



# **SFY 2025 METRO YOUTH DIVERSION CENTER**

Final Report

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Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development  
Employment and Training Programs Division

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## Introduction

The Metro Youth Diversion Center (MYDC) funding supports the Youth-Care Assessment and Readiness Education program to enhance workforce development opportunities for youth with a focus on underrepresented East African students.

Funds for this project are appropriated in [Minnesota Session Laws – 2024, Chapter 120, S.F. 5289, Article 1, Section 2, Subdivision 3\(r\)](#). The amount available to the MYDC for SFY 2025 is \$475,000.00 (Minnesota Department of Employment & Economic Development is permitted to retain up to 5% of the \$500,000.00 appropriation for administration and monitoring of the grant). This is a one-time appropriation.

## Summary of Goals and Objectives Presented in the Work Plan

The MYDC Y-CARE program advances its mission of equipping East African youth with career readiness skills, professional exposure, and employment pathways through a structured curriculum of workshops, internships, and mentorship. The program offers weekly employability workshops focusing on soft skills, personal development, and career readiness to students. Participants also receive front-end development training, where they learn how to build websites from the ground up, gaining technical skills in HTML, CSS, and responsive design. The program’s career exploration component offers guest speakers and research activities facilitated in partnership with Ubah Medical Academy, Lincoln High School, and Riverside Plaza Tenant Association (RPTA), to increase students’ awareness of career pathways and industry opportunities. Finally, the program provides students with a hands-on, paid internship experience. A key aspect of the internship phase is one-on-one mentorship, which is implemented through partnerships with the internship’s sites.

## Participant Data

### Participants Served: Individual Services (cumulative)

	Project to Date: 7/1/2024 –6/30/2025
<b>Total Participants Served</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>(1) Gender</b>	
(1) Male	12
(2) Female	6
(3) Gender Non-Confirming	0
(4) Prefer Not to Answer	0
<b>(2) Age</b>	
(1) 15 and Under	0
(2) 16-17	6
(3) 18-19	11
(4) 20-21	0
(5) 22-24	0
<b>(3) Race/Ethnicity</b>	
(1) Hispanic/Latino	1
(2) American Indian or Alaska Native	1
(3) Asian/Pacific Islander	0

(4) Black, African American, or African	16
(5) White	0
(6) Multi-Race or Other	0
<b>(4) Education at Enrollment</b>	
(1) 8 <sup>th</sup> grade and under	0
(2) 9th Grade-12th Grade	6
(3) High School graduate or equivalent	11
(4) Some Post-Secondary Coursework	11
<b>(5) At Risk Characteristics</b>	
(1) Limited English proficient	NA
(2) Participants who receive Public Assistance	NA
(3) Economically Disadvantaged	11
(4) Participants who report a disability	NA
(5) High school drop-out – all participants included	NA
(6) Participants who are justice involved	NA
(7) Pregnant or parenting youth	NA
(8) Foster Youth	NA
(9) Participants showing as Homeless Participant/Runaway	NA
(10) Not employed at program enrollment – all participants included	NA
(11) Veteran – all participants included	NA

#### Program Services, Activities, and Other Related Assistance

	Number
1. Received Education or Job Training Activities	16
2. Received Work Experience Activities	7
3. Received Community Involvement and Leadership Development Activities	12
4. Received Post-Secondary Exploration, Career Guidance and Planning Activities	12
5. Received Internship or Apprenticeship Activities	7
6. Received Case Management, Guidance, Counseling Services	0
7. Received Support Services	10
8. Received Mentoring Services	10

## Outcome Data

Indicators of Performance	Number
1. Attained work readiness or education goals	10
2. Completed program objective	7
3. Obtained high school diploma or GED or remained in school	11
4. Enrolled in Post-Secondary Education	11
5. Entered Employment	9
6. Average Wage at Employment	\$20.00/hour
7. Exited the Program	7

# Expenditure Data

Expenditures from June 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025 for grant 5MYDC6300:

SFY 2025 Budget Category	SFY 2025 Budget	SFY 2025 Expenditures through September 2025
Administration	\$21,000.00	\$18,228.00
Direct Services/Project Staff	\$331,578.00	\$297,020.00
Contracted Services	0.00	0.00
Participant Wages and Fringe	\$106,700.00	\$68,345.00
Support Services	\$15,722.00	\$12,885.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$475,000.00</b>	<b>\$396,478.00</b>

## Story of Impact

One youth participant, who had never had any prior exposure to coding, came from a background where access to computers and technology was limited. This young person had never imagined they could pursue a career in tech, but with motivation and a passion for learning, they committed to the training program. Throughout the 9-week course, this youth dove into the front-end development training. While initially struggling with the concepts due to a lack of prior experience, their determination paid off. They learned how to build a website from the ground up, gaining valuable technical skills such as HTML, CSS, and responsive design. The biggest win came when this youth was not only able to complete their training successfully but also secured a paid internship at a STEM-related organization. This opportunity provided them with on-the-job training, where they applied their newly acquired skills in a real-world setting, boosted their confidence, and gave them a significant step up in their career journey with real, hands-on experience to add to their resume.

## New Grant Funds

As of October 31, 2025, state grant funds for the SFY 2025 are over 90% expended. They are expected to be fully expended by the grant end date, December 31, 2025. No new direct appropriation state funds have been granted to MYDC for the SFY26-27 biennium.