

1 [Employing Undocumented Youth in San Francisco's Public Sector Youth Workforce Programs]

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3 **Resolution In Support of Providing Increased Employment Opportunities for Undocumented**
4 **Youth for the San Francisco Summer Jobs+ Program and Additional San Francisco Public**
5 **Sector Youth Workforce Programs.**
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7 WHEREAS, According to the Public Policy Institute of California, roughly 30,000 of San
8 Francisco's 809,000 residents are undocumented immigrants¹, and over 5,000 of San Francisco's
9 undocumented residents are youth ages 14-24²; and

10 WHEREAS, Undocumented youth have historically faced barriers in accessing employment,
11 scholarships, loans, state and federal services, and other opportunities; and

12 WHEREAS, San Francisco's public sector youth employment programs, such as JVS³ and
13 YouthWorks⁴, as a result of federal hiring requirements historically have not offered employment to
14 undocumented youth who would otherwise be eligible; and

15 WHEREAS, In March of 2011, the Transitional Age Youth San Francisco Initiative's Young
16 Adult Advisory Board (TAYSF-YAA), in conjunction with the Workforce Investment San Francisco
17 (WISF) Community Advisory Committee (WICAC), organized a Youth Employment Forum at City
18 College of San Francisco in which participants consistently identified the requirement of U.S.

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21 ¹ Begin, Brent. "Illegal immigrants leaving San Francisco for cheaper pastures." San Francisco Examiner. Last
22 modified July 21, 2011. Accessed April 13, 2014. [http://www.sfexaminer.com/sanfrancisco/illegal-immigrants-](http://www.sfexaminer.com/sanfrancisco/illegal-immigrants-leaving-san-francisco-for-cheaper-pastures/Content?oid=2178492)
23 [leaving-san-francisco-for-cheaper-pastures/Content?oid=2178492](http://www.sfexaminer.com/sanfrancisco/illegal-immigrants-leaving-san-francisco-for-cheaper-pastures/Content?oid=2178492).

24 ² Coleman Advocates for Children & Youth. "SF Summer Jobs Program Will Include Opportunities for
25 Undocumented Youth." Coleman Advocates for Children & Youth. Last modified May 28, 2013. Accessed April
13, 2014.
<http://colemanadvocates.org/blog/sf-summer-jobs-program-will-include-opportunities-for-undocumented-youth/>.

³ Hickey, Kevin. "Undocumented Youth Employment in San Francisco." E-mail message to Nicholas Persky.
April 12, 2012.

⁴ Merzenich, Betsy. "Undocumented Youth Employment in San Francisco." E-mail message to Nicholas Persky.
April 10, 2012.

1 citizenship or “right to work documents” such as social security card, as one of the top barriers to
2 accessing employment⁵; and

3 WHEREAS, The May 2011 DCYF Community Needs Assessment—produced in accordance
4 with the Charter mandates of the Children’s Fund by the Department of Children, Youth, and their
5 Families (DCYF)—reports that participants in DCYF’s community input sessions consistently
6 articulated the need for young people who are immigrants to have access to top-tier youth workforce
7 development programming⁶; and

8 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Youth Commission conducted an Immigrant Youth Summit in
9 October of 2011, where surveys and focus groups conducted with 99 students—almost all of whom
10 were first or second generation—from seven San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) and
11 County high schools all pointed to citizenship status as one of the main barriers to attaining meaningful
12 employment⁷; and

13 WHEREAS, President Barack Obama announced a summer jobs initiative known as “Summer
14 Jobs+” in January 2012 to call on businesses to work with non-profits and government to provide
15 workforce development opportunities for low-income and disconnected youth in the summer of 2012;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Youth Commission passed resolution no. 1112-05 “Urging the
18 Mayor and the Board to commend President Obama’s Summer Jobs+ Plan”⁸ in order to call attention
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21 ⁵ San Francisco Board of Supervisors. "Youth Commission Policy & Budget Priorities for Fiscal Years 2012-2013
& 2013-2014." San Francisco Board of Supervisors. Accessed April 13, 2014.

22 <http://www.sfbos.org/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=41657> and <
23 http://www.oewd.org/media/docs/WorkforceDevelopment/wisf/WiCAC/2011/3.23.11/WiCAC%20TAY%20and%20Workforce%20Forum%20NOTES%20_FINAL_.pdf>

24 ⁶ Ibid

25 ⁷ Ibid

⁸ San Francisco Board of Supervisors. "Resolution calling on the City & County of San Francisco to continue implementing
and evaluating the Summer Jobs+ program through the summer of 2013 and in the oncoming years, and urging a financial
literacy training component to Summer Jobs+." San Francisco Board of Supervisors. Accessed April 13, 2014.
<http://www.sfbos.org/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=43376>.

