

CityServeTO Summer Expansion



Tracking Progress on Youth Safety in Toronto



The 2025 Summer Safety Plan included investments of \$5 million that engaged 15,000 youth and 550 parents and caregivers in summer recreation and violence prevention programs. The summer of 2025 saw meaningful progress, including a 40% reduction in youth violence across the city. This work will continue in 2026 as part of SafeTO, Toronto’s community safety and well-being plan.



Toronto’s youth unemployment rate remains high, disproportionately impacting equity-deserving youth.



Youth employment continues to be a critical component of violence prevention. The City continues to lead nationally in public-sector youth employment and will continue to work with private and not-for-profit sectors, as well as other orders of government to increase youth employment opportunities.

*The figure represents the youth unemployment rate in Toronto for February 2026, calculated as a three-month moving average and presented without seasonal adjustment.

What is CityServeTO?

CityServeTO is an initiative built for young people, ages 16-24, who are ready for a new chapter, but face barriers including poverty, violence, or a history with the justice system.

The program provides paid community service hours and placements in City divisions and agencies over 40 weeks, with training, skills development, and wrap-around supports that help youth build responsibility, positive relationships and a sense of belonging.

Program Snapshot

43 Youth Participants & Youth Program Coordinators Engaged

9 Community Partners

7 City Divisions & Agency Placement Partners

52 Certifications completed in Mental Health First Aid, Cybersecurity, Robotics, 3D Printing & Job Readiness

3,500+ Community service hours completed



CityServeTO

Summer Expansion

During the summer months, the risk of violence can increase as more people spend time outdoors, school is out, and there are fewer structured activities for youth.

CityServeTO Summer Expansion will offer 100 youth, ages 14-18:

- 8-weeks paid summer training and development opportunities
- 20,000+ hours of community service
- a structured, supportive environment to build skills, earn income, contribute to their communities, and reduce exposure to high-risk situations.





What a 30-Hour Week Looks Like

- **25 hours – Community Project Hours** (e.g. food bank warehouse support, community garden builds, murals, bike refurbishment)
- **2 hours – Workforce Readiness Skill-Building** (e.g. conflict resolution, financial literacy, leadership, etc.)
- **3 hours – Mentorship & Wellbeing Support Sessions**

CityServeTO Summer Expansion offers paid opportunities to:

- develop employment skills
- contribute to community transformation & improvement projects
- build civic engagement

Budget Breakdown

Program Component	Budget
100 Youth Participants and 12 Youth Program Coordinators Salaries <ul style="list-style-type: none">30 hours x 8 weeks for Youth Participants	\$569,200
Wrap-Around Supports <ul style="list-style-type: none">E.g. Skill-building programming, training, mentorship, transportation costs	\$25,800
Partner Agency Administration Fee	\$20,000
TOTAL	\$615,000



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