

APPLICANT ORGANIZATION: Heights-Hillcrest Regional Chamber of commerce & South Euclid-Lyndhurst School District

Project Description

The South Euclid-Lyndhurst School District has partnered with the Heights-Hillcrest Regional Chamber of Commerce to establish a summer internship program for 11-grade Charles F. Brush High School students. The goal of the Bridge to Success program is to help students, who may not pursue college, explore possible career opportunities and develop their workplace skills.

In the Bridge to Success program, students will be exposed to career opportunities that may require on-the-job training, apprenticeships or certifications. The program is currently a test pilot with the intention of offering this opportunity to more students next summer.

Over 30 students applied for spots in the program, and 11 were selected this year to participate. Employer selection is ongoing, now that students have been identified, with the goal of matching student career interests and strengths with local employers. The selection committee was comprised of teachers and administrators from the district, and Chamber staff. HRCC will work with its members, as well as the South Euclid Business Advisory Board to secure hosts for the interns.

As a part of the program, the School District will collaborate with the Chamber to offer a series of three workshops, in which students will learn interviewing, job searching and workplace skills. Students will attend these workshops in the spring and complete a survey to gauge their career interests. Results from the survey will determine the students' placement with the appropriate Chamber/Business Member.

The interns will be placed with employers for 20 hours/week, for six weeks beginning in July. Employers interested in hosting an intern have been asked to provide a stipend of \$600 to their student. While interest has been generated, many of the employers have asked if there will be assistance with the \$600 stipend. Some are unable to provide a stipend of any amount, and some have asked if help will be provided in matching funds.

To that end, we are requesting \$4400, so that we may provide up to \$400 of the stipend per student. In the event that an employer does not need assistance with providing the stipend, funds may be used to completely underwrite one or more of the student stipends. Funds received from the Legacy Village Lyndhurst Community Fund will ONLY be used for student stipends.

Workshops will be presented on the following topics:

Interviewing Skills/Relationship Building – Stacy Ward Braxton, Braxton Educational Consulting/Organizational Development Professional, Presenter

Workplace Etiquette/Overcoming Workplace Challenges – Angie Pohmlan, HRCC, Presenter

Employer Expectations – Michael Daly, Employment Connection, Presenter

The presenters have each agreed to donate their time for the presentations.

Funds are being requested from other sources help defray the costs of workshop presentations, refreshments, and workshop materials for the students.

At the end of the internship program, evaluations will be conducted with the employers as well as the students to measure the effectiveness of the program. There will also be a celebratory gathering at the end of the summer.

So often, funds are sought to provide tangible items to put in the hands of our students to give them a new learning experience. The Bridge to Success Program was created to provide a hands-on, real-world learning experience. It also gives business owners an opportunity to be in direct contact with students from the district, feel even more vested in the community by mentoring, and sets the example for all that we build communities together.

We thank you in advance for your consideration. Should our project receive funding, we would of course invite representatives from the Legacy Village Lyndhurst Community Fund to attend any of our workshops, and of course, join in the celebration at the conclusion of the program. We will be happy to provide program evaluations to you as well.

The following companies have expressed an interest in hosting an intern:

The City of South Euclid
The Wills Firm, LLC (attorney)
Braxton Educational & Technology Consultants
Power Max Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning
Cleveland Heights-University Heights Library
Heights-Hillcrest Regional Chamber of Commerce
Zeppe's Pizza (University Heights location)

Areas of interest expressed by our 11 students:

| | |
|---|--|
| Nursing/Medical | Mechanical Engineer |
| Automotive | Cook |
| General Business/Small Business Owner (2) | ANY JOB THAT PAYS – like physical work |
| Travel/related businesses | Music |
| Veterinarian assistant | Teacher |
| Author/Writer | |



Employer Interest Form

Yes! I am interested in hosting an intern from Brush High School from July 1 – August 15.

The intern will be available for 20 hours/week for six weeks. I understand that a stipend of \$600 to the student is requested, and that Bridge to Success is applying for funding to assist in payment of this stipend.

PLEASE PRINT!

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Name | |
| Company | |
| Address | |
| Phone | Fax |
| Email | Website |
| Type of work to be performed by student: | |
| | |

In the event that funding is not available for your intern, are you willing/able to provide the \$600 stipend? _____ YES _____ NO

SIGNATURE _____ Date _____

PLEASE CONTACT ANGIE POHLMAN AT HEIGHTS-HILLCREST REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WITH QUESTIONS: 216-397-7322 OR ANGIE@HRCC.ORG