Philanthropy Can Counteract the Harms of Youth Unemployment

Youth employment rates are improving, but the harms of high youth unemployment during the COVID-19 pandemic linger. In the second quarter of 2022, rates of unemployment for youth ages 16-19 were nearly 8 percentage points higher for Black youth than for white youth.

A growing share of 18-24 year olds lost income throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

From April 2021 to July 2021, the youth labor force grew by 2.4 million. There was also increased demand for jobs in 2021, with 75% of youth ages 16-24 seeking employment. Coupled with an increased demand for jobs in 2021, 75% of youth ages 16-24 sought employment, up from 67% in 2020.

In the second quarter of 2022, rates of unemployment for youth ages 16-19 were nearly 8 percentage points higher for Black youth than for white youth.

Compensating young people for their involvement in youth philanthropy enables them to build leadership and collaboration skills as they make decisions about how to spend money to support their communities.

Compensation may be an hourly payment rate, transportation subsidies, or a stipend. Provision of on-site child or sibling care also removes another impediment to participation for some young people.

Please visit http://sillermancenter.brandeis.edu for more information. See sources on the back.
Philanthropy Can Counteract the Harms of Youth Unemployment — Sources