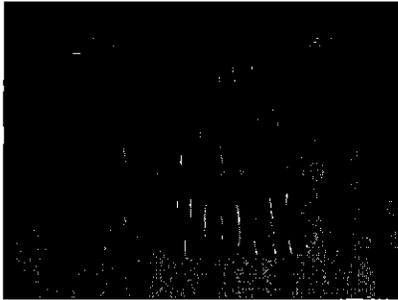


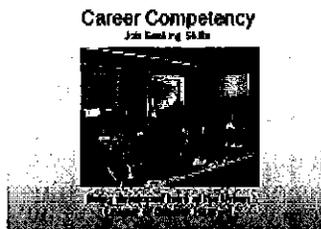
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**Appropriations Committee Agency Budget Hearings and Public Hearing
February 17, 2009**

The Connecticut Youth Employment Facebook Page now has 113 “friends” engaged in dialogue about Youth Employment. Following are testimonial extracts from that page, submitted by young people who are hoping to be connected to Employment and Learning Opportunities again this summer:



The Connecticut Youth Employment Program engages THOUSANDS of students in summer and school year youth employment training and advocates for the continuation of funding for these programs.



Support CT Youth Employment Programs.....Support our YOUTH!!!

3:45 Added last Tuesday

More Testimonies 5:20pm

To whom it may concern,

The reason why it's important to fund summer youth job programs is because it will keep kids off the streets. This will keep the kids engaged and actually give them something to do for the summer. It's a great program that will enhance your skills and prepare you for the real world, therefore you benefit off of the information that you get. These skills that you learn will help your community and other communities in the future. This will be the excuse of why you're not at the mall or watching TV at home. What other resources do we have but this program to help us get on track and on our way to success?

Sincerely

Marcus Philip

Blue Hills Civic Association- Slight Edge Participant

Camarr Williams wrote at 3:31pm

Hi my name is camarr williams and I to am ready to work when most people hear of youth employment they they just think about youth with jobs but there way much more to the two word that meets the eye.youth employment is more than recieving a pay check every week its about building skills that would be very muck needed in the working world.youth ... Read More employment is a serious factor in the city of hartford because us young people need help to gear up and go in the real world once we become adults.I am currently a senior at A.I Prince tech and I am going of to college this year,I can honestly state that with the help of my past experiences in the youth employment program i am am ready to go into the working world.so this is my reason as to why youth employment in the city of hartford is very important

Camarr Williams Program Director Of TIPHSY(Teens In Hartford Promoting Sober Youth)



To whom it may concern,

I don't think that there should be an end to any youth programs. These programs helped many of the older generation to become the successful men and women they are today. In my opinion I think the younger generation should have the same opportunities as the older generation. We too want that opportunity to become successful adults. Besides we are their future, and if we don't have good paying jobs, the older generations will suffer too. These different youth programs that the State funds are what would help us, the younger generation, to become successful adults, because they give us the basic training that we need to start off on the right foot in the real world.

Shantel Noble

Testimony by Tyrell Biggz White 4:56pm

I am a student at youthbuild Hartford. I have obtained my high school diploma and I have learned important skills in life.

Testimony By Wesley Moreno 4:49pm

Hi, my is Wesley Moreno Santos I'm apart of YouthBuild Hartford and I'm here to tell about my experience here in YouthBuild. Youthbuild Hartford has provided me with many opportunities such has helping me in getting a job, doing community service, helping me in learning different trades. I was picked to go to the Washington D.C. leadership conference for YouthBuild. I have been helped so much here that i'm accomplishing my goals one step at a time, I just recently got my drivers licence by the support and help of my colleagues. I'm working to my next goal which is earning my G.E.D by February and looking forward to heading into collage and work on being in criminal justice if that does not work out get into being a firefighter or my other choice is

being an HIV/AIDS case-manager for infected or affected children and family's. Im looking forward in meeting your organization on the 11th of Febuary take care and keep in touch. Your, Youth Wesley Moreno Santos



Dyllan Leonard wrote at 4:14pm

Work is imprtant for me cause we are in the recessiioon and i need to help my mom and it helped me buy school unform and buy food so thanks



Alicia Robinson wrote at 10:56am

I think it is important to fund youth job programs for young people in the state of Connecticut because young people of our generation need jobs, so they can try and help themselves instead of putting pressure on their families for money, especially in this recession. These youth job programs also help young people learn about different work ... Read More experiences so when they enter that stage of their life, they will be more prepared. This Blue Hills Civic Association provides young people with the great opportunity of being able to get job experience, learn about their future careers and it also enhances their competencies. In these programs the young people are occupied and are learning a lot of skills that will be helpful later on in life. By decreasing the funds, youth problems in the community will increase, which is what blue hills is trying to prevent. This is all why funding these programs should not be an option, but a necessity, if people want our state to progress since the young

Jan 30

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND CONSIDERATION.

*Testimony submitted by: Sandra Rodriguez, Capital Workforce Partners,
One Union Place, Hartford CT 06103 860-522-1111*

