



# Youth Opportunity and Workforce Development

Presented to the  
Board of County Commissioners

Multnomah County  
June 7, 2022

Located at: [www.multco.us/budget](http://www.multco.us/budget)

# Introduction

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- Youth Opportunity and Workforce Development program provides **youth ages 16 to 24** with training and paid work experiences
- The program is administered by **Worksystems Inc (WSI)**, the Local Workforce Development Board
- Services are delivered by a **network of community and school partners**
- Since 2014, the program has served over **7,000 participants** and provided nearly **\$8.0M in youth wages**



# Equity as Mission

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- Youth experiencing barriers to employment are prioritized for placement
- Work directly with communities of color and advocacy organizations to develop and deliver trainings and support services
- Proactively develop work experiences that deliver services directly to underserved and marginalized communities



# Program Snapshot FY 2022

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- ◆ 4 Coaching Contractors  
(IRCO, NAFY, POIC, SE Works)
- ◆ 80+ Community Partners and Programs
- ◆ 330 Youth Served with Multnomah County Funding  
→ 1,085 Youth Served System-wide
- ◆ 48,940 Total Hours Worked  
→ 14,432 Hours of Learn & Earn Hours
- ◆ \$685,166 Wages Earned  
→ \$288,649 Stipends Earned



# Priority Youth Characteristics

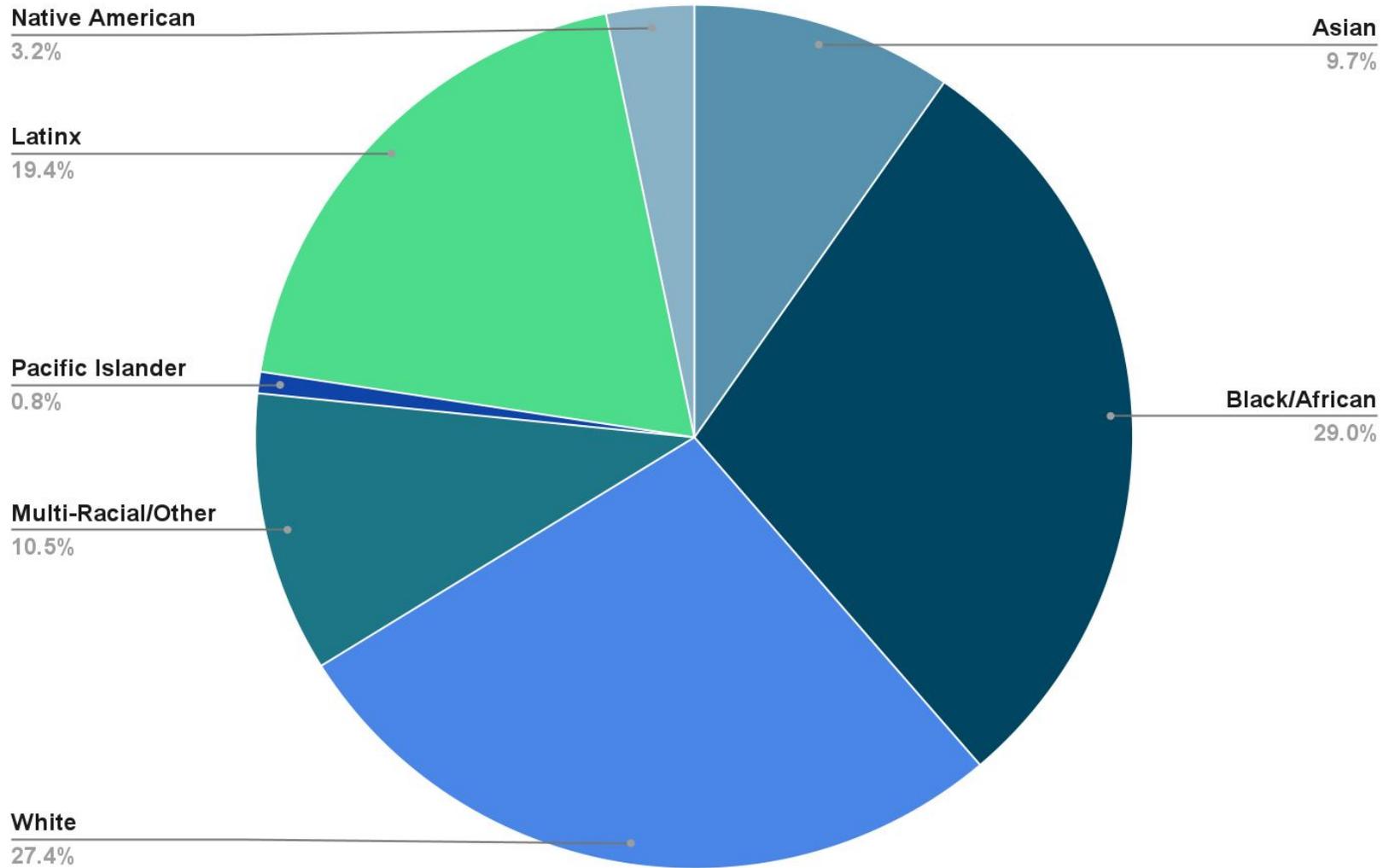
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- English Language Learners
- Experiencing Housing Instability
- Foster Care
- Immigrant / Refugee Status
- Criminal Legal System Involvement
- LGBTQIA2S+
- Low Income
- Opportunity Youth
- Pregnant or Parenting
- Youth with Disabilities

