

Service to Careers: Health Pathways Project Profile

Overview

Service to Careers is a ten week, youth voice led curriculum meant for middle school aged youth, developed by OregonASK for out-of-school time programs. Clubs choose a health/wellness issue to focus on that effects their community, create a project to address the issue, interview a representative from local Workforce Boards and/or Industry partner to inform the project process, and carry out the service project. This program capitalizes on youth interest and guides them through service learning model while increasing awareness on health careers and resources in their own community. Health Pathways is an extension of the Service to Career curriculum created by OregonASK for out-of-school time programs to guide youth in exploring careers and get connected within their community.

Projects can continue beyond the ten weeks, but the curriculum provided supplies the club with interview questions, strategies, and a weekly progression through project development and implementation. Programs who take part in training will have access to:

- Ongoing technical assistance from OregonASK Trainers
- Facilitated Connections to Regional Workforce Investment Boards
- Tools & resources developed specifically for documenting the process with youth
- Facilitated webinars with peers working in other communities

Timeline:

- **March 2019:** Recruitment for Cohort 1
- **April 2019:** Training for Cohort 1
- **April to June 2019:** Implementation of Health Pathways Cohort 1
- **June 2019:** Local demonstrations/presentations & collect student and facilitator surveys
- **Summer 2019:** Review feedback, make adjustments, recruit Cohort 2
- **Fall 2019:** Recruit Cohort 2 for Service to Careers Health Pathways

Implementation

- Online training for all new programs:
 - Adult facilitators from each program
 - Two online check-ins for sharing documentation, progress and feedback.
- Key Partners & Organizations
 - Clackamas Workforce Investment Boards
 - Clackamas Chamber of Commerce
 - Local health & medical industry partners
 - Informal & Out-of-School Programs
 - CTE Regional Coordinators
- Key Audiences for 10 week/session Service to Career activities:
 - Middle School Youth
 - High School Youth

Service to Careers Alignment to Employability Skills

Youth who participate in Service Learning projects in this pilot will have the opportunity to develop workforce skills in a number of ways. This youth voice based project creates an organic connection to careers while fostering leadership and communication experience. Youth will brainstorm and implement projects that widen their knowledge of possible career pathways in the Health sector. They will have an opportunity to share project descriptions with Workforce and other Career experienced partners who will consult on further outreach to those business and industry members that can inform specific projects. Youth will have the opportunity to develop skills in all of the following categories:

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| 1) Adaptability | 6) Empathy |
| 2) Analysis | 7) Entrepreneurial Mindset |
| 3) Collaboration | 8) Resilience |
| 4) Communication | 9) Self-Awareness |
| 5) Digital Fluency | 10) Social Diversity |

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

- **How is this different from Service to Careers?**

This version of service to careers focuses on a specific public health issue, like diabetes or lung cancer. Students will research this public health issue, connect with their local workforce board agent, and interview professionals who work in the field currently working on the original issue the students focused on.

- **What kind of materials and support is provided for cohort participants?**

Online training on a quarterly basis will be provided to participating programs, along with a curriculum outlining ten weeks of steps toward implementing service learning projects. Monthly call times will be available as well as continuous access to coach trainers.

- **Why are we connecting Service Learning with Workforce?**

There are some essential skills that nearly all employers are looking for in future employees, most of which have more to do with 21st century employability skills. We believe that the structure of service learning allows youth to authentically engage with their community while building skills they may not otherwise have the opportunity to learn or practice with positive guidance, particularly while working directly with employment specialists.

- **Do I need to be knowledgeable in service learning or have industry partners before starting this program?**

No! There is no previous knowledge necessary, facilitators of Service Learning Clubs will have training, coaching opportunities, and access to OregonASK trainers and easy to use materials to support them throughout the project!

- **How do I target and engage underserved youth?**

This project is one part of the work we are doing to better understand how best to serve and engaging youth in Oregon. See more about our findings and recommendations [HERE](#).

Updated March 2019