

Dauphin Youth Service Canada Project Description

Dauphin Youth Service Canada is funded by the City of Dauphin and Human Resource Development Canada. This program is funded through HRDC's Youth Employment Strategy under the Skills Link category. Skills Link helps youth facing barriers to employment to develop the broad range of skills, knowledge and work experience they need to participants in the job market.

This program has been in partnership with the City of Dauphin for almost 3 years. Since the partnership was formed with the City of Dauphin, there have been 44 participants. In 2002, DYSC was nationally recognized as one of HRDC's best youth employment practices.

DYSC has been designed for young Canadians between the ages of 18-30 who are out of school, and who are unemployed or underemployed. This program finds local youth who are willing to put their skills and knowledge into action. They assist cooperating project sponsors with the planning, implementation and evaluation of youth focused community based projects.

The participants are hired full time for a 13-week term. During that time the participants are based out of their Project Sponsors work place. They have the opportunity to learn how to integrate into an existing workplace while developing their community-based project. The participants also work on a DYSC large group project, to further develop their teamwork skills and it gives them an opportunity to learn from the other participants.

Essentially, this program is unique because it draws upon local youth to help the community in which they live. At the same time, participants get the opportunity to benefit from work experience and personal development activities, designed to help them in their future activities, whether this involves going back to school, finding employment or starting a business.