

978-886-7725

One Union Street Suite 202 Lawrence MA, 01840

connect@masshiremvwb.org



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release:
January 6th, 2025

MassHire Merrimack Valley Workforce Board to receive \$1,656,000.00 grant funding to hire 534 Youth through YouthWorks in 2025!

(Lawrence, Massachusetts) - Lieutenant Governor Kimberley Driscoll and Labor and Workforce Development Secretary Lauren Jones joined youth participants, employers, supervisors, and state partners to announce that the Healey-Driscoll Administration is awarding \$23 million in state funding through Commonwealth Corporation. This funding will support the hiring of 7,371 youth in summer and year-round employment as part of the YouthWorks program for the 2025-26 program year. YouthWorks offers teens and young adults hands-on work experience and soft-skill development opportunities across the Commonwealth.



Cristy Gomez, Youth Programs Manager at MassHire MVWB, expressed her enthusiasm: "We are thrilled to continue offering diverse opportunities that help our young adults develop workforce skills and prepare for successful futures in the workplace. Workforce development programs like YouthWorks play a critical role in equipping youth and young adults with the skills and experience necessary to thrive in today's labor market."

The YouthWorks initiative provides young individuals with valuable real-world work experience and the chance to investigate various career options. It is essential to invest in job opportunities for youth and young adults. MassHire MVWB's Executive Director, Frank Bonet shared "MHMVWB values its partnership with the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development, Commonwealth Corporation, and the Merrimack Valley network of local employers, who are committed to offering young people practical learning experiences and employment opportunities, thereby contributing positively to our region's economy. MassHire Merrimack Valley Workforce Board will receive \$1,656,000.00 to hire 534 youth in 2025, and we are once again excited for our youth for this opportunity."