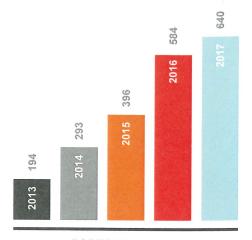
### FRIENDS,

This summer marked five years of service for the organization. What was originally developed as a pilot project has evolved into an initiative that is impacting our region, economy and most importantly, our youth. Since its inception, STL Youth Jobs has provided more than 2,100 youth opportunities from 40 communities and neighborhoods with paid employment and partnered with more than 300 local organizations. Through the generosity of your donations, support and partnership, more than \$3 million have been earned by our youth participants - a dramatic impact on our regional economy.

Along with these successes, we have also developed numerous new partnerships that expanded our ability to further integrate a career and skill-based focus into summer employment which will help ensure youth have the skills to secure quality jobs and ultimately lead to prosperous careers right here in St. Louis. Even with our significant growth, we have remained to be a collaborative effort of community partners and we would like to thank those key organizations including the St. Louis Mayor's office, the Incarnate Word Foundation, MERS Goodwill and the St. Louis Community Foundation for their partnership and support.

Looking ahead to 2018 and beyond, we are preparing for even more growth and



# OF YOUTH SERVED

expansion. We will begin the process of becoming an independent organization but will remain focused on our mission to bridge the divide between our region's youth and the growing skills gap in our workforce. By continuing to increase awareness and investment for summer job opportunities, together will we ensure young people have the opportunity to develop skills demanded by employers and be prepared for tomorrow's jobs.

Thank you for a remarkable year. We hope as you read this report you take pride in what you have helped youth accomplish in 2017. We thank you again for your generosity, support and continued partnership as we set our sights on the exciting things to come for STL Youth Jobs and the youth of St. Louis!

