



Franklin County Board of Commissioners

JOB & FAMILY SERVICES

2024 WEX

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 1
JULY 2024



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Event Planning

Students received an overview of OMJ skills, personal development goals, and were able to take a day trip to COSI.



Fashion

The Fashion cohort will be hosted by Gary Jones. Jones is the owner of Jones Select, a menswear clothing company that specializes in personal branding through custom clothing.

Karting 101 & 102

Six-week course instructed by professional race car drivers & a seasoned team. Students will be introduced to the fundamentals of go-kart engines and much more!

Gaming

Youth participated in a variety of activities aimed at preparing them for interviews, resume building, and developing essential soft skills.

Media Production

Youth obtained their Leadership Excellence certification, as well as Yellow Belt and Green Belt certifications.

Mental Health / SEL

Orientation Week was chocked full of icebreakers, games, and preparing for the remainder of the program!



EVENT PLANNING

JUNE 24 - 28, 2024

WEEK IN REVIEW



This week began our summer WEX summer programming at the LTW headquarters. This week, the youth were able to participate in Lean Six Sigma training with Leadership Excellence and Yellow Belt workshops. They also received an overview of OMJ skills, personal development goals, and were able to take a day trip to COSI. Go Lead The Way!



LEADER OF THE WEEK

Terrence Ward Jr

Terrence Ward Jr is a recent graduate of West High School who is pursuing full time employment and is looking towards the trades. Terrence has an extreme passion for basketball and hopes to become a basketball player in the future. Terrence exemplified leadership this week by adhering to the site rules and sphere heading our ice breaker activities.



FASHION

JUNE 24 - 28, 2024

WEEK IN REVIEW



The Fashion cohort will be hosted by Gary Jones. Jones is the owner of Jones Select, a menswear clothing company that specializes in personal branding through custom clothing. Jones is a passionate and innovative fashion industry expert with over 19 years of experience as a style consultant and a CEO.

Jones has been featured in Entrepreneurs of Columbus and the Columbus Monthly.



LEADER OF THE WEEK

Keely Cheesebrew

Keely is a recent graduate from Groveport Madison High School. She has been an enthusiastic member of Lead The Way Learning Academy for 2 years and has a strong desire to learn about the Fashion industry.

Q & A WITH GARY JONES

Q: How did the idea for your business come about?

A: All of the men in my life that were successful had tailor made suit selections and they took great care of their family. I wore a suit for my high school senior picture and the attention that I received was amazing. It was so captivating that I was invited to be in my first fashion show as a model and the rest is history...

Q: What was the turning point for your business? Was there a moment you knew you had something special?

A: My first Fashion Week invite came after I designed my first wedding suit. My Collection was showcased in Scottsdale, Arizona and the response was amazing.

WEEK AHEAD

This week, the students will participate in creating a custom suit for our Executive Director, Anthony Murphy. The youth will learn the fundamentals of fashion design, know what it takes to build a career in fashion, and understand the business of fashion under the tutelage of Gary Jones.

REMINDERS

- Review the handbook for an overview of the dress code
- Be on time! Class will start promptly at 9am
- No phones
- No use of delivery service. Lunch will be provided.

KARTING 101

JUNE 24 - 28, 2024

WEEK IN REVIEW

July 8th - August 15th
Monday & Thursday 1pm - 4:30pm
Saturday 10am-3pm

LEAD THE WAY
LEARNING ACADEMY

GET KARTWAY

COMET

STEAM
CATHEDRAL
LAND & SPEED CO.
EST. 2020

LOCATION:
Equip Skills Center
620 Oakland Park Ave.
Columbus, OH 43214

for more info: www.steamcathedral.com 614-452-2392

Get race-ready in this 6-week STEAM course taught by professional race car drivers and our experienced team. Learn the basics of go-kart



LEADER OF THE WEEK

Aurea Cooper

Aurea Cooper, currently a student at TRECA High School, has enthusiastically joined the Karting 101 program as part of her exciting summer Work Experience (WEX). Her career aspirations lie in becoming an electrician, driven by a strong desire to learn and grow. Aurea has already begun familiarizing herself with the Ohio Means Jobs readiness seal rubric, aiming to enhance her skills and expertise. She views herself as currently in the developing phase but is determined to evolve into an accomplished professional capable of delivering substantial value to her future employer.

STEAM Cathedral is a community comprising mentors, apprentices, and students who collaborate on interactive projects, workshops, and symposiums rooted in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) principles, particularly within motorsports and restoration. Guided by our core values of Honor, Integrity, Respect, and Excellence, we nurture students to cultivate their innate strengths and ethical values. Experienced mentors impart practical skills such as safety protocols, fabrication, welding, mechanics, and assembly in a practical learning environment. Additionally, we integrate artistic elements to foster creativity and self-expression, while emphasizing soft skills such as problem-solving and innovative thinking. Our hands-on, collaborative approach not only boosts confidence and community spirit but also exposes young participants to diverse career opportunities. Four exceptional participants have enrolled in a six-week course instructed by professional race car drivers and a seasoned team. Beginning in July, they will be introduced to the fundamentals of go-kart engines, wheels, steering, brakes, and competition. They will engage in hands-on disassembly and assembly exercises, culminating in a visit to compete on a karting race track.

