



2017

CHICAGO HOUSING AUTHORITY SUMMER YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES RECAP

Program Highlights



CHA offered 10 different summer internship and career-building program models targeting youth ages 13 to 24



2,669 CHA youth participated in paid programming at 368 unique worksites across the city



Examples of worksites and jobs include Clerk, Circuit Court of Cook County; Intern, DuSable Museum of African-American History; Shop Assistant, Chainlinks Bike Shop; and Administrative Aide, NAACP



51% were Public Housing residents and 49% HCV participants



More than \$2.7 million in total wages were earned by participants who accomplished over 366K hours worked



65% of participants completed the LRNG Be Payday Ready playlist, earning digital badges for developing financial responsibility skills; in addition, CHA youth earned a record-breaking 2,977 MHA Labs Skill Badges after being rated by their supervisors as demonstrating professional attitude, team work ethic, problem-solving, time management and employer satisfaction



At the conclusion of the program, more participants found the programming beneficial towards reaching their goals than at the beginning of the summer



Scholars enrolled in Learn and Earn achieved 93% average daily attendance and experienced no summer learning loss; In fact, scholars gained 2 months learning in Reading and 7 months in Math in just six weeks—without intervention, the average loss is 2 months



83,383 free breakfast and lunch meals were served to youth, up to age 18, at 37 CHA sites across the city



2,000+ youth, ages 6 - 12, accessed Chicago Park District Summer Park Kids programs, a 13% increase over the previous year



This summer, CHA offered two new programs, in partnership with the University of Chicago Smart Museum of Art and DePaul University's College of Computing & Digital Media, for 25 teens

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Since 2008, the Chicago Housing Authority has offered our youngest residents meaningful summer employment and non-paid learning opportunities to keep them safe, healthy and engaged while school is out. This summer, more than 4,800 youth took part in the following program models:

Paid Programs

BMO Harris Be Your Own Boss: Sports/Business/Music

Funded in part by BMO Harris, and led by DePaul University's Management & Entrepreneurship Department, this innovative, six-week program taught high school students the skills needed to create a unique personal business venture. **# Enrolled: 20**

CHA Program in Game & Graphic Design

DePaul University's College of Computing & Digital Media led an intensive five-week program exposing high school students to tools and processes that provided platforms for creative expression and storytelling. This included exploring audio design, physical game design, graphic design, interactive fiction, and video game design as tools for starting and punctuating conversations. **# Enrolled: 8**

CHA Internship

The CHA Internship Program gave college and graduate students a unique opportunity to learn about the Chicago Housing Authority, by working side by side with staff and getting involved in real projects at partner organizations. **# Enrolled (ages 16 - 24): 57**

Counselor-in-Training Program

The Counselor-in-Training program fostered leadership skills and offered practical work experience for teens, age 15, at 25 Chicago Park District locations. **# Enrolled: 35**

CPD Neighborhood Youth Corps

The Chicago Police Department Neighborhood Youth Corps offered youth positive interaction with police officers and included field trips, community service projects, and guest speakers. **# Enrolled: 38**

Documentary Filmmaking for Girls

Under the expertise of DePaul University faculty and guest professional filmmakers, participants learned the fundamentals of filmmaking and produced four distinct documentaries that provide a voice for social issues that concerned them most. The topic of the films (violence, bullying, homelessness, and LGBTQ) served as an entry point to community discussions on how to advocate for positive social change in Chicago. Two of the films, *What if I Told You* and *Hope for Change*, screened at the Allstate Youth Filmmaker Showcase at the Gene Siskel Film Center in August. **#Enrolled: 14**

Learn and Earn

Learn and Earn scholars, ages 13 -15, engaged in academic enrichment and career exploration activities for six-weeks at City Colleges of Chicago and Loyola University. Scholars enjoyed field trips on Fridays and also volunteered with the organization Feed My Starving Children to pack meals for children in underprivileged countries. **# Enrolled: 694**

Museum and Public Art Internship

Participants in this six-week program worked alongside talented teaching artists and museum staff to explore the Smart Museum of Art collection as a springboard to their investigation of architecture, design, and public art. They visited with many arts and community development organizations to research the histories and current context of the surrounding neighborhoods. This research resulted in an exhibition 'Together We Can Dream' installed to acknowledge the highs and lows of the African American experience in America. The exhibition was accompanied by original texts produced by the teen contributors in response to the artworks. **# Enrolled: 17**

Safe Summer Peace Ambassadors

Teens in this program learned strategies for reducing violence in their communities while they engaged younger children in positive activities focused on individual reflection, talking circles and conflict resolution. **# Enrolled: 30**

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Paid Programs (cont.)

Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Camp

Held at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) campus for six-weeks, participants received instruction in Math and English from UIC professors as well as project based modeling and professional development workshops focused on the STEM fields. # Enrolled: 16

Summer Nutrition Aide

Nutrition Aides served meals to youth at CHA sites across the city through the Summer Food Service Program.

Enrolled (ages 16 - 24): 15

Summer Youth Employment Program

SYEP youth, 16 - 24, explored careers, built employability skills and financial literacy over the course of seven weeks during the summer.

Enrolled: 1,705

Youth Council

In 2016, CHA launched the Year of the Youth campaign to increase the engagement of our youth through several new and innovative initiatives, including the development of the CHA Youth Council in partnership with Mikva Challenge. For the second summer, CHA youth engaged in an intensive leadership development, team-building, and a participatory action research internship, in which they developed recommendations on how to utilize youth-centered marketing approaches to increase access to youth programs. To learn more visit <http://cha2017.weebly.com>. # Enrolled: 20

Non-Paid Programs

Chicago Park District Summer Day Camp

Resident youth accessed Park Kids and Extended Camp programs at a deeply subsidized rate with a voucher from CHA.

Enrolled: 2,072 Summer Park Kids / 505 Extended Camp

Mobile Technology Van (formerly CHA/Chicago City of Learning (CCOL) Mobile Learning Labs)

The Mobile Technology Van, in partnership with the Digital Youth Network and FUSE, brought STEAM challenges to CHA's Digital Resource Centers where FUSE Camps were held to engage youth in design, coding and making in a fun and interest-driven way. This summer, 175 online portfolios, or "digital backpacks," were created on the CCOL site to track the skills youth gained.

Summer Food Service Program

Youth, up to age 18, received healthy meals at 37 CHA sites across the city.

Windy City Hoops

Windy City Hoops is a year-round basketball league hosted by Chicago Park District on Friday and Saturday nights in targeted communities, including Carver Park in Altgeld Gardens. # Enrolled: 85

Youth Substance Abuse Prevention Program

Youth in Altgeld Gardens, Dearborn Homes, Trumbull Park Homes and Wentworth Gardens developed positive knowledge and characteristics that have been proven to decrease youth substance abuse behaviors. # Enrolled: 74



"I appreciate all the help I received through this program and I'm forever grateful for the opportunities it brought to me and doors to a better future that it has opened for me. Thanks for allowing me to be apart of this." - Demi, SYEP

"This program meant a lot to my family and my son because it gave him an opportunity to learn and get stronger Math and English skills while earning money and learning how to save." - Parent, Learn and Earn

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:



Visit <https://goo.gl/R4zs3c> to see our video on CHA summer 2017



Sign up now to receive information at <https://youth.thecha.org> and be the first to know when the 2018 summer application opens!



Visit Springboard to Success (S2S) at www.thecha.org/S2S to learn how S2S supports CHA youth



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