



Youth Station

The one-stop-shop on the track to success



Dear Youth and Caregivers,

We hope you're getting back into the groove of a new school year! In honor of Labor Day 2024, an annual celebration of workers and their achievements, this issue is dedicated to all the hard work of our caregivers, case managers, group home staff and everyone who ensures our youth have the support they need.

— Your Youth Services Team

LIFE SKILLS NEWSLETTER

SOFT SKILLS FOR SUCCESS

Soft skills such as enthusiasm, a positive attitude, teamwork, effective communication, initiative, interpersonal skills and a strong work ethic are vital for thriving in today's world. These skills enable youth to navigate and adapt to various social and professional settings.

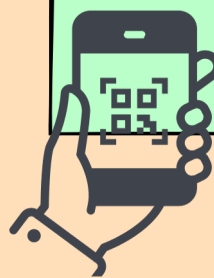
By teaching and consistently reviewing these soft skills, we can help teens build resilience, foster positive relationships and be better prepared to excel in their careers and personal lives. Whether it's encouraging them to take initiative in school projects, modeling strong interpersonal skills or discussing the importance of a positive attitude in challenging situations, every lesson we impart contributes to their growth and future success.



CAREGIVER PORTAL



SCAN THE QR CODE TO DOCUMENT/PROGRESS
MONITOR THE LIFE SKILLS YOU ARE DISCUSSING AND
TEACHING OUR YOUTH.



LIFE SKILLS NEWSLETTER

ENTHUSIASM AND ATTITUDE

When employers consider prospective candidates, they want more than skills, experience and training. They look for people who demonstrate enthusiasm – those they believe will complete assigned tasks in an upbeat and cooperative manner. All other things being equal, a candidate who can demonstrate a positive attitude and eagerness to tackle the job will have an advantage over one who displays an attitude viewed as negative or disinterested. In fact, many employers would rather provide job skills training to an enthusiastic but inexperienced worker than hire someone with perfect qualifications but a less than positive attitude. Managers worry this type of person will be unable to work cooperatively with supervisors and coworkers, treat customers disrespectfully, and put minimal effort into his or her work. Employees who are viewed as enthusiastic are known to provide good customer service, resolve interpersonal conflict effectively and work productively with others.

There are many ways an individual might demonstrate enthusiasm in the workplace. For example, in a job interview, he or she might smile, sit up straight, make eye contact and discuss training and work experiences in an upbeat manner. Once hired, an enthusiastic employee will typically be on time for work, show interest in his or her job, and demonstrate a willingness to listen, learn and try new things. In customer service settings, an enthusiastic employee will approach customers proactively and offer assistance or seek out tasks and projects when there is down time. This positive attitude helps employees go above and beyond to get along with co-workers and managers – even difficult ones – and respond to constructive criticism with maturity and a willingness to improve. Overall, an enthusiastic employee is perceived as someone who wants to be at work and is willing to do what it takes to get the job done



A **positive attitude** is an “I can” attitude. Young people with real or perceived barriers to employment (such as those who struggle academically, possibly due to a learning or other disability, have been in multiple foster homes, have dropped out of school, are raising a baby) may not think they have experienced enough success to feel or demonstrate this attitude. It is important to highlight their resiliency and perseverance. Regardless of the challenges young people have conquered, developing and displaying a positive attitude often helps them surpass their peers in many aspects of life.

Community Events



CFEC
Central Florida Employment Council
24TH ANNUAL GOVERNOR'S

JOB FAIR **SEPT 11, 2024**

Are you ready to take the next step in your career? This Job Fair will open doors to exciting opportunities and help you connect with top employers from various industries

Doors Open from
12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Wednesday
September 11, 2024

Orlando Fairgrounds Expo Building,
4603 W Colonial Dr

www.cfec.org/job-fairs

REGISTER AND GET
DETAILS TO
ATTEND.



[CFEC Job Fair \(vairs.com\)](http://vairs.com)



Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteering is a great way to build your resume, especially if you haven't acquired job experience.



Volunteer Portal (orlando.gov)

Help clean and beautify our streets, neighborhoods, waterways and green spaces. Here are upcoming opportunities in September.

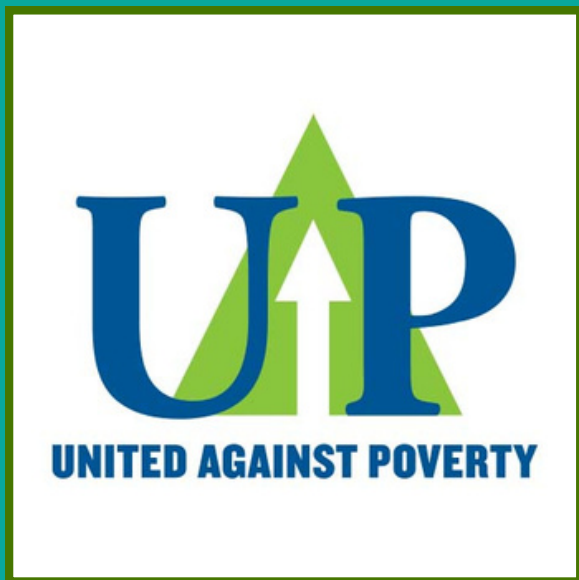


Saturday, Sept. 7, 2024 | 9 AM to 12 PM



VOLUNTEER - The WASH Foundation

You will have the opportunity to visit the one-of-a-kind Soap Museum and volunteer to support The WASH Foundation by sorting soap bars and plastic bottle amenities that will be distributed to those in need around the globe.



Volunteer - United Against Poverty Orlando
(uporlando.org)

Volunteers can assist by cleaning, organizing and stocking shelves; sorting donated clothing and household items in the member marketplace; taking inventory in the emergency food pantry; and other tasks.



Second Harvest
FOOD BANK
OF CENTRAL FLORIDA



Second Harvest Food Bank (volunteerhub.com)

Second Harvest Food Bank offers various volunteer opportunities for individuals and groups to contribute their time, talents and resources to help those facing hunger. Youth 16 and older may volunteer without a chaperone.

Resource Corner



Orange Technical College proudly prepares students in Central Florida for various careers and provides programs of study ranging in length from several months to a year or more. Graduates can earn future college credits in most OCPS career certificate programs of study, as well as valuable work-related experience in their field of study. The college:



- Accepts the foster care tuition waiver and could potentially qualify young adults for PESS.
- Has multiple locations throughout Central Florida.
- Offers a wide range of programs, from audio production and cosmetology to automotive service technology and practical nursing.



Home - Orange Technical College (orangetechcollege.net)

Youth Spotlight



Thermon Watkins has been working hard on his career goals. He recently began the culinary training program at Second Harvest Food Bank with hopes of managing a restaurant one day. "If you have a chance to try something new, take it," Thermon says.