1 to the president's focus on youth employment and urge local implementation of a Summer Jobs+
2 program; and

3 WHEREAS, On January 31, 2012, the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution no. 036-12,
4 sponsored by then Supervisor Sean Elsbernd, "Supporting President Barack Obama's Summer Jobs+
5 Plan and Recommending the Development of a Similar Plan for Youth in San Francisco"⁹; and

6 WHEREAS, While the 2012 Summer Jobs+ Program provided employment opportunities for
7 over 5,200 young people¹⁰, many of San Francisco's most marginalized young people—in particular,
8 San Francisco's 5,000 undocumented young people ages 14-24—were barred from accessing
9 employment opportunities throughout the program¹¹; and

10 WHEREAS, At the urging of the San Francisco Youth Commission, Coleman Advocates for
11 Children & Youth, and other community-based organizations, the United Way of the Bay Area and
12 DCYF jointly funded a pilot program run by community partners CHALK, LYRIC, and the Mission
13 Economic Development Agency (MEDA) to provide paid job-readiness training and internships to 42
14 undocumented youth throughout the city during the 2013 Summer Jobs+ initiative, ensuring that they
15 were prepared for summer and long-term work opportunities¹²; and

16 WHEREAS, While the aforementioned pilot program was successful, it only provided
17 opportunities to 42 out of approximately 5,000 undocumented youth ages 14-24 in San Francisco

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20 ⁹ Resolution supporting President Barack Obama's Summer Jobs+ plan and recommending the development of a similar
21 plan for youth in San Francisco." San Francisco Board of Supervisors. Accessed April 13, 2014.

<http://www.sfbos.org/ftp/uploadedfiles/bdsupvrs/resolutions12/r0036-12.pdf>.

22 ¹⁰ City & County of San Francisco - Office of the Mayor. "Mayor Lee Launches Summer Jobs + 2013 Initiative to
23 Create Unprecedented 6,000 Jobs & Paid Internships for San Francisco Youth this Summer." City & County of
24 San Francisco - Office of the Mayor. Last modified April 30, 2013. Accessed April 13, 2014.

<http://www.sfmayor.org/index.aspx?recordid=295&page=846>.

24 ¹¹ Coleman Advocates for Children & Youth. "Coleman and Allies Call for Mayor to Invest in Summer Jobs for
25 Undocumented Youth." Coleman Advocates for Children & Youth. Last modified April 30, 2013. Accessed April
13, 2014. <http://colemanadvocates.org/blog/coleman-and-allies-call-for-mayor-to-invest-in-undocumented-youth/>.

¹² "San Francisco Summer Jobs+ 2013 Report." City & County of San Francisco - Office of the Mayor. Accessed
April 13, 2014. <http://sfmayor.org/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=364>.

1 (0.84% of the population) compared to 6,817 jobs out of approximately 94,325¹³ youth ages 14-24 in
2 San Francisco (7.23% of the population); and

3 WHEREAS, Pursuant to Chapter 12H.1 of the San Francisco Administrative Code, the City and
4 County of San Francisco is a City and County of Refuge or Sanctuary City¹⁴, which prohibits City
5 employees from helping Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) with immigration investigations
6 or arrests unless such help is required by federal or state law or a warrant¹⁵; and

7 WHEREAS, While Youth Employment Programs using federal and state funds must comply
8 with federal and state hiring requirements, many of San Francisco's employment programs use
9 general fund dollars and other funds with less restriction—especially given San Francisco's
10 commitment as a Sanctuary City—which would allow for undocumented youth to participate in the
11 programs; and

12 WHEREAS, Youth Employment Programs can pay participants using alternative methods such
13 as prepaid gift cards, educational scholarships, and separate individual stipends from multiple
14 employment entities in amounts smaller than \$600 (the main form of payment during the
15 aforementioned undocumented youth pilot program); and

16 WHEREAS, As per Charter SEC 4.124, the San Francisco Youth Commission is committed to
17 identifying and proposing solutions to meet the "unmet needs" of the youth population in San
18 Francisco, and ensuring that the city's undocumented youth have equitable access to employment
19 opportunities is an unmet need; now,

20 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission urges the Board
21 of Supervisors and the Mayor to do whatever possible—including but not limited to utilizing payment
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24 ¹³ CLR Search. "San Francisco, CA Population by Age." CLR Search. Accessed April 13, 2014.
<http://www.clrsearch.com/San-Francisco-Demographics/CA/Population-by-Age>.

25 ¹⁴ San Francisco Administrative Code Chapter §12H.1

¹⁵ City & County of San Francisco. "Sanctuary Ordinance." City & County of San Francisco. Accessed April 14,
2014. <http://sfgsa.org/index.aspx?page=1067>

1 methods such as separate individual stipends, gift cards, or educational scholarships—to allow
2 undocumented youth to participate in the upcoming San Francisco Summer Jobs+ initiative; and, be it

3 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission urges the Board of
4 Supervisors and the Mayor to employ undocumented youth at a rate consistent with the documented
5 youth population (7.23% in 2013); namely, at least 350 job opportunities for undocumented youth this
6 upcoming summer; and, be it

7 FINALLY RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission urges the Board of
8 Supervisors and the Mayor to make similar efforts to include undocumented youth not only in future
9 Summer Jobs+ related programs, but also in San Francisco’s year-round locally funded public sector
10 Youth Workforce Programs.

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Nicholas Persky
2013-2014 Youth Commission Chair
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