As the Youth Apprenticeship Coordinator for Waukesha County I am excited to announce the developing partnership between the Youth Apprenticeship Program and the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Youth Program in an attempt to better serve the youth of Waukesha County through combined career-based opportunities.

WIA was signed into Law in 1998 and created a comprehensive workforce investment system. The WIA Program for Youth uses Federal funds at the local level to help youth 16-21:

- Improve educational achievement;
- Prepare for and succeed in employment;
- Develop potential as citizens and leaders;
- Support youth during program participation and for at least one year after goal achievement.

The Youth Apprenticeship (YA) Program:

- Integrates school-based and work-based learning to instruct students in employability and occupational skills defined by Wisconsin industries;
- Local employers provide training based on statewide youth apprenticeship curriculum guidelines, endorsed by business and industry;
- Students are simultaneously enrolled in academic classes to meet high school graduation requirements in a youth apprenticeship related class and are employed by a participating employer under the supervision of a skilled worksite mentor.

The combination of WIA and YA services will provide a multifaceted support system that will ultimately put your students on a fast track to gainful employment and go a long way in addressing area businesses skill shortages. By enrolling potential youth apprentices in WIA, the youth would have one-on-one case management services and all the services that go with it before, during and after their apprenticeship experience.

WIA offers the following services to youth

- Paid work experiences
- Limited Internships
- One-on-one case management services that outline career and educational goals, career pathways and development of a clear plan to achieve all goals
- Referrals to other agencies for support with identified needs (AODA, housing, etc.)
- Post-secondary educational funding support
- Job search and assistance support
- Supportive services (limited childcare and transportation reimbursement)

The Youth Apprenticeship program will provide the following

- Industry-developed skill standards
- Exposure to multiple aspects of the industry
- Skilled mentors assigned to train the students
- Related classroom instruction concurrent with work-based learning
- Curriculum guidelines for all programs
- Performance evaluation of demonstrated competencies
- State-issued skill certificate
The following YA career programs are available:

- **Health Services**
  - CNA, Veterinary, Chiropractic, Medical Assistant, Pharmacy Technician, Medical Office Support, Food Service, Imaging, Physical Therapy

- **Manufacturing**
  - Welding, Machining, Manufacturing Processes, Assembly & Packaging, Advanced Industrial Equipment, Basic Industrial Equipment, Production Operations Management

- **Automotive**
  - Collision Repair, Non-Structural Analysis and Repair, Painting and Refinishing, Damage Analysis and Electrical Repair, Vehicle Basics and General Service, Brake Systems

- **Printing**
  - Graphic Design & Pre-Press, Press & Post-Press Operations

- **Finance**
  - Basic and Advanced Accounting Services, Basic and Advanced Banking Services, Insurance Services

### WIA/YA Program Eligibility

Students must meet all requirements to be eligible for the services of the YA Program and the WIA Youth Program

- Be enrolled in a public or private secondary school or an approved program leading to a General Equivalency Degree
- All youth, regardless of income, must have at least one obstacle (deficient in basic literacy skills; school dropout; homeless, runaway, or foster child; pregnant or parenting; juvenile offender; requires additional assistance to complete an educational program or to secure and hold employment (including youths with disabilities).)
- Family income (unless disabled and is then considered family of one) cannot be above 100% Federal Poverty Level
- Must be enrolled in two semesters of related instruction per year

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If you have any youth that could benefit from these services please contact one of the following people

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