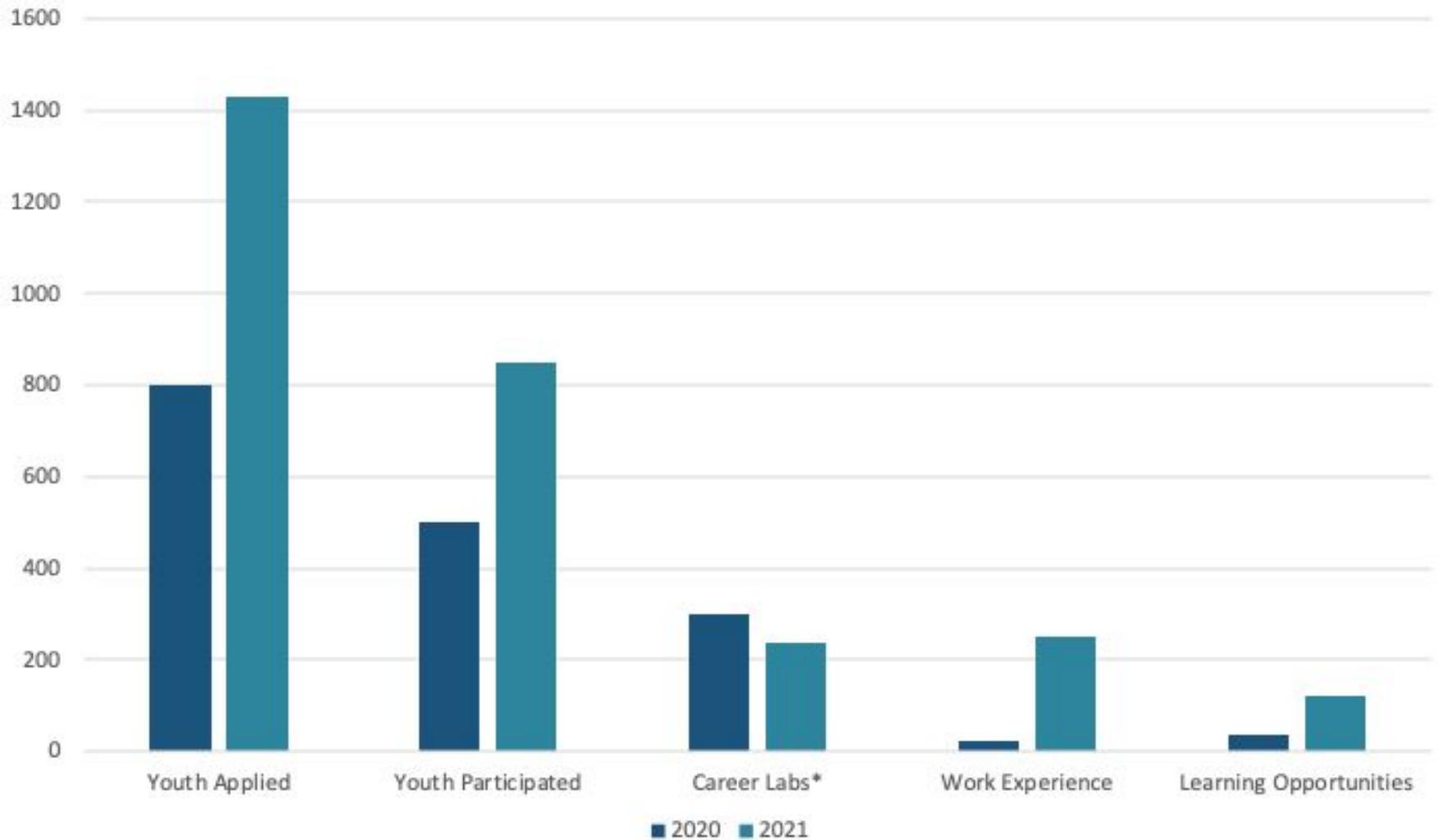


# Participants by Race/Ethnicity

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# Participation Rate Comparison



\*Essential Skills + Financial Literacy Trainings



# COVID-19 Impacts and Response - FY 2022

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- Social distancing safety plans are still required for all in-person work experiences and masks are encouraged
- Many worksites are still transitioning back to in-person work resulting in less available work opportunities for youth