Dave Leipholtz, Board Chairman Hillary Frey, Executive Director

## 2017 AT A GLANCE

640

vouth received training, mentoring & meaningful work experiences

applicants - almost 3X more than spots available

successfully completed the program

local businesses

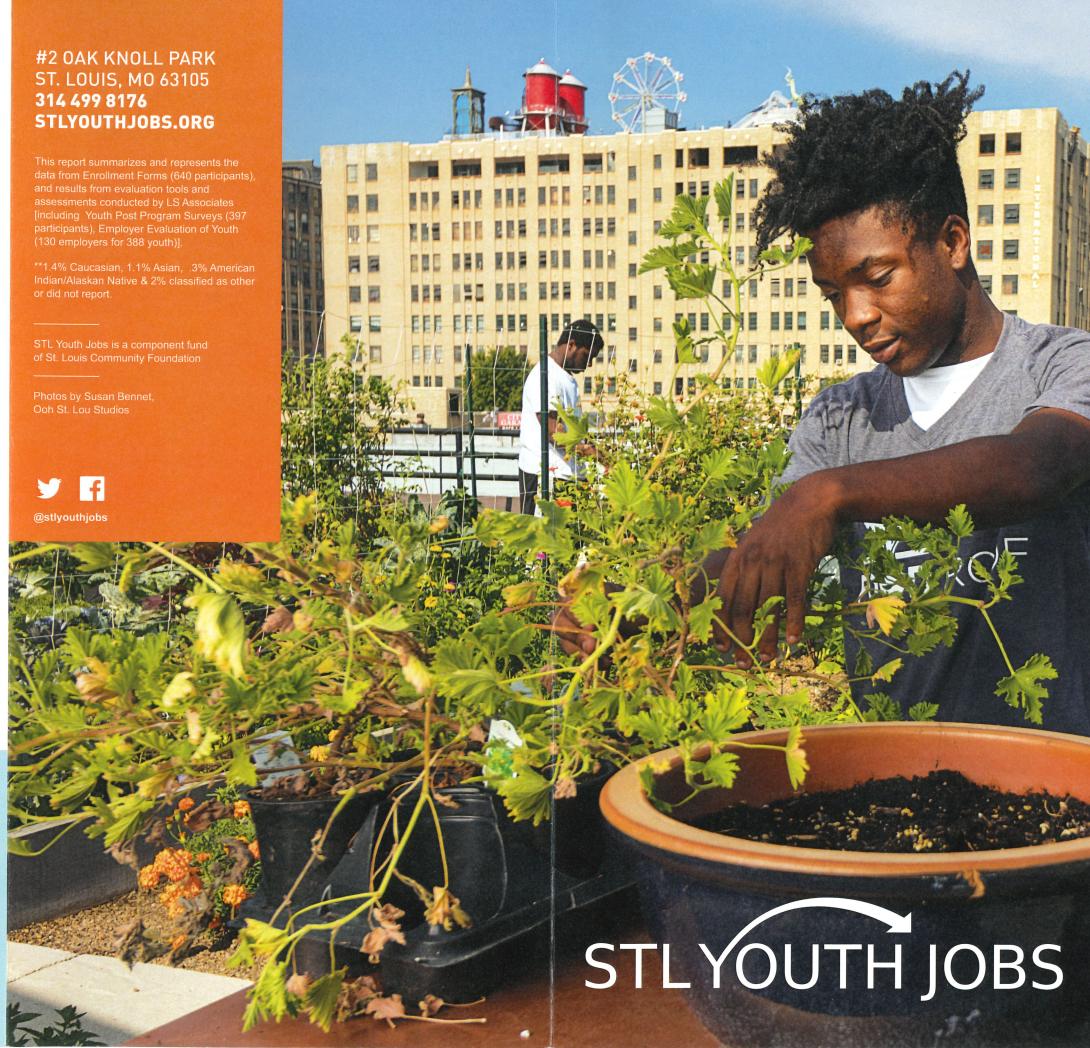
engaged

un-banked youth opened their first checking and savings account

enrolled in direct deposit \$826.720

paid in youth wages, stimulating the St. Louis summer economy

deemed entry-level work ready by their employer



#### YOUTH IMPACT

STL Youth Jobs has a transformative effect on many indicators that will affect the growth of our region and the success of our youth. The results of this work are clear.

92% reported learning critical skills they can use on other jobs or to get future jobs

82% learned expectations that employers have of their employees

85% felt more connected and supported by their community

Participant surveys showed evidence that their STL Youth Jobs experience benefited them in a variety of ways:

- Knowledge of workplace skills
- \* Self confidence and self-esteem
- \* Skills for seeking and securing employment
- Income to cover basic and school related needs
- Stress in coping with life challenges
- Positive relationships with others
- Motivation to pursue additional education or training
- Savings behavior

Our youth are quite literally the future of St. Louis, and as corporate citizens we have some clear choices. We can either stand on the sidelines while they attempt to succeed in challenging times or we can contribute to their growth.

- EMPLOYER PARTNER

packets for the Transition Care Unit at SSM Health- St. Mary's Hospital.



#### JOB COACH IMPACT

74% of youth rated support from their Job Coach as excellent. Youth also reported that their Job Coach:



prepare to find a long-term job



expectations employers have of employees



about furthering my education



resources outside my employment

#### **EMPLOYER** SATISFACTION

STL Youth Jobs provided vital summer staff to more than 230 employers in 14 different industries including St. Louis' highest demand industries of healthcare, hospitality & tourism, advanced manufacturing & production, and information technology.

#### **TALENT PIPELINE**

18% hired their youth employee and 58% would hire their youth employee if positions were open.



Would provide a positive reference for another position



Felt STL Youth Jobs was an asset to their organization

# art of pastry decorating from Kit Villasis-Corbin, Executive Pastry Chef at La Patisserie in Florissant

#### PERFORMANCE REVIEW SURVEY RATINGS

Youth were assessed on key workforce skills by their summer employers. Youth rated higher in all skill areas at the end of the program as compared to the beginning of the summer.\* The largest increases occurred in the following areas:



Verbal Communication - speaks clearly; uses appropriate language



Initiative & Leadership - shows leadership among co-workers; participates fully in work tasks



Self-Confidence - has a "can do" attitude; not afraid to take on new tasks and learn new skills



Responsiveness - follows directions; open to feedback and applies feedback to improve performance



Decision Making & Critical Thinking - shows he/she uses the right information and thinks carefully before making decisions; considers possible results/consequences before taking action

Before After \*rated as "always" or "almost always"

**DEMOGRAPHICS** AT A GLANCE





RACE 96% AFRICAN AMERICAN 4% OTHER\*\*

**32**% 19-21 22-24

**EDUCATION** 

55%

23% NOT ENROLLED HIGH SCHOOL

22% COLLEGE/ POSTSCONDARY

SECTOR 55% PRIVATE 12% PUBLIC

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION