit through on-line activity 85%
- Number of youth reengaged in school activity 25
- Number of youth that will earn a high school diploma or GED credential 76
- Number of cycles of 10 week Career Works program 6
- Number of youth anticipated to participate in 10 week CareerWorks 60-80
- Percentage of youth that will successfully complete and receive certificate 85%
- Number of youth that are placed into post-secondary education in first year 45

- Number of youth participating in job shadowing, internship or work experience 100
- Number of youth placed into unsubsidized employment in the first year 40
- Monthly workshops presented at YCDCs 24
- Number of youth anticipated to attend monthly workshops 100
- Number of citizenship and community services activities planned and implemented by Youth Board 4

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