- Expanded flexible, paid learning opportunities to meet the immediate needs of youth have been successful



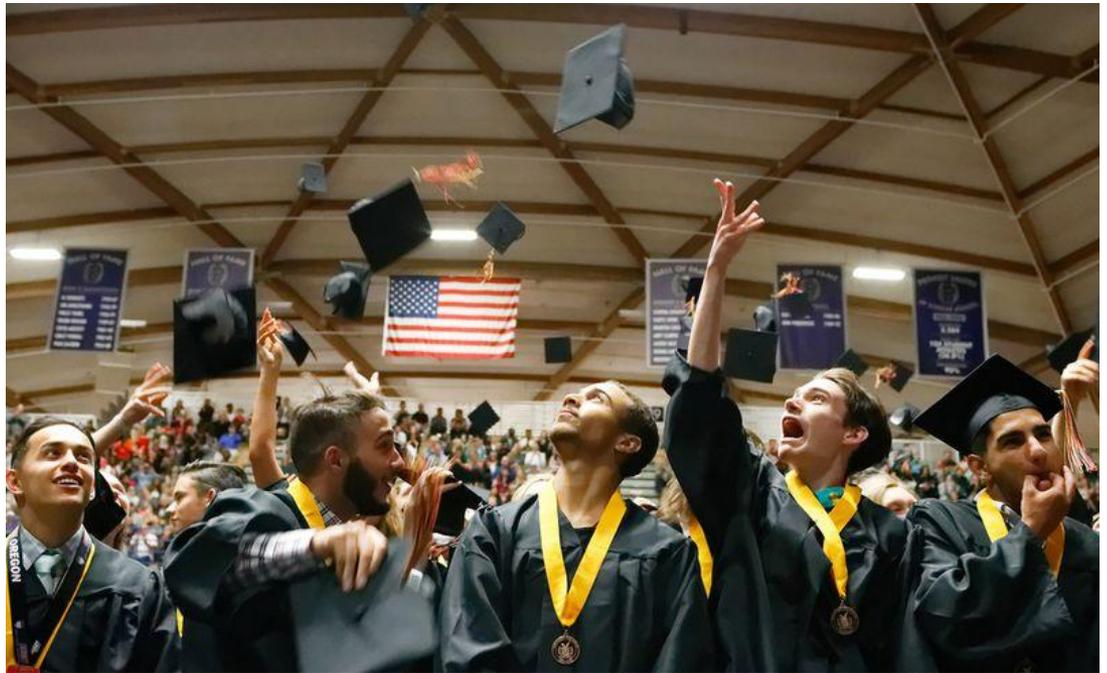
# Year-Round Training and Work Experience



# Credit Recovery

POIC and Gresham Barlow School District students participated in a **Learn & Earn** pilot program that helped them recover missing credits needed to graduate

- Youth received stipend payments for completing milestones related to credit recovery
- Youth also engaged in career focused learning using the partnership with Multnomah County libraries and LinkedIn Learning.



