



WorkBridge is a community based program for male and female youth ages 10 to 21 involved with Allegheny County Juvenile Probation. WorkBridge serves Allegheny County Juvenile Probation by providing youth with opportunities to obtain meaningful paid employment, complete court ordered community service, and develop competencies in accordance with the principles of Balanced and Restorative Justice.

THERE ARE THREE COMPONENTS TO THE PROGRAM: Community Service, Employment Initiative, and Stipend Program.

- **COMMUNITY SERVICE:** With hundreds of community service sites, WorkBridge places, monitors and reports to The Court the progress of the youth. The Community Service component provides youth ages 10-21 with the opportunity to perform court ordered community service.
- **EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE:** Provides youth ages 16-21 job training workshops and assists with finding meaningful paid employment opportunities. The program is designed to serve The Court by assisting with the collection of restitution payments.
- **STIPEND PROGRAM:** Provides youth ages 10 to 15 (too young for employment) to perform community service in exchange for a stipend to pay their restitution.

■ COMMUNITY SERVICE:

Value to the Community:

WorkBridge provides a valuable service to non-profit agencies and the community by helping the agencies to meet their goals and serve more of the needs of the community effectively. In 2020, over 20,000 hours of community service were contributed by the youth to the community.

Benefits to Youth:

- Reinforces the concept of accountability and responsibility for one's actions.
- Provides exposure to a positive work setting and promotes interpersonal skills and self-esteem.
- Provides an additional source of community engagement through positive adult interactions and support.
- Provides the opportunity for constructive and instructive use of youth's time.
- Provides on the job training.
- Reinforces the feeling of ownership and pride in the community for the youth who contribute.

■ EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE:

Value to the Community:

In 2020 the Employment Initiative component in Allegheny County had 198 work sites and collected over \$19,000 in restitution. Through the Employment Initiative Program youth can become certified in OSHA, ServSafe and Flagger. WorkBridge will also provide assistance with obtaining State IDs and work permits.

Benefits to Youth:

- Provides youth with soft employability skills.
- Offers youth a job coach during the work experience.
- Allows youth to repay the victim of their crime.
- Youth enter the workforce and gain valuable experience.

■ STIPEND PROGRAM:

Value to the Community:

The Stipend Program is for those youth under the age of 16 who cannot legally work but who owe restitution. The Stipend Program permits youth to perform community service in exchange for a stipend which pays their restitution.

Benefits to Youth:

- Allows youth too young to work to pay restitution.
- Provides exposure to a positive work setting and promotes interpersonal skills and self-esteem.
- Youth participate in community service and gain valuable experience.
- Provides youth with soft employability skills.

PACTT Affiliated
(Pennsylvania Academic
and Career/Technical
Training Alliance)



To learn more about WorkBridge or to make a referral
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