DEAR FRIENDS

It’s incredible to think that Enterprise has been offering work experience to youth for fifty years! We have a lot to celebrate in Enterprise’s legacy and a lot to look forward to. We know that giving young people early work experience in the difference that they make, their levels of future income, and their professional plans. We are proud that here at Enterprise we nourish young people; we work with our site supervisors to support them in providing a meaningful job experience; and we match them with job coaches that help guide them through their internships. Youth gain access to valuable resources and connections that make the mission of Enterprise’s experience is continuous. It’s our honor to watch young people grow and thrive when they are given this opportunity.

Enterprise is so blessed to have strong employment partners. San Francisco companies and organizations have raised their hands to provide these work experiences. Donors also come forward to generously give and support the costs of programming. Volunteers also step up to provide job shadow days or come into the office for resume review, career panels, and mock interviews. It certainly takes our entire village to make this program shine. Thank you for being on this journey with us, and please review, career panels, and mock interviews. It certainly takes our entire village to make this program shine. Thank you for being on this journey with us, and please review, career panels, and mock interviews. It certainly takes our entire village to make this program shine. Thank you for being on this journey with us, and please review, career panels, and mock interviews. It certainly takes our entire village to make this program shine. Thank you for being on this journey with us, and please review, career panels, and mock interviews. It certainly takes our entire village to make this program shine. Thank you for being on this journey with us, and please review, career panels, and mock interviews. It certainly takes our entire village to make this program shine. Thank you for being on this journey with us, and please review, career panels, and mock interviews. It certainly takes our entire village to make this program shine.

As Enterprise celebrates this milestone, we are reminded of how important this opportunity to encourage and nourish their professional and personal growth.

OUR APPROACH

Providing young people access to jobs is the cornerstone of Enterprise. We encourage youth to offer change in their own branch and we support them on a path to work economic mobility and prosperity. Enterprise actively partners with the business community, educational institutions, and nonprofit organizations to create a broad network of opportunity and support for youth.

In our job-readiness training program, youth attend weekly workshops to learn professional communication skills, financial literacy, how to craft a resume and cover letter, and how to ace job interviews with supportive volunteer interviewers. Youth emerge from the program equipped with both the soft and hard skills they need to make a lasting impression as they embark on professional experiences outside of Enterprise’s doors.

Following the training, youth are placed in summer and fall internships, where youth explore careers, develop workplace skills, and make valuable connections. Internship partners span across the fields of health; technology; art, architecture and design; financial and legal services; government and nonprofit; entrepreneurship; environmental stewardship; culinary arts and hospitality; and retail. Upon completion of their internships, youth receive credit for City College of San Francisco.

Enterprise youth also have access to valuable resources such as scholarships opportunities, professional networking events, and our job bank, the first and only youth job bank in San Francisco.

1969-2019
Izabella Voto-Bernales

Since she was young, Izabella Voto-Bernales knew she wanted to help people. Her first step in this direction came when she applied for a job at Enterprise for Young Adults' job-readiness program in her school in the spring of 2015. Upon completing the program, she secured a summer internship with the radiology department at UCSF, an experience that confirmed her passion to pursue learning in the medical field. As an intern, Izabella spent her days shadowing various staff at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital. Shadowing doctors, nurses, and radiologists, she developed skills in providing quality patient care and proper maintenance of equipment. While she was learning medical terms and shadowing medical procedures, it was the warmth and support of her supervisor and the hospital staff that struck Izabella most deeply. Ms. Chi Chiang, Izabella's supervisor, frequently shared tips and advice as her supporting mentor. Izabella remains in touch with her former intern in order to maintain a career in the medical field, potentially in nursing. When asked what advice she would give other Enterprise youth, Izabella said, "Don’t hold back — go for it, don’t be afraid to ask questions."

Margaret Ward

As an employment and training specialist with City College of San Francisco, Margaret oversaw and supervised placements of students in the Healthcare Bridge Program, which offered those interested in exploring the healthcare field a foundational skills training to successfully work towards career opportunities. Margaret herself was once a jobseeker who first discovered Enterprise for Youth in the 80s during a time as Enterprise for Higher School Students. While she and her family had immigrated to San Francisco from the Philippines. As a 16 year old in a new and unfamiliar place, Margaret found in Enterprise a team welcome, "It was not a question about being able to do a job, she said. Margaret attributes Enterprise's ability to match her with jobs to the financial independence she secured through her summer job in being a federal employee, securing a few extra dollars to spend on her own for meals and friends. For Margaret, jobs through Enterprise solidified her understanding of lifelong transferable skills, the importance of saving vs. investing, an employer depends on you, and developing a strong work ethic. "I learned that responsibilities can equalize," she reflected. As an alumna of City College herself, Margaret is grateful for her professional journey and she acknowledges that her experience as a job-seeker with Enterprise has inspired her to advocate and support youth with whom she works: "It is a way to give back what was given to me."