GAMING

JUNE 24 - 28, 2024

WEEK IN REVIEW



During the first week of orientation, youth participated in a variety of activities aimed at preparing them for interviews, resume building, and developing essential soft skills. Additionally, they successfully obtained their Leadership and Yellow Belt Lean Six Sigma Certifications. Xavier Gunnell, a member of the Levels Unlocked pathway, distinguished himself in the week's competitions, earning him a prize for his outstanding performance.



LEADER OF THE WEEK

Violeta Monjaras

Violeta Monjaras has been recognized as the Levels Unlocked Leader of the Week. During the first week of orientation, she emerged as a vocal leader who exemplified leadership through her actions as well. She currently attends Eastland/Fairfield Career Center and has chosen Levels Unlocked as her WEX pathway this summer. Violeta's career aspirations are centered around Cybersecurity and owning a Networking company. She has already earned her CompTIA Network+ certification.



Levels Unlocked Enterprises (LUE) is a multicultural female owned marketing and communications firm with a focus on esports, sports and health. They are an innovative brand that architects, designs, markets and manages personal brands for esports athletes, traditional athletes, sports medicine professionals and influencers. This program will equip youth with the opportunity to explore the world of esports.

WEEK AHEAD

Starting next week youth will arrive at Game Arena to start their work experience with Levels Unlocked from 9:00am - 1:00pm. They will get an inside look at the world of esports.

- 7/1-7/3: 9:00am - 1:00pm
- 7/4: Off (Holiday)
- 7/5: 9:00am - 1:00pm

REMINDERS

- Be on time
- Follow Dress Code
- No phones

MEDIA PRODUCTION

JUNE 24 - 28, 2024

WEEK IN REVIEW



This week, the youth gained the knowledge needed to be successful in the workplace. They participated in numerous activities that prepared them for interviews, building resumes, developing soft skills, and more. The youth also obtained their Leadership Excellence certification, as well as Yellow Belt and Green Belt certifications. They concluded the successful week of orientation with financial literacy activities with BMI. We are so excited to see you thrive in the workplace!



LEADER OF THE WEEK

Aiyanna Johnson

Aiyanna Johnson is a graduate from West High School with a perfect 4.0 GPA. She has embarked on her collegiate journey at Kent State University, where she is pursuing a degree in Architecture. Aiyanna has also been chosen to participate in our summer Work Experience (WEX) program, focusing on Media / Production. Known for her radiant smile that illuminates any room, Aiyanna embodies positivity and continuous personal and professional growth. We are thrilled to showcase her accomplishments and look forward to supporting her future endeavors.



Yamo Media offers a comprehensive understanding of all things media. At Yamo Media, you will gain hands-on experience in Live Video Production, Podcast Consulting, Studio Rental, Social Media Content Creation, and DJ Services. This immersive environment will equip you with the skills needed to navigate and excel in the dynamic landscape of 21st-century media.

WEEK AHEAD

Youth will arrive at Lead The Way Learning Academy to start their work experience at Yamo Media from 9:00am to 1:00pm. They will get an inside look into the world of media.

REMINDERS

- Be on time
- No phones
- No artificial nails
- Pack lunch (Lunch will not be provided)

MENTAL HEALTH / SEL

JUNE 24 - 28, 2024

WEEK IN REVIEW



Orientation Week was chocked full of icebreakers, games, and preparing for the remainder of the program in which they would focus on mental health. The week was a great chance for everyone to get to know each other before dividing off into their respective pathways. On the left we see some of the Mental Health crew getting competitive together.

Below, the youth got some sunshine at the nearby COSI park. Some fresh air and exercise certainly did a body good.



One activity saw Mental Health get pitted against the IT cohort. Pictured above are the winners - the IT team! Mental Health almost took the win, but at the last moment IT came up with their paper tower taking the cake.

This team-building activity showed how important it is to communicate and collaborate to get to the finish line.



LEADER OF THE WEEK

Mohammad Mohammad

Mohammad took no time at all to embrace the role of leader in multiple activities throughout the week. He led games like Mafia, Thumbs Up/Seven Up, and he also volunteered as a walking leader when all of the WEX employees trekked to the nearby COSI. He never hesitates to speak up both with his opinions and also with questions.

WEEK AHEAD

The Mental Health cohort will meet their speaker from [SoMoCom Labs](#), Miss Chelsea. They will get to learn more about each other and start to have some awesome exposure to the world of SEL - Social-Emotional Learning.

- 7/1: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
- 7/2: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
- 7/3: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
- 7/4: CLOSED FOR JULY 4TH
- 7/5: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

REMINDERS

- No revealing clothing
- Listen when others are speaking
- Be on time and ready to participate
- Bring a refillable water bottle if you can!