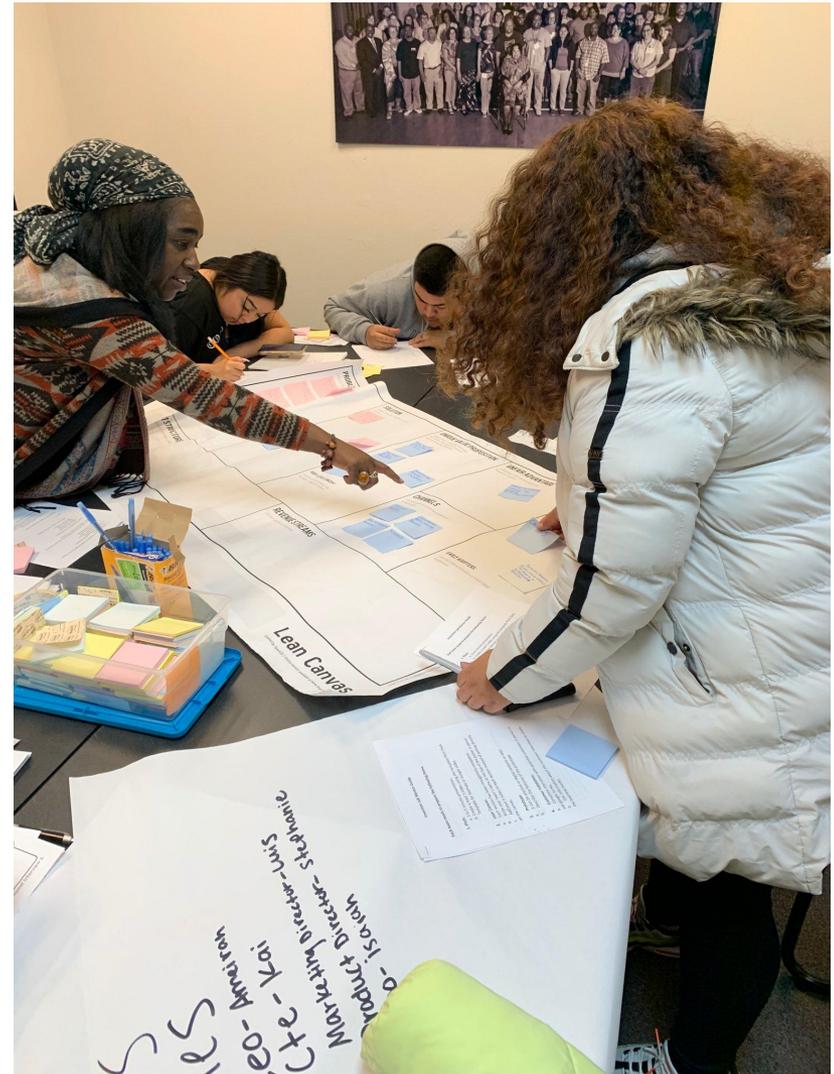
The Oregonian/Mike Zacchino



# Entrepreneurship and Invention

## TiE Oregon and RAHS Partnership

- Learn & Earn program using project-based curriculum with a strong emphasis on invention, design thinking and customer validation
- Local entrepreneurs and mentors work directly with youth



- Youth participate in statewide competitions pitching their ideas



# Mentorship and Civic Education



Multnomah County is partnering with Word is Bond, a dynamic and effective community-based program, to engage young Black men in civic education and open up pathways to paid work experience that gives them a chance to explore careers in public service.

