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TeenWorks provides job search assistance

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Summertime is just around the corner.

Now is the perfect time for teenagers to start looking for a summer job. Thanks to the County TeenWorks, Inc., today's teenagers and young adults don't have to look any further than the Fairfield County Job & Family Services.

"TeenWorks is a nonprofit corporation that operates as a staffing agency," said Christy Nichols, Workforce Development Supervisor of the Fairfield County Job & Family services. "Our staffing agency helps area businesses with their staffing needs. ... We are the only staffing agency in Fairfield County that specializes in youth."

Nichols has been with this program for more than three years. Training is a key component of TeenWorks employment, according to Nichols. Each employee's individual skills are tested and a training goal is set. Training is a mandatory component of employment with TeenWorks.

"Throughout the year, we have 32 teenagers in our program," Nichols says. "During the training, we pay you even if we don't have a staffing position available for you."

All TeenWorks employees must be between 14 and 21. They must possess one or more of the following barriers when it comes to getting employment: be behind a grade level; be on an Individualized Education Program in school; possess a disability; be a foster child; family receives food stamps; be pregnant or parenting; or possess an offender status.

"All TeenWorks employees are able to find work in the area businesses as customer service representatives, clerical help, landscapers and others," Nichols said.
