

Employability and Job Readiness Program Report 2022 (EJRP)

Youth that are significantly challenged by mental health issues must attain two key milestones in order to transition into independent young adult lives; a high school diploma and the ability to seek and retain a job.

The ability to find and keep a job involves communication skills, financial literacy, resilience, work ethic and the capacity to be part of a team. Our EJRP cultivates these big-five skills. Youth earn high school credits as a further incentive to engage.

This past year, we almost doubled the scale of these initiatives. Every student going through our doors gets exposure to some elements of the big five.

In the year ahead, the kids shall develop an organic farm and forestry business. Part fictitious, and part real; and embedded in math, science and financial literacy curriculum, our youth will be enjoying what is best described as a dynamic EJRP reality show.

Everyone is chomping at the bit.

In general, Our EJRP incorporates the following elements:

- 1) Teach practical workplace skills - improving literacy, numeracy, financial literacy, computer skills, first aid and workplace safety
- 2) Communication skills - Resume writing, oral communications, and code of professional ethics
- 3) Job hunting and retention - The art of research and networking, interview skills, and seeking mentorship
- 4) Entrepreneurship - For selected students, a full high school credit shall be delivered for experiential learning in the art of starting a business