



For Immediate Release: 07.22.09

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Youth employment skills workshops offered

Oak Parkers ages 14 -17 interested in learning skills and techniques that can help them find and keep a job are invited to participate in a free youth employment skills workshop series presented by the [Community Relations Department](#).

The workshop will be held from 3 - 6 p.m., on Aug. 3 - 6, in the Oak Park Police Substation, 618 S. Austin Blvd.

Guest speakers and representatives from local businesses will help participants learn to take charge of their lives by developing critical job seeking and retention skills that can be carried throughout adulthood. These local employers also will offer opportunities for individuals who complete the workshop to interview for available positions with area companies.

"Equipping our young people with the critical skills they need to compete in what is an increasingly difficult employment market makes good sense," said Cedric Melton Director of Community Relations. "We have to help them develop the soft skills that are so essential to breaking through the barriers to employment."

Melton said he has been offering these workshops since 2004 when a group of neighborhood parents asked the Village to help provide positive options to teens who are trying to do the right thing.

The workshop will focus on developing self-confidence, tolerance, conflict resolution, goal setting and goal achievement. Participants also will learn about successful job interviewing techniques and proper resume writing, as well as employer expectations and proper attire.

Only 15 slots are available for the series and advanced registration is required. Deadline to register is Mon., Aug. 2.

For more information or to enroll, call 708.358.5407 or email community@oak-park.us.

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