

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Date: March 31, 2025**



**Contact:** Greta Johnson  
Director of Communications & Assistant Chief of Staff  
Office of Executive Shapiro  
[ExecutivePress@summitoh.net](mailto:ExecutivePress@summitoh.net)  
330-643-2510

### **County Executive encourages teens to join Summer Youth Employment Program**

**SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO** — Summit County Executive Ilene Shapiro is encouraging teens and young adults to apply for the annual Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) when applications open on April 1. SYEP offers residents ages 16-18 a summer job to learn skills and earn an income working in sectors like healthcare, information technology, marketing, construction and more. Parents, teens, and teachers can learn more at [youthsuccesssummit.org/work](https://youthsuccesssummit.org/work). The jobs begin on June 9 and last for eight weeks. Participants are eligible to earn up to \$2,400.

To help youth and families connect with the right summer employment opportunity with more ease, Executive Shapiro's Department of Job and Family Services has once again teamed up with Youth Success Summit and Jobs for Ohio's Graduates (JOG) to create a universal application for several programs. Once an application is submitted, staff will determine which program the youth and family are eligible to join. Some programs do have household income requirements (cannot exceed 200% of the federal poverty level); applicants will be notified if they do not qualify to participate.

To address barriers to banking, program organizers are excited to announce they are partnering with Buckeye State Credit Union to offer youth banking accounts that do not require a parent or guardian as a co-signor for 16- and 17-year-olds. Buckeye is also providing personal financial coaching to participants to help them understand how to use their account, avoid scams and predators and set goals. And, to further encourage youth to participate and learn more about personal finance, DJFS will use funding from the national nonprofit [Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund's](#) Summer Jobs Connect initiative to offer additional cash incentives.

In 2024, SYEP saw participation from nearly 800 young people who collectively earned over \$1.5 million working with 335 local employers. Video testimonials from past participants can be viewed at [youthsuccesssummit.org/summer-youth-employment-program/](https://youthsuccesssummit.org/summer-youth-employment-program/).

The Summer Youth Employment Program is first come first serve; residents should apply as soon as applications open at [youthsuccesssummit.org/work](https://youthsuccesssummit.org/work). Questions? Contact Jobs for Ohio's Graduates at 330-374-9477 or email [success@jogworks.org](mailto:success@jogworks.org).

Families looking for summer employment for a teen with a disability should contact Kenneth A. Crookston with Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities at [Kenneth.Crookston@ood.ohio.gov](mailto:Kenneth.Crookston@ood.ohio.gov) or 216-956-5843 for more information.

###