

# SF2342 SUSTAIN THE MINNESOTA YOUTH PROGRAM



The Minnesota Youth Program serves youth in every part of the state.



Estimated ROI was \$6.80 for SFY24 through taxes paid and other public benefits saved.



Minnesota has only 6 jobseekers for every 10 job openings.

The Minnesota Association of Workforce Boards (MAWB) supports **making the 2024-25 one-time funding increase (\$4.511 million annually) to the Minnesota Youth Program ongoing.**

The Minnesota Youth Program is one of our state's core workforce programs. It serves at-risk, low income youth ages 14-24 *in every part of the state* who need support with academic and applied skills needed for the workplace. *Youth earn a wage* through work experience placements and access career exploration and advising through Outreach-to-Schools programming. Communities and local employers benefit when young people graduate with work readiness skills.

## Increased Investment, Increased Results

The Legislature's one-time increase of funding made a difference. With this funding increase, local workforce boards and service providers were able to scale to serve over 44,500 youth in FY2024. Work experience for youth leads to improved performance in school, engagement in positive activities, and better wages after graduation.

|                                                                                   |      | One on One,<br>Work Experience<br>Programming | Outreach to<br>Schools /<br>Career Advisor<br>Programming | Total         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Years with<br>Base<br>Funding<br>(\$4.05m<br>annually)                            | FY21 | 2,684                                         | 14,880                                                    | <b>17,564</b> |
|                                                                                   | FY22 | 3,278                                         | 19,975                                                    | <b>23,253</b> |
| Years with<br>One-Time<br>Increase in<br>Funding<br>(\$4.05+\$4.511m<br>annually) | FY23 | 3,766                                         | 32,038                                                    | <b>35,804</b> |
|                                                                                   | FY24 | 4,575                                         | 40,374                                                    | <b>44,949</b> |

\*Data from Minnesota Youth Program Annual Reports