



City of
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Mayor Quan's 2012 Summer Jobs Program Secures First \$50,000 Grant from Bank of America

Oakland—At the Northern California MegaRegion Summit today, Oakland Mayor Jean Quan announced **Bank of America** as the first area business to provide a **\$50,000 grant to the Mayor's Summer Jobs Program** through the Workforce Development Fund at the East Bay Community Foundation. The Workforce Development Fund at the East Bay Community Foundation pools donations from different sources for the purpose of advancing strategies, programs and services that increase workforce development opportunities for East Bay residents.

The \$50,000 investment from the Bank of America Charitable Foundation is critical to Mayor Quan's initiative to raise funds through local businesses to create 1,000 jobs this summer, as federal funding has stopped for this long-running, successful program. This grant will provide stipends for approximately 31 summer jobs and internships within the City of Oakland such as the Oakland Fire Department, the Parks and Recreation Department and the Public Works Agency, and with some of the Bank's non-profit partners in the 100 Block area of East and West Oakland.

"We want to thank Bank of America for their leadership in kicking off our campaign," stated Mayor Quan. "Our goal is 1,000 summer jobs. At least half of these jobs will go to young people living in the 100 Blocks."

For many young people, the Mayor's Summer Jobs Program is their first workplace experience. Jobs achieved through the Program provide youth with valuable work and life skills training that carry over into their school performance and beyond. The Mayor's Summer Jobs Program recruits, screens and trains young people who reside in Oakland, and places them with employers who benefit from hiring young, motivated workers. Youth, ages 14-21, are required to complete pre-employment trainings prior to their summer internship. Youth work 120 hours over six to eight weeks, with internships beginning in July and finishing up before the start of the school year.

"Teens have been disproportionately impacted by the recession, with unemployment rates exceeding those of any other age group and at an all-time high," said Martin Richards as the Bay Area Market President, Bank of America. "We are pleased to support the Mayor and the East Bay Community Foundation in providing jobs this summer that will provide youth with valuable skills to develop into self-sufficient adults."

As part of its three- year \$50 million pledge to programs and initiatives that connect individuals to workforce success, Bank of America is responding to the need for youth employment through the Bank of America Summer Youth Employment Initiative, a workforce development program for at-risk young people. Youth employment is an important factor in stabilizing communities and investing in the future. Communities without job opportunities for young people tend to have high rates of teen violence, gang participation, and teen pregnancy.

This year, the City of Oakland intends to train and place over 1,000 youth into summer jobs. To meet this goal, they are looking to the private sector to create over 200 jobs. To support the MSJP and hire a youth for summer 2012, please make a tax-deductible contribution to support local youth by contacting the Mayor's Office at (510) 238-3141 or acampbell-washington@oaklandnet.com.

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