



# Summer JAM 2020 Highlights

## Youth Orientation via Zoom!

For the first time ever, Summer JAM Youth Orientation was held via a 6-hour Zoom Event!

- ❖ All youth received a “Summer JAM Welcome” packet that included re-usable, washable masks and individual bottles of hand-sanitizer.
- ❖ Youth Orientation included live and pre-recording speakers, break-out sessions, knowledge checks and active youth participation!
- ❖ The Erie County Health Department provided a COVID-19 Safety Training.

## Erie County employers drive the program!

Over thirty participating employers across Erie County offered youth work experiences. Upwards of 130 youth positions were available in a variety of fields.

Summer JAM also increased youth hourly wage to \$8.25 per hour!

## Virtual Lunch & Learn Wednesdays!

Summer JAM launched a Lunch & Learn speaker series with a different speaker every Wednesday! Speakers discussed a variety of important and relevant topics and offered helpful tips for educational and career attainment!

## Summer JAM 2020 goes virtual!

Due to the impacts of COVID-19, the Summer Jobs and More program transitioned to virtual program. Ensuring the safety and health of all our youth and employers, programmatic activities that normally take place in person were held via Zoom!

- ❖ Summer JAM held 8 Virtual Info Sessions for youth and parents!
- ❖ Summer JAM offered personalized one-on-one video calls to answer questions and complete applications
- ❖ Summer JAM makes submitting applications easy! Electronic youth applications were available for download. Need access to a printer or copier? No problem, four Summer JAM Pop-Events were held in parking lots across Erie County. Social Distancing and masking was required!

## Summer JAM makes an impact!

Over 90 youth submitted applications to participate in Summer JAM program.

- ❖ 89 youth began their work experiences.
- ❖ 65% of participating youth are new to the program this year.
- ❖ For many youth, this is their first job ever! More than 60% of participants are under 18 years old.
- ❖ Summer JAM help youth build confidence while gaining new skills
- ❖ Many employers hire Summer JAM youth after the program ends.
- ❖ Summer JAM Alumni report they are hired by their prior summer employers!



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Mashael at PRI



Riziki at USCRI



Jahzarra, Dominique, & Dijonay at Learning Ladders



Isabella at Whole Foods Coop



Jack at Erie County Redevelopment Authority



Kayla at KC Ice Cream