

Kyle Williams

Young people are at a true disadvantage when entering the professional world because of the stigma that is associated with them: "young people are not ready to work." Employers seek individuals who have gone above and beyond and who set themselves apart from the competition. Early in my academic career I realized the importance of seeking personal growth and leadership development through community and school-based volunteerism. Over the course of middle and high school and now college I have taken part in numerous initiatives in which I have worked with groups of all ages and walks of life creating an appreciation for diversity and willingness to serve those in need.

There are many companies and organizations which are youth-centered, yet they do not seek input directly from those who know best - the youth. My work with Kentucky Child Now! has enabled me to speak out for youth in the Bluegrass and in return has helped to provide "Help, Hope, and Opportunities" to those most in need. I am currently a junior at the University of Kentucky pursuing a degree in Community and Leadership Development with ambitions to continue working in a public or non-profit position as a catalyst for social justice. I encourage young people to find similar opportunities to serve and develop skills in communication, punctuality, and resource management - all of which are skills which employers are seeking in job candidates.