

What is Career Connect?

Career Connect is an innovative partnership between Youth Opportunities Unlimited and Louisville Orphan Care Initiative collaborating with the Department of Community Based Services. Y.O.U. is funded by KentuckianaWorks and managed by Jefferson County Public Schools – Adult and Continuing Education. Career Connect's goal is to match youth (ages 16-21) facing multiple barriers, such as lack of family support or positive role models, with caring supervisors in businesses that will provide paid mentoring internship positions.



The goal of Career Connect is for youth to be mentored through a professional relationship with a supervisor that focuses on maturing their personal and work life. This is a paid work internship lasting for at least two months.

For more information,
please contact:

Bruce Zoeller
(502) 419-8248
bzoeller@TheChristianAdvantage.com

[Upcoming Employer Training:](#)



**SERVING LOUISVILLE'S YOUTH
THROUGH MENTORING
INTERNSHIPS**

Who are you helping?

Know the facts . . .

National Trends

- 24,000 youth “age out” of foster care each year (US Department of Health and Human Services)
- Four years after “aging out” of foster care:
 - Fewer than half of emancipated youth graduate from high school
 - Fewer than 1 in 8 graduate from a four year college
 - 2/3 have not been able to maintain employment for a year
 - More than a quarter of males have spent time in jail
 - 4 out of 10 have become parents
 - 3 out of 10 homeless persons have a history of being in foster care

(<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/agingout/index-hi.html>)



What can we do to change the outcomes for teens “aging out” of foster care?

Make a difference!



What is being provided to participating businesses?

- Mentoring workshops to help the employer/supervisor better understand and deal with barriers the youth face everyday.
- Identification of qualified youth through an application and interview process.
- Matching process of youth with an appropriate internship position.
- Foundational work-readiness training for the youth.
- Y.O.U. contact for the supervisor and youth during the internship.

What is being asked of employers?

- Paid internships with a definition of hours, duties, and terms of employment.
- Oversight and personal relationship in addition to occupational training.
- Feedback to Y.O.U. and Louisville Orphan Care Initiative.

Next Steps:

- Complete an employer interest form.
- Select your employer training date.
- Identify an internship opportunity and supervisor.

The Process . . .