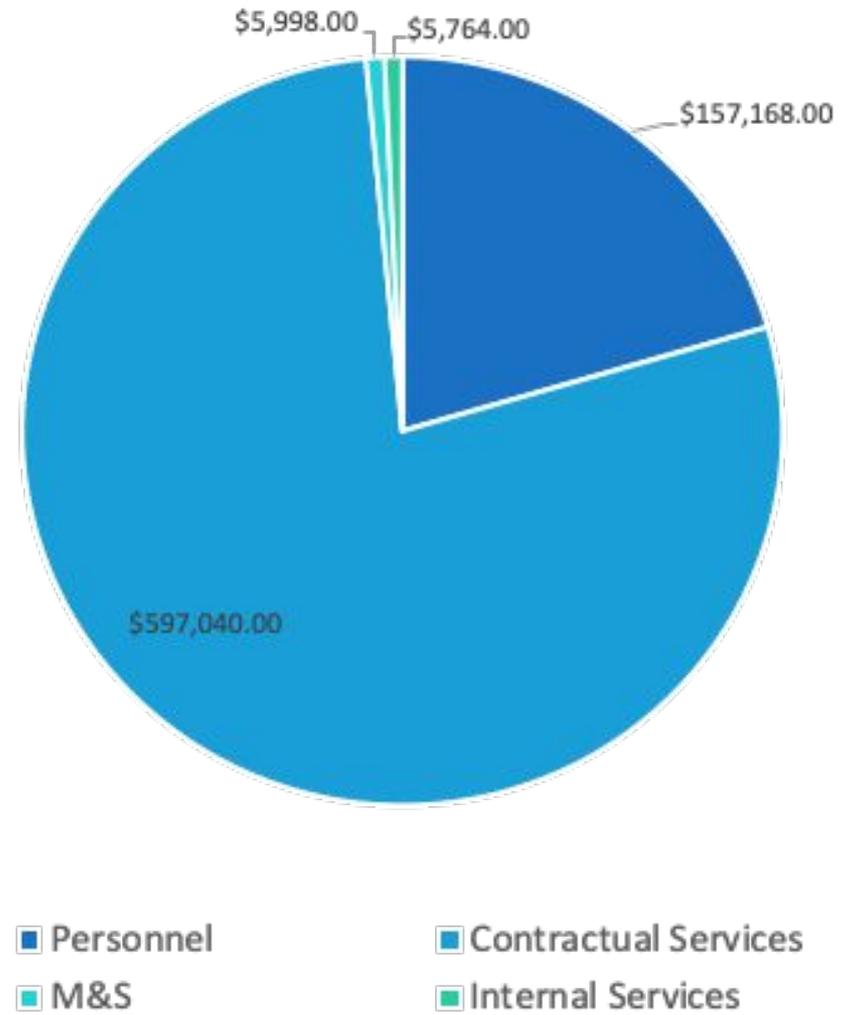
- Receive supportive mentorship from local leaders
- Youth host year-round trainings and events
- Capstone projects include 6-week paid internships in public service



# FY 2023 Proposed Budget

**Total: \$765,970/1.00 FTE**

- Personnel: \$157,168
- Professional Services: \$597,040
- Materials & Supplies: \$5,998
- Internal Services: \$5,764



# COVID-19 & American Rescue Plan Funding

<b>Program</b>	<b>FY 2022 Adopted</b>	<b>FY 2023 State ARP Proposed</b>	<b>Variance</b>
10097: Youth Connect	--	\$1,000,000	--

- Awarded State American Rescue Plan funding to be spent over two years
- Expand program access to 14 and 15 year-olds living in Multnomah County
- Provide incentivized positive youth development through early career and job skill exposure
- Phase-in 5 new community-based organizations to serve as mentors and life coaches
- Coordinate 12 community-based service learning projects in alignment with violence prevention efforts



# Looking Forward

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## 10029A/B: Youth Opportunity and Workforce Development

Serves 268 youth facing barriers to employment in FY 2023

Supports 4 CBOs to serve as mentors and life coaches in FY 2023

## 10097: Youth Connect

Serves 80 additional youth in FY 2023

Serves 200 additional youth in FY 2024

Activates 2 CBOs to serve as mentors and life coaches in FY 2023

Activates 3 additional CBOs as mentors and life coaches in FY 2024

- FY 2023 funding will sustain youth engagement efforts and continue expansion of year-round opportunities (October to May) in addition to SummerWorks (June to September)
- Opportunities for youth remain flexible to meet the changing needs of youth
- Community organizations of all sizes can continue to access resources to work with youth
- Programming remains innovative and nimble as we build on successful pilot programs



# Questions

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