

The Summer Xpress

L.A. County WIB SYEP
 Goal: 5,000
 Our Success...
 Goal Reached!!!
 Currently over 5,535 youth
 are enrolled

- Over 454 probation/felony youth
- Over 393 foster youth



Yvette, writer

Notes From Our Youth

Angelica is 22 years old, and she graduated from Dominguez High School. Angelica now attends Long Beach City College. One of Angelica's major challenges that she overcame was getting pregnant during high school and still managing to graduate on time. Angelica heard about the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) from her sister, who used to work for Communities in Schools (CIS). This is Angelica's second time working through the Summer Youth Employment Program; she came back because she really enjoys working at CIS. The first job she had was at a women's clothing store inside of the Market Place. Angelica is now a Summer Youth Employment worker at CIS. Angelica's job consists of mainly clerical work, filing payroll papers, and communicating with different business companies. Angelica really enjoys working at CIS, because they are teaching her a lot of things that she feels will benefit her in the future. A good example of how they are helping her is the fact that she will be able to use them on her resume, which should help her out a lot. Angelica says, "I really

enjoy working at CIS because all of my bosses are very nice, if I don't understand something they would take the time out of their day and help me out." Angelica is in the process of learning about so many things that she wasn't even aware existed. She expects to learn a little more about accounting from this job. Angelica has already learned some things but she just expects to learn a little more. When this program ends Angelica plans to stay in school and find another job part time so that she will be able to support her and her son. Every time Angelica gets her check she uses it to pay for childcare for her son and the rest goes to bills.



Angelica, 22

It gives me great pleasure to see the number and quality of youth and employers who have participated in our Summer Youth Employment Program. I salute them and our contractors for their passion for the Summer Youth Program. I can say from first hand experience, as a former Neighborhood Youth Corps youth (summer program back in the 70's), that having summer jobs through a federally subsidized program increased my knowledge of the workforce and no doubt gave me life skills that got me where I am today. I hope one day to hear similar stories from the youth who participated in our program.

Josephine Marquez, Assistant Director, Community and Senior Services



Cameron, 22

Cameron Miller is a usual 21 year old living in Los Angeles. Cameron graduated from Washington Preparatory High School. What makes Cameron a little different from your average youth are the trials and tribulations that he had to bear during his graduation year, when his mother passed away. For Cameron, or any person, this was a major challenge that he had to overcome. Following his graduation and his mother passing, Cameron was on a shaky start to life, from trouble to just trying to find himself in the world. Then a friend told him about the Asian American Drug Abuse Program (AADAP), which managed to help him out a lot. The AADAP Program allowed him to get his life back on track by offering to find him a job so that he would be able to start his life all over again. The task of finding a job for Cameron wasn't very easy, he was turned away from many job sites that AADAP had provided for him to work at

because of the fact that he had a record. Louis Lewis, program manager at AADAP, didn't give up on him. Cameron is now employed at the AADAP center. Cameron's job consists of custodial work and assisting the staff from filing to making copies. Cameron says, "I enjoy this job very much because it's offering me a second chance." He feels that this job is good for him because it is giving him a real sense of work ethic. This job has taught Cameron more about himself and how to set goals on what he wants in life. Cameron said, "My supervisors here at AADAP are great, they treat me with respect and the work environment that they provide for me is very professional and fun." Cameron's expectations were met because he didn't expect that the Summer Youth Employment Program at AADAP would actually do everything they said they would do and they did. After this job is over Cameron plans on going to finding a job so that he would be able to establish himself financially and help take care of his family. After all of that, Cameron eventually wants to go back to school and major in kinesiology, so he can be a basketball coach. Cameron uses his checks to help pay bills and the rest toward getting his license back.



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