



Potential Field Placement:

- Landscaping
- Tailor/Seamstress
- Cabinetry Maker
- Florist
- Cobbler
- Upholstery
- Butcher
- Painter
- Tattooing
- Auto Detailing
- House Keeping
- Food Service
- Animal Care Grooming Center
- Security Service
- Exterminator
- Locksmith
- Bail bonds
- Child Care

CHEER:

Post-Secondary Entrepreneurship Experience

The Department's Mission

To promote learning, school success and personal fulfillment for children and young people whose life experiences have included trauma, family disruption or involvement with the juvenile justice system.

"Healthy, Safe, Smart and Strong."

Contact Us

Department of Children and Families

Daniel Ross, *CHEER Program Manager*
860-550-6654

Post -Secondary Education Consultants
Wendy Jackson or Maria Pastorelli
860-723-7217 860-560-5013



CHEER: Post-Secondary Entrepreneurship Experience

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

*An Annie E. Casey Foundation
Partnership*



**DEPARTMENT OF
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**
505 Hudson Street
Hartford, CT 06106



Objective:

The Annie E. Casey grant seeks to assist the Connecticut Department of Children and Families in enhancing services to youth interested in transitioning to employment. With this grant, the Department proposes to partner with local business and entrepreneurs to provide youth with a unique internship like experience in a field that doesn't require formal education. The Department will provide continued services to these youth through the CHEER timeline.

Priority Population:

Youth committed to the Department who are faced with an added layer of challenges due to pending citizenship, language barriers, mental health and/or cognitive delays. These youth may not meet eligibility requirements for services from any other government agency or may not qualify for federal financial aid.

Program Description:

The Annie E. Casey Foundation awarded the CT Department of Children and Families funding to initiate an employment bridge program for transitioning youth. The grant will serve to incentivize the youth's field placement. The CHEER : Post-Secondary Entrepreneurship Experience is designed as a 6 month /20 hours a week subsidized internship- like program for committed youth who are otherwise not pursuing a traditional college or vocational education. Youth shall be aided in identifying an employer/local business in their community who can offer a viable work experience for the program duration. The Post-Secondary Education Division will provide the necessary technical assistance to staff, youth and local business providers.

Admission Criteria:

~ Graduated from high school/GED

~ Has submitted a PSE plan

~Awaiting citizenship

~ Not eligible for services through other government agencies

1 youth from each AO will be selected for the additional services provided through this grant.



Youth Benefits:

Youth will benefit from an individualized plan that will launch them into a specialized employment field. Youth will also be eligible for the following services just as their peers in post-secondary education programs:

- Housing
- Living Stipend
- Life Skills Training
- Case Management Services
- Health Insurance

