Hillside Work Scholarship Teens at the University of Rochester

The University of Rochester continues to expand its commitment to Rochester’s urban youth by employing 74 Hillside Work Scholarship Connection (HWSC) teens and expanding the support program. The program addresses the Rochester City School District’s low high school graduation rate by providing coordinated academic, social, and employment training and support. Employment and career mentoring are an essential part of each student’s success.

To apply for employment, HWSC students must meet attendance, academic, and attitude criteria. Students then complete a 30-hour training program developed by the Wegmans Corporation that teaches customer service, professionalism, and time management skills.

University program staff work to match student applicants with department employers based on skill set, job interest, and work hours. University program staff support worksite supervisors and students through monthly worksite visits. Students attend enrichment seminars that reinforce skills needed for successful academic and work experience. Funding for these seminars is provided by the M&T Foundation and includes programs on initiative, customer service, workplace gossip, career goals/vision boards, college preparation/financial aid, and motivation.

Work units interested in employing a HWSC student should ideally have 12 hours of entry-level work available per week, with evening and weekend hours needed. Departments interested in employing a Hillside Work Scholarship teen should contact Suzanne Piotrowski Lee, MD, Center for Community Health, Teen Health and Success Partnership director, at SuzanneP_Lee@URMC.rochester.edu.

HWSC students are working throughout the University of Rochester in Perioperative Services, Anesthesiology, Imaging Sciences, Highland Family Medicine, Nursing, Friends of Strong SMH Lobby, Human Resources, Highland Hospital Environmental Services, Food and Nutrition, ICU Burn Trauma Unit, Highlands of Pittsford, River Campus Dining Services, Pharmacy, Clinical Labs, Respiratory Therapy, Miner Library, Rush Rhees Library, Urology, Patient Transport, Athletics, Office of Admissions, Emergency Medicine, and Center for Community Health.