**Comprehensive Data Collection and Impact Assessment Strategy for Newark Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP)**

**Program Overview**

The 2025 Newark Summer Youth Employment Program represents a holistic approach to youth development, designed to empower young people through structured employment, skill-building, and personal growth opportunities. Our comprehensive strategy integrates multiple service components with rigorous data collection to demonstrate meaningful impact.

**Program Participants**

**Total Participants:**

Approximately 2,000 youth

**Age/Demographic Breakdown:**

1. General SYEP – high school students (age 14-18)
2. NEXT GEN LEADERS – college and post-HS young adults (age 17-23)

**Core Program Components**

1. **Orientation Workshop**

**Series Objectives:**

* Introduce participants to professional development concepts
* Build foundational skills across key domains
* Create initial baseline for participant capabilities

**Workshop Topics:**

* Professional Etiquette and Personal Branding
* Goal Setting and Achievement
* Emotional Intelligence and Conflict Resolution
* Financial Literacy Fundamentals
* Career Exploration and Identity Development

1. **Summer-Long Developmental Support**

* Financial Literacy Program (4 virtual sessions)
* Professional Development Workshops
* Ongoing Skill-Building Opportunities
* Career Exploration Activities

**Data Collection Strategy**

**Comprehensive Survey Approach:**

* **Pre-Program Survey:** Orientation Initial Assessment
* **Mid-Program Survey**: Survey to youth after their 5th week of working
* **Post-Program Survey:** End-of-Summer Transformation Tracking

**Key Data Collection Dimensions:**

1. Demographic Insights
2. Work Readiness Skill Progression
3. Financial Literacy Development
4. Career Exploration Advancement
5. Personal Growth Indicators

**Alignment with Funder-Required Data Points**

1. **Program Completion Metrics**

* Participant retention tracking
* Engagement level measurement
* Full program participation documentation

1. **Work Readiness Evaluation**

* Initial skill baseline assessment
* Skill improvement tracking
* Workplace readiness progression

1. **Financial Literacy Assessment**

* Banking status documentation
* Financial education participation
* Account opening and direct deposit metrics

1. **Career Development Tracking**

* Career pathway awareness
* Educational aspiration measurement
* Professional skill development

**Strategic Reporting Objectives**

1. **Individual Participant Progress Reports**

* Personalized skill development tracking
* Individual growth narrative

1. **Aggregate Program Impact Analysis**

* Overall program effectiveness assessment
* Transformative impact measurement

1. **Demographic-Specific Insights**

* Equity and inclusion outcome analysis
* Targeted program improvement recommendations

**Unique Value Proposition**

Our data collection approach transforms traditional survey methods into a comprehensive storytelling mechanism that:

* Captures nuanced youth development journeys
* Provides actionable insights for program improvement
* Demonstrates tangible community impact
* Supports evidence-based youth intervention strategies

**Long-Term Strategic Vision**

* Develop comprehensive youth development benchmarks
* Create predictive models for intervention effectiveness
* Establish sustainable youth empowerment frameworks

**Conclusion**

This integrated approach goes beyond simple data collection, serving as a powerful tool for understanding, supporting, and empowering Newark's youth. By capturing their complex journeys of personal and professional transformation, we provide a comprehensive view of the SYEP's profound impact.

**The surveys and program components are meticulously designed to:**

* Meet funder reporting requirements
* Track meaningful participant growth
* Provide actionable insights for future program development
* Celebrate the potential of Newark's young people