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**WICHITA WORKFORCE CENTER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROJECT WORKSHOPS
UNDERWAY**

WICHITA, KS - The Wichita Workforce Center, 2021 N. Amidon Suite 1100, is offering a series of workshops as part of the Youth Employment Project (YEP) 2017. Registration is now open for workshops in April and May 2017 at www.workforce-ks.com/yep.

YEP applicants must be at least 16 years old by June 1, 2017 to participate in a work experience. The YEP Workshops are open to all applicants, 14 and older. The curriculum is designed to teach business etiquette, customer service, money handling and address the unspoken rules of the workplace. Young adults will earn a badge for each workshop they complete and a Certificate after completing the series of three workshops (Essential Skills, Customer Service and Financial Literacy) at the Wichita Workforce Center. **Workshops will be held in a one day session from 9am – 4pm. Lunch will be served.** Dates of the upcoming workshops are April 17, May 18 and May 23. Registration is required to attend. **Prior to attending a workshop, youth must go to www.KANSASWORKS.com and register with a PLUS account (no cost).*

In addition, young adults who attend one or more of the YEP workshops will be eligible to attend two YEP job fairs on May 26 and June 9. Employers from the community looking to hire for summer jobs will attend and some will conduct interview on the spot.

“Youth work experience opportunities are declining. We are making a concentrated effort to work with other community organizations and businesses to provide jobs to youth so they can obtain the necessary skills needed for a future career,” said Keith Lawing, president and CEO of Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas.

The Workforce Alliance (WA) has been involved in promoting young adult employment and work experience opportunities for at-risk young adults (16-21) since 2009. The strategy was initiated by funding from the federal government in 2009 and 2010, and the WA has leveraged Workforce Investment Act resources, proceeds from the Jobs FORE Youth Golf tournaments and contributions from employers to support youth work experiences from 2011 to 2016.

The Workforce Alliance is the Administrative Entity, One Stop Operator, and Program Administrator for Local Area IV in Kansas, which includes the counties of Butler, Cowley, Harper, Kingman, Sedgwick and Sumner. Operations for Local Area IV are directed by the Local Workforce Investment Board (LWIB). The daily operations of the LWIB are carried out by a professional staff, led by a President and Chief Executive Officer. For additional information on the Workforce Alliance please visit www.workforce-ks